

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

1 of 20

Since a large amount of the ore frequently located in riverbeds is (i) _____ on the earth's surface, where the processing of chemicals is less costly, recovery of underwater ore is not likely to become a (ii) _____ procedure.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
scanty	valuable
abundant	inexpensive
preserved	rejected

Question 2 of 20

It would be (i) _____ for our leaders, given their responsibilities as democratically elected officials, to neglect to do everything they could to (ii) _____ an entirely (iii) _____ problem.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
irresponsible	forestall	benign
necessary	sustain	unimportant
frivolous	cultivate	avoidable

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Despite her mentor's advice that she attempt to sound consistently _____, the graduate student often resorted to using slang when presenting significant parts of her thesis, her habitual speech patterns overriding her years of learning.

lucid
didactic
panegyric
erudite
rational

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Although she felt Steve (i) _____ the subtlety of the delicious stew recipe with his addition of the sweet potato, she thought the pungent onion (ii) _____ the otherwise (iii) _____ taste combination.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
depleted	exaggerated	delicate
permeated	overwhelmed	zesty
augmented	satiated	detestable

At first, a still-life painting can appear quite (i) _____, its focus on such everyday objects as flowers or fruits apparently uninspired. In the hands of (ii) _____ painter, however, careful attention to slight shifts of color and texture can lead to a truly (iii) _____ and exemplary painting.

Blank (i)

vital
luxuriant
banal

Blank (ii)

a gauche
an adept
an ascetic

Blank (iii)

unstinting
sublime
prosaic

The leaders of Ukraine's "Orange Revolution" were a study in contrasts. At the center of the political storm stood Viktor Yushchenko, his once (i) _____ face transformed into a monstrous mask by dioxin poisoning; but, at his side, no one could miss the (ii) _____ Yulia Tymoshenko, soon to become the world's only prime minister to adorn the covers of fashion magazines.

Blank (i)

quiescent
fatuous
comely

Blank (ii)

prepossessing
decorous
felicitous

For each of Questions 7 to 11, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.

Questions 7 through 9 are based on the following reading passage.

In analyzing the poetry of Mona Feather, we are confronted with three different yardsticks by which to measure her work. We could consider her poems as the product of a twentieth-century artist in the tradition of James Joyce, T.S. Eliot, and Wallace Stevens. However, to do so would be to ignore a facet that informs every word she writes and that stems from her identity as a woman. Yet, to characterize her solely as a woman poet is to deny her cultural heritage, for Mona Feather is also the first modern poet of stature who is also an American Indian.

Stanley Wilson has argued compellingly that the huge popularity Feather enjoys among the Indian reservation school population of the United States is creating a whole new generation of poetry enthusiasts in an age when the reading of poetry is on the wane. While this is undoubtedly true, Mr. Wilson's praise gives the impression that Feather's readership is limited to her own culture—an impression which hints that Mr. Wilson is himself measuring her by only one criterion. Radical feminist writers have long found in Feather's poetry a sense of self-pride which strikes a chord with their own more political philosophies. Her imagery, which always made use of the early Native American traditions in which the woman had an important role, was seen as the awakened sensibility of a kindred spirit.

Yet for all the “feminist” touches in her writing, it would be a disservice to consign Feather to the ranks of politicized writers, for her message is deeper than that. The despair that characterized twentieth-century modern poets is to be found in Mona Feather's work as well; she writes of the American Indians of the 1930s confined to ever-shrinking reservations and finds in that a metaphor for all of modern mankind trapped on a shrinking earth of limited resources.

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The primary purpose of the passage is to

- describe the work of Mona Feather
- compare Feather with Joyce, Eliot, and Stevens
- show Feather's roots in her Native American heritage
- argue that Mona Feather's work can be looked at in several different ways
- discuss the women's movement in America

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The passage implies that the author believes Stanley Wilson's view of Feather is

- a compelling and complete assessment of her work
- focused too much on her status as a Native American poet
- meant to disguise his opinion of Feather as a poet lacking in talent
- critical of Native American children's literary judgment
- based on all major themes and images in her poetry

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The author mentions James Joyce, T.S. Eliot, and Wallace Stevens in order to

- compare the political messages in Feather's work to those in the work of other authors
- highlight the radical differences between male and female poets in the twentieth century
- contrast Feather's thematic choices with those of her contemporaries
- enumerate a list of artists whose sensibilities made them Feather's kindred spirits
- describe a critical context in which Feather's work can be analyzed

Questions 10 through 11 are based on the following reading passage.

Among the more interesting elements of etymology is the attempt to derive the meaning of seemingly nonsensical expressions. Take, for instance, the increasingly archaic rural phrase “to buy a pig in a poke.” For centuries, the expression has been used to signify the purchase of an item without full knowledge of its condition. It relates to the common Renaissance practice of securing suckling pigs for transport to market in a poke, or drawstring bag. Unscrupulous sellers would sometimes attempt to dupe purchasers by replacing the suckling pig with a cat, considered worthless at market. An unsuspecting or naïve buyer might fail to confirm the bag’s contents; a more **urbane** buyer, though, would be sure to check and—should the seller be dishonest—“let the cat out of the bag.”

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Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.

Which of the following phrases from the passage would help the reader infer the meaning of the word **urbane** as used in context?

- “increasingly archaic rural phrase”
- “without full knowledge”
- “unsuspecting or naïve buyer”

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Select the sentence in which the author provides a definition for an antiquated term that may be unfamiliar to the reader.

For questions 12 through 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.

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Although she was such a bad-mannered child that she was sent to a boarding school, as an adult she is the very model of _____ .

- friendliness
- diffidence
- propriety
- reticence
- decorum
- brashness

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Politicians sometimes appear to act in a manner that is almost _____ ; however, when all the information is released after the fact, it is apparent that they were acting according to a deliberate plan.

- pithy
- conventional
- conformist
- whimsical
- flawless
- capricious

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Forced to take an alternate road when a massive oil spill closed the highway, the two-hour detour made their already arduous trip even more _____.

- irksome
- onerous
- facile
- glib
- implacable
- immutable

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Though many of her contemporaries found her odd, Ella Wilkins is now much admired for her _____ spirit, especially her willingness to reject prevailing feminine roles and to travel to foreign lands alone.

- forlorn
- magnanimous
- adventurous
- bellicose
- desolate
- doughty

For each of Questions 16 to 20, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.

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Microfiber synthetics have been taking the place of natural fibers in an ever-increasing number of clothes because they provide the same durability and deplete fewer natural resources. A shirt made of microfiber synthetics is, however, three times as expensive to produce as a natural-fiber shirt. It follows that the substitution of microfiber synthetic clothes for natural-fiber clothes is, at this time, not recommended from a financial standpoint.

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

- A microfiber synthetic shirt costs one-half the price of a natural-fiber shirt to maintain.
- The production of microfiber synthetic clothes necessitates garment factories to renovate obsolete machinery and to hire extra workers to operate the new machines.
- The upkeep of natural-fiber shirts is far less expensive than the upkeep of any other natural-fiber garment in current production.
- While producers anticipate that the cost of microfiber synthetics will remain stable, they recognize that the advent of recycling programs for natural fibers should bring down the costs of natural fibers.
- The cost of providing stain guards for microfiber synthetic shirts would probably be greater than what garment producers now spend on stain guards for natural-fiber shirts.

Questions 17 through 18 are based on the following reading passage.

Scholars of early Buddhist art agree that Buddha images in human form emerged around the first century A.D. in the regions of Mathura, located in central India, and Gandhara, now part of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Uncertainty exists, however, about whether Mathura or Gandhara has the stronger claim to primacy. Those who believe that anthropomorphic sculptures of the Buddha first appeared in Gandhara point out that earlier Buddhist art was largely aniconic and that *bas relief* was far more common than sculpture. They argue that Greek influence in Gandhara promoted the development of the new style and form of representation of the divine. Other scholars make the case for indigenous development of such representations in Mathura, citing a centuries-long record of iconic art in pre-Buddhist traditions. They do not reject all foreign influence, but they argue that local traditions provided a strong foundation for the development of Buddhist sculpture.

Art historians bolster their arguments by highlighting distinctive features of the sculptures from each region. For example, the artists of Gandhara sculpted their Buddhas in heavy, pleated drapery, similar to that of Greek statues. Wavy lines indicating hair also reflect Greek influence. Mathura Buddhas, on the other hand, are portrayed wearing lighter robes draped in a monastic style, often with part of the shoulder and chest left bare. Elongated earlobes and strong facial features characterize Mathura images of the Buddha, whereas Gandhara images possess more angular features. Sorting out dates and directions of influence has proven difficult, but the totality of evidence suggests that the Buddha image evolved simultaneously in both regions and was shaped by the predominant cultural influences in each region.

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Which of the following, if true, would those who believe that anthropomorphic images of Buddha originated in Gandhara be likely to cite as evidence for their viewpoint?

- Pre-Buddhist subcultures in the Gandhara region created representations of their deities in human form.
- Mathuran Buddhas' lightweight robes appear to have been modeled on the real robes of people who lived in a warm climate.
- Gandharan artists were isolated from the larger society and not exposed to influences from outside the region.
- Rulers from the Mathura region had political ties to Greek rulers and frequently exchanged gifts with them.
- The hairstyles worn by Gandharan Buddhas are similar to those depicted on Greek pottery from the same period.

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According to the passage, Buddhist art

- first appeared in regions that are now part of India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan
- experienced a period during which human representations of the Buddha were not common
- characteristically portrayed figures with elongated earlobes and strong facial features
- began to appear in the medium of *bas relief* as a result of Greek influence
- was more influenced by foreign artworks than by indigenous artistic traditions

Questions 19 through 20 are based on the following reading passage.

In 1887, Eugene Dubois began his search in Sumatra for the “missing link”—the being that would fill the evolutionary gap between ape and man. He discovered a fossilized human-like thighbone and a section of skull. He confirmed that these fossils were of significant age by examining other fossils in the same area. The thighbone’s shape indicated that it belonged to a creature that walked upright. Dubois estimated the size of the creature’s skull from the skull fragment and concluded that this creature’s brain volume was between that of the higher primates and that of current humans. Although the concept of “missing link” has changed dramatically and a recent analysis showed Dubois’s fossils to be far too recent for humans to have evolved from this “missing link,” the value of his discovery and the debate it generated is unquestionable.

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Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.

The passage supplies information to answer which of the following questions?

- What was the approximate age of the fossils found by Dubois?
- Does Dubois’s find meet current definitions of the “missing link”?
- Do the flaws in Dubois’s conclusions invalidate his work?

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Select a sentence in which the author reaches a conclusion.