

Directions: For Questions 1–7, choose the one entry best suited for each blank from its corresponding column of choices.

1. Many of Shakespeare's plays contain scenes or discussions that may appear, on their surface, to be _____. On closer inspection, however, most readers discover that these scenes and discussions are central to the theme.

A) essential
B) incisive
C) tangential
D) concurrent
E) predominant

2. The speaker presented and supported the case in such a way that he _____ the need for further clarification.

A) precluded
B) anticipated
C) adjourned
D) prohibited
E) obviated

3. A(n) (i) _____ existence typically leads to a loss of self-discipline followed by self-loathing. What once seemed a hedonistic paradise becomes a (ii) _____ asylum.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A) ascetic	D) stygian
B) libertine	E) quixotic
C) spartan	F) utopian

4. In Ayn Rand's *For the New Intellectual*, Galt questions the overriding belief at the time in the (i) ____ of body and soul. According to Galt, proponents of this belief have (ii) ____ the individual into two elements, both symbols of death — a corpse (a body without a soul) and a ghost (a soul without a body).

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A) paradox	D) dissected
B) irony	E) bifurcated
C) dichotomy	F) bisected

5. In diplomacy, talks often fail or at least fail to move forward for some time. When this occurs, one party almost invariably accuses the other of (i) _____. In worst-case scenarios, negotiations break down completely, which may (ii) _____ conflict.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A) tractability	D) expedite
B) indolence	E) precipitate
C) intransigence	F) motivate

6. Over the years, interrogators have learned a great deal about what works and what doesn't. They have discovered that overly aggressive interrogations often (i) _____ bad information. Rather than engage or give in, suspects often (ii) _____ to "give the interrogator what he or she wants." This calls into question not only the ethics of overly aggressive tactics but also their (iii) _____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A) dissemble	D) prevaricate	G) efficiency
B) elicit	E) prognosticate	H) alacrity
C) disseminate	F) adjudicate	I) efficacy

7. With no land masses to (i) ____ them, high winds and large waves are (i) ____ to the Southern Ocean. Plankton gather in relatively (iii) ____ pools, where they attract additional wildlife.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (ii)
A) debilitate	D) endemic	G) quiescent
B) impede	E) pandemic	H) dormant
C) disperse	F) intrinsic	I) truculent

Directions: Each of the following passages is followed by questions pertaining to the passage. Read the passage and answer the questions based on information stated or implied in that passage. For each question, select one answer choice unless instructed otherwise.

This passage is taken from *Better Living through Reality TV: Television and Post-Welfare Citizenship* by Laurie Ouellette and James Hay (Wiley-Blackwell).

To understand the political rationality of reality-based charity TV, a brief detour through the conceptual history of welfare will be helpful. We take our bearings partly from political theorist Nikolas Rose, who situates the changing “mentalities” of government leading up to welfare reform within the stages of liberalism. According to Rose’s account, the liberal state was called upon to become more directly involved in the care of citizens in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a period of time that happens to correspond with the development and progression of industrial capitalism. As relations among elites and workers became increasingly antagonistic, rulers were “urged to accept the obligation to tame and govern the undesirable consequences of industrial life, wage labor and urban existence in the name of society.” What Rose calls a “state of welfare” emerged to provide basic forms of social insurance, child welfare, health, mental hygiene, universal education, and similar services that both “civilized” the working class and joined citizens to the State and to each other through formalized “solidarities and dependencies.” Through this new “social contract” between the State and the population, Rose contends, the autonomous political subject of liberal rule was reconstituted as a “citizen with rights to social protection and social education in return for duties of social obligation and social responsibility.”

8. Select the sentence in the passage that explains the purpose of welfare, according to Nikolas Rose, in greatest detail.

- (A) First sentence: “To understand the political rationality ... will be helpful.”
- (B) Second sentence: “We take our bearings partly from ... the stages of liberalism.”
- (C) Third sentence: “According to Rose’s account ... progression of industrial capitalism.”
- (D) Fourth sentence: “As relations among elites and workers ... in the name of society.”
- (E) Fifth sentence: “What Rose calls a “state of welfare” ... through formalized ‘solidarities and dependencies.’”

This passage is taken from GMAT For Dummies, 5th Edition by Scott Hatch, JD, and Lisa Hatch, MA (Wiley).

It is hard for us to imagine today how utterly different the world of night used to be from the daylight world. Of course, we can still re-create something of that lost mystique. When we sit around a campfire and tell ghost stories, our goose bumps (and our children's remind us of the terrors that night used to hold. But it is all too easy for us to pile in the car at the end of our camping trip and return to the comfort of our incandescent, fluorescent, floodlit modern world. Two thousand, or even two hundred, years ago there was no such escape from the darkness. It was a physical presence that gripped the world from sunset until the cock's crow.

"As different as night and day," we say today. But in centuries past, night and day really were different. In a time when every scrap of light after sunset was desperately appreciated, when travelers would mark the road by piling up light stones or by stripping the bark off of trees to expose the lighter wood underneath, the Moon was the traveler's greatest friend. It was known in folklore as "the parish lantern." It was steady, portable, and —unlike a torch—entailed no risk of fire. It would never blow out, although it could, of course, hide behind a cloud.

Nowadays we don't need the moon to divide the light from the darkness because electric lights do it for us. Many of us never even see a truly dark sky. According to a recent survey on light pollution, 97 percent of the U.S. population lives under a night sky at least as bright as it was on a half-moon night in ancient times. Many city-dwellers live their entire lives under the equivalent of a full moon.

9. The primary purpose of this passage is to

- (A) Compare and contrast nighttime in the modern world with the dark nights of centuries past.
- (B) Explain why the invention of the electric light was essential to increasing worker productivity.
- (C) Lament the loss of the dark nights and the danger and excitement that moonless nights would bring.
- (D) Describe the diminishing brightness of the moon and the subsequent need for more electric lights.
- (E) Argue for an end to the excessive light pollution that plagues 97 percent of the U.S. population.

For question 10, consider each of the choices separately and choose all that apply.

10. The passage mentions which of the following as possible ways for travelers to find the path at night?

- (A) Piles of light-colored stones or trees with the bark stripped off
- (B) The moon or a torch
- (C) Railings made of light wood

This passage is taken from *Bad Medicine: Misconceptions and Misuses Revealed, from Distance Healing to Vitamin O* by Christopher Wanjek (Wiley).

How can we be certain that we don't use only 10 percent of the brain? As Beyerstein succinctly says, "The armamentarium of modern neuroscience decisively repudiates this notion." CAT, PET and MRI scans, along with a battery of other tests, show that there are no inactive regions of the brain, even during sleep. Neuroscientists regularly hook up patients to these devices and ask them to do math problems, listen to music, paint, or do whatever they please. Certain regions of the brain fire up with activity depending on what task is performed. The scans catch all this activity; the entire brain has been mapped this way.

Further debunking of the myth is the fact that the brain, like any other body part, must be used to remain healthy. If your leg remains in a cast for a month, it wilts. A 90-percent brain inactivity rate would result in 90 percent of the brain rapidly deteriorating. Unused neurons (brain cells) would shrivel and die. Clearly, this doesn't happen in healthy individuals. In Alzheimer's disease, there is a diffuse 10 percent to 20 percent loss of neurons. This has a devastating effect on memory and consciousness. A person would be comatose if 90 percent of the brain — any 90 percent — were inactive.

For question 11, consider each of the choices separately and choose all that apply.

11. Which of the following does the passage provide as scientific evidence to disprove the myth that humans use only 10 percent of their brains?

- (A) Brain scans show activity in all regions of the brain, even during sleep.
- (B) Brain cells shrivel and die when not in use.
- (C) A loss of 10 to 20 percent of the brain results in Alzheimer's disease.

This passage is taken from *The Daily Show and Philosophy: Moments of Zen in the Art of Fake News* by Jason Holt (Wiley-Blackwell).

The fact that television provides entertainment isn't, in and of itself, a problem for Postman. He warns, however, that dire consequences can befall a culture in which the most important public discourse, conducted via television, becomes little more than irrational, irrelevant, and incoherent entertainment. Again, we shall see that this is a point often suggested by *The Daily Show's* biting satire. In a healthy democracy, the open discussion of important issues must be serious, rational, and coherent. But such discussion is often time consuming and unpleasant, and thus incompatible with television's drive to entertain. So, it's hardly surprising to see television serving up important news analyses in sound bites surrounded by irrelevant graphics and video footage, or substituting half-minute ad spots for substantial political debates. On television, thoughtful conversations about serious issues are reserved for only the lowest-rated niche programs. Just as ventriloquism and mime don't play well on radio, "thinking does not play well on television." Instead, television serves as the sort of "gut"-based discourse celebrated by Stephen Colbert.

12. Which of the following most accurately expresses the main point of this passage

- (A) Television can entertain, but it cannot inform.
- (B) Television inherently is a poor medium for discussion of important issues.
- (C) Conversations about serious issues play better on radio than on TV.
- (D) Television's drive to entertain is incompatible with serious discussion of complex issues.
- (E) Public discourse presented on TV is irrational, irrelevant, incoherent entertainment.

This passage is taken from *GMAT For Dummies, 5th Edition*, by Scott Hatch, JD, and Lisa Hatch, MA (Wiley).

Snakes exist on every continent except for Antarctica, which is inhospitable to all cold blooded animals. The continent of Australia is home to many of the deadliest snakes in the world. However, the nearby island nation of New Zealand has no snakes at all. Scientists estimate that snakes originated about 100 million years ago when the continents were joined and the snakes stayed on the main land masses of the continents when they split apart. Snakes are absent from New Zealand because they are unable to swim and therefore could not make the journey.

13. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the premise that certain species of snake are absent from New Zealand because they are unable to swim?

- (A) Snakes are found in South America at latitudes farther south than New Zealand.
- (B) Islands like Hawaii and New Zealand are very aggressive about preventing an accidental introduction of snakes.
- (C) Sea snakes can swim and are present in the warmer oceans of the world.
- (D) The Tasman Sea, separating Australia from New Zealand, is home to sharks that prey on snakes.
- (E) Snakes are found on many other islands of the Pacific Ocean.

Questions 14-15 are based on the following passage.

Although many people in the United States complain about the tax burden, some of the countries with the highest taxes are ranked happiest in the world. One notable example is Denmark, where some of the happiest people in the world pay some of the highest taxes — between 50 and 70 percent of their total income.

How can that be? The reason is Denmark's healthcare and education services. In exchange for handing over 50 to 70 percent of their income, Danes receive universal healthcare coverage and free, quality education. While in school, students receive a stipend to cover living expenses and free daycare if they have children. The government also spends more per capita on caring for children and the elderly than any country in the world. Without having to worry so much about paying doctor bills and sending their kids to college, no wonder the Danes are so happy.

14. Which of the following, if true, most effectively challenges the connection between social services and happiness?

- (A) The United States pays more per capita on healthcare.
- (B) Denmark is a relatively small country with a population of approximately 5.5 million people.
- (C) Between 2004 and 2008, Denmark's per capita GDP grew at an average annual rate of 1.5 percent — one of the lowest in the world.
- (D) Several countries that provide universal healthcare and free education rank much lower in happiness than Denmark.
- (E) Denmark is ranked first in entrepreneurship and opportunity.

15. Which of the following does this passage most strongly imply?

- (A) Money can't buy happiness.
- (B) Higher taxes are essential to providing for the needs of citizens.
- (C) There's more to life than low taxes.
- (D) Universal healthcare coverage is essential for happiness.
- (E) We should all move to Denmark.

Directions: Each of the following sentences has a blank indicating that a word or phrase is omitted. Choose the two answer choices that best complete the sentence and result in two sentences most alike in meaning

16. Communications experts recommend taking a time-out to remove the emotional component of a heated debate and return to discussions with a more ____ attitude.

- (A) complaisant
- (B) incendiary
- (C) apprehensive
- (D) conciliatory
- (E) beguiling
- (F) complacent

17. When the goal is to foster bipartisanship and encourage cooperation, one should deliver a prepared speech rather than allow extemporaneous discourse to lapse into an impassioned ____.

- (A) supplication
- (B) vernacular
- (C) malapropism
- (D) invective
- (E) hyperbole
- (F) diatribe

18. Although most employers want team players, ____ individuals are more prone to cheer from the sidelines than get into the game.

- (A) fawning
- (B) assertive
- (C) timorous
- (D) obsequious
- (E) indignant
- (F) aggressive

19. Though delivered out of a genuine desire to help the community, the presentation seemed exaggerated and thus came across as ____.

- (A) erroneous
- (B) duplicitous
- (C) mendacious
- (D) disingenuous
- (E) sagacious
- (F) pretentious

20. Two hours playing outdoor sports is more ____ than two hours watching TV.

- (A) salacious
- (B) specious
- (C) salubrious
- (D) pernicious
- (E) wholesome
- (F) propitious