



## زبان مدیریت اجرایی

سری کتاب‌های کمک آموزشی کارشناسی ارشد

مجموعه مدیریت کسب و کار

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# سخن ناشر

## «ن والقلم و ما یسطرون»

کلمه نزد خدا بود و خدا آن را با قلم بر ما نازل کرد.

به پاس تشکر از چنین موهبت الهی، مؤسسه ماهان درصدد برآمده است تا در راستای انتقال دانش و مفاهیم با کمک اساتید مجرب و مجموعه کتب آموزشی خود برای شما داوطلبان ادامه تحصیل در مقطع کارشناسی ارشد، گام مؤثری بردارد. امید است تلاش‌های خدمتگزاران شما در این مؤسسه پایه‌گذار گام‌های بلند فردای شما باشد. مجموعه کتاب‌های کمک آموزشی ماهان به‌منظور استفاده داوطلبان کنکور کارشناسی ارشد سراسری و آزاد تألیف شده‌اند. در این کتاب‌ها سعی کرده‌ایم با بهره‌گیری از تجربه اساتید بزرگ و کتب معتبر داوطلبان را از مطالعه کتاب‌های متعدد در هر درس بی‌نیاز کنیم.

دیگر تألیفات ماهان برای سایر دانشجویان به‌صورت ذیل است.

● مجموعه کتاب‌های ۸ آزمون: شامل ۵ مرحله کنکور کارشناسی ارشد ۵ سال اخیر به همراه ۳ مرحله آزمون تألیفی ماهان همراه با پاسخ تشریحی می‌باشد که برای آشنایی با نمونه سوالات کنکور طراحی شده است. این مجموعه کتاب‌ها با توجه به تحلیل ۳ ساله اخیر کنکور و بودجه‌بندی مباحث در هریک از دروس، اطلاعات مناسبی جهت برنامه‌ریزی درسی در اختیار دانشجو قرار می‌دهد.

● مجموعه کتاب‌های کوچک: شامل کلیه نکات کاربردی در گرایش‌های مختلف کنکور کارشناسی ارشد می‌باشد که برای دانشجویان جهت جمع‌بندی مباحث در ۲ ماهه آخر قبل از کنکور مفید است.

بدین‌وسیله از مجموعه اساتید، مولفان و همکاران محترم خانواده بزرگ ماهان که در تولید و به‌روزرسانی تألیفات ماهان نقش مؤثری داشته‌اند، صمیمانه تقدیر و تشکر می‌نماییم.

دانشجویان عزیز و اساتید محترم می‌توانند هرگونه انتقاد و پیشنهاد درخصوص تألیفات ماهان را از طریق سایت ماهان به آدرس [mahan.ac.ir](http://mahan.ac.ir) با ما در میان بگذارند.

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# سخن مؤلف

## مقدمه مؤلف

ستایش بی شمار از آن خدایی است که فروغ نور افشان شکوه و عظمت اش از افق خردها و اندیشه های ناب و پاک بندگان ترقی خواه و کمال طلبش همواره پرتوافکن است، و راه و رسم والا و هدف بلندش را به وسیله منطق رسای قرآن و سیره و سخن پیشوایان راستین نور جلوه گر می سازد.

این کتاب در ۵ بخش تهیه شده است. بخش اول شامل متون و سوالات مربوط به درک مطلب می باشد و در قسمت پاسخنامه آن واژگان مهم هر متن به همراه ترجمه سوالات ارائه شده است. در بخش دوم کتاب سوالات گرامر اعم از تصحیح جملات و ساختار جملات برای آمادگی شما دانشجویان عزیز در تست زنی کنکور آورده شده است. در بخش سوم به سوالات مربوط به واژگان شامل واژگان سخت و واژگان آسان پرداخته ایم که به شما کمک می کند دایره لغات خود را بهبود بخشیده تا در کنکور به سوالات بهتر پاسخ دهید. بخش چهارم، دانشجویان عزیز با مهارت های پانزده گانه تست زنی در درک مطلب آشنا خواهند شد، این بخش می تواند مهارت شما را در پاسخ به سوالات درک مطلب افزایش دهد. در نهایت، بخش آخر را به سوالات و پاسخنامه تشریحی کنکور سراسری از سال ۸۹ الی ۹۶ اختصاص داده ایم.

موجب امتنان است اگر دانشجویان عزیز هرگونه پیشنهاد یا انتقاد در این کتاب را تذکر دهند و اینجانبان را از رهنمودهای سازنده خویش بهره مند سازند. یقیناً هر اثری توأم با خطایی است لذا از شما همراهان گرامی تقاضا دارم هرگونه اشکالی را از طریق سایت موسسه آموزش عالی آزاد ماهان به آدرس [Mahan.ac.ir](http://Mahan.ac.ir) به اطلاع ما برسانید.

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# Reading Practice Tests 1-5



## **Main Topics**

❖ **Reading Practice Tests 1-5**





# Reading Practice Test - 1

## Passage 1:

### Questions 1-10

All mammals feed their young. Beluga whale mothers, for example, nurse their calves for some twenty months, until they are about to give birth again and their young are able to find their own food. The behavior of feeding of the young is built into the reproductive system. It is a nonelective part of parental care and the defining feature of a mammal, the most important thing that mammals-- whether marsupials, platypuses, spiny anteaters, or placental mammals -- have in common. But not all animal parents, even those that **tend** their offspring to the point of hatching or birth, feed their young. Most egg-guarding fish do not, for the simple reason that their young are so much smaller than the parents and eat food that is also much smaller than the food eaten by adults. In reptiles, the crocodile mother protects her young after they have hatched and takes them down to the water, where they will find food, but she does not actually feed them. Few insects feed their young after hatching, but some make other arrangements, **provisioning** their cells and nests with caterpillars and spiders that they have paralyzed with their venom and stored in a state of suspended animation so that their larvae might have a supply of fresh food when they hatch. For animals other than mammals, then, feeding is not intrinsic to parental care. Animals add it to their reproductive strategies to give them an **edge** in their lifelong quest for descendants. The most vulnerable moment in any animal's life is when it first finds itself completely on its own, when it must forage and fend for itself. Feeding postpones that moment until a young animal has grown to such a size that **it** is better able to cope. Young that are fed by their parents become nutritionally independent at a much greater fraction of their full adult size. And in the meantime those young are **shielded** against the vagaries of fluctuating or difficult-to-find supplies. Once a species does take the step of feeding its young, the young become totally dependent on the extra effort. If both parents are removed, the young generally do not survive.

### 1- What does the passage mainly discuss?

- 1) The care that various animals give to their offspring.
- 2) The difficulties young animals face in obtaining food.
- 3) The methods that mammals use to nurse their young.
- 4) The importance among young mammals of becoming independent.

### 2- The author lists various animals in the passage to:

- 1) contrast the feeding habits of different types of mammals
- 2) describe the process by which mammals came to be defined
- 3) emphasize the point that every type of mammal feeds its own young
- 4) explain why a particular feature of mammals is nonelective

### 3- The word "tend" in line 6 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) sit on
- 2) move
- 3) notice
- 4) care for

4- What can be inferred from the passage about the practice of animal parents feeding their young?

- 1) It is unknown among fish.
- 2) It is unrelated to the size of the young.
- 3) It is dangerous for the parents.
- 4) It is most common among mammals.

5- The word "provisioning" in line 11 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) supplying
- 2) preparing
- 3) building
- 4) expanding

6- According to the passage, how do some insects make sure their young have food?

- 1) By storing food near their young.
- 2) By locating their nests or cells near spiders and caterpillars.
- 3) By searching for food some distance from their nest.
- 4) By gathering food from a nearby water source.

7- The word "edge" in line 15 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) opportunity
- 2) advantage
- 3) purpose
- 4) rest

8- The word "it" in line 18 refers to :

- 1) feeding
- 2) moment
- 3) young animal
- 4) size

9- According to the passage, animal young are most defenseless when .....

- 1) their parents are away searching for food
- 2) their parents have many young to feed
- 3) they are only a few days old
- 4) they first become independent

10- The word "shielded" in line 20 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) raised
- 2) protected
- 3) hatched
- 4) valued

## Passage 2:

### Questions 11-21

Printmaking is the generic term for a number of processes, of which woodcut and engraving are two **prime** examples. Prints are made by pressing a sheet of paper (or other material) against an image-bearing surface to which ink has been applied. When the paper is removed, the image adheres to it, but in reverse.

The woodcut had been used in China from the fifth century A.D. for applying patterns to textiles. The process was not introduced into Europe until the fourteenth century, first for textile decoration and then for printing on paper. Woodcuts are created by a relief process; first, the artist takes a block of wood, which has been sawed parallel to the grain, covers it with a white ground, and then draws the image in ink. The background is carved away, leaving the design area slightly raised. The woodblock is inked, and the ink adheres to the raised image. It is then transferred to damp paper either by hand or with a printing press. Engraving, which grew out of the goldsmith's art, originated in Germany and northern Italy in the middle of the fifteenth century. It is an *intaglio* process (from Italian *intagliare*, "to carve"). The image is **incised** into a highly polished metal plate, usually copper, with a cutting instrument, or burin.

The artist inks the plate and wipes it clean so that some ink remains in the incised grooves. An impression is made on damp paper in a printing press, with sufficient pressure being applied so that the paper picks up the ink.

Both woodcut and engraving have **distinctive** characteristics. Engraving lends itself to subtle modeling and shading through the use of fine lines. Hatching and cross-hatching determine the degree of light and shade in a print. Woodcuts tend to be more linear, with sharper contrasts between light and dark. Printmaking is well suited to the production of multiple images. A set of multiples is called an edition.

Both methods can **yield** several hundred good-quality prints before the original block or plate begins to show signs of wear. Mass production of prints in the sixteenth century made images available, at a lower cost, to a much broader public than before.

**11- What does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The origins of textile decoration
- 2) The characteristics of good-quality prints
- 3) Two types of printmaking
- 4) Types of paper used in printmaking

**12- The word "prime" in line 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) principal
- 2) complex
- 3) general
- 4) recent

**13- The author's purpose in paragraph 2 is to describe :**

- 1) the woodcuts found in China in the fifth century
- 2) the use of woodcuts in the textile industry
- 3) the process involved in creating a woodcut
- 4) the introduction of woodcuts to Europe

**14- The word "incised" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to :**

- 1) burned
- 2) cut
- 3) framed
- 4) baked

**15- Which of the following terms is defined in the passage?**

- 1) "patterns" (line 5)
- 2) "grain" (line 8)
- 3) "burin" (line 15)
- 4) "grooves" (line 16)

**16- The word "distinctive" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) unique
- 2) accurate
- 3) irregular
- 4) similar

**17- According to the passage, all of the following are true about engraving EXCEPT that it:**

- 1) developed from the art of the goldsmiths
- 2) requires that the paper be cut with a burin
- 3) originated in the fifteenth century
- 4) involves carving into a metal plate

**18- The word "yield" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) imitate
- 2) produce
- 3) revise
- 4) contrast

**19- According to the passage, what do woodcut and engraving have in common?**

- 1) Their designs are slightly raised.
- 2) They achieve contrast through hatching and cross-hatching.
- 3) They were first used in Europe.
- 4) They allow multiple copies to be produced from one original.

**20- According to the author, what made it possible for members of the general public to own prints in the sixteenth century?**

- 1) Prints could be made at low cost.
- 2) The quality of paper and ink had improved.
- 3) Many people became involved in the printmaking industry.
- 4) Decreased demand for prints kept prices affordable.

**21- According to the passage, all of the following are true about prints EXCEPT that they:**

- 1) can be reproduced on materials other than paper
- 2) are created from a reversed image
- 3) show variations between light and dark shades
- 4) require a printing press

**Passage 3:****Questions 22-31**

The first peoples to inhabit what today is the southeastern United States sustained themselves as hunters and gatherers. Sometimes early in the first millennium A.D., however, they began to cultivate corn and other crops. Gradually, as they became more skilled at gardening, they settled into permanent villages and developed a rich culture, characterized by the great earthen mounds they erected as monuments to their gods and as tombs for their distinguished dead. Most of these early mound builders were part of the **Adena-Hopewell** culture, which had its beginnings near the Ohio River and takes its name from sites in Ohio. The culture spread southward into the present-day states of Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. Its peoples became great traders, **bartering** jewellery, pottery, animal pelts, tools, and other goods along extensive trading networks that stretched up and down eastern North America and as far west as the Rocky Mountains.

About A.D. 400, the Hopewell culture fell into decay. Over the next centuries, it was **supplanted** by another culture, the Mississippian, named after the river along which many of its earliest villages were located. This complex civilization dominated the Southeast from about A.D. 700 until shortly before the Europeans began arriving in the sixteenth century. At the peak of its strength, about the year 1200, it was the most advanced culture in North America. Like their Hopewell predecessors, the Mississippians became highly skilled at growing food, although on a grander scale. They developed an improved strain of corn, which could survive in wet soil and a relatively cool climate, and also learned to cultivate beans. Indeed, agriculture became so important to the Mississippians that it became closely associated with the Sun – the guarantor of good crops. Many tribes called themselves "**children of the Sun**" and believed their omnipotent priest-chiefs were descendants of the great sun god.

Although most Mississippians lived in small villages, many others inhabited large towns. Most of these towns boasted at least one major flat-topped mound on which stood a temple that contained a sacred flame. Only priests and those **charged with** guarding the flame could enter the temples. The mounds also served as ceremonial and trading sites, and at times they were used as burial grounds.

**22- What does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The development of agriculture
- 2) The locations of towns and villages
- 3) The early people and cultures of the United States
- 4) The construction of burial mounds

**23- Which of the following resulted from the rise of agriculture in the southeastern United States?**

- 1) The development of trade in North America
- 2) The establishment of permanent settlements
- 3) Conflicts with other Native American groups over land
- 4) A migration of these peoples to the Rocky Mountains.

**24- What does the term "Adena-Hopewell" designate?**

- 1) The early locations of the Adena-Hopewell culture
- 2) The two most important nations of the Adena-Hopewell culture
- 3) Two former leaders who were honored with large burial mounds.
- 4) Two important trade routes in eastern North America

**25- The word "bartering" line 8 is closest in meaning to :**

- 1) producing
- 2) exchanging
- 3) transporting
- 4) loading

**26- The word "supplanted" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) conquered
- 2) preceded
- 3) replaced
- 4) imitated

**27- According to the passage, when did the Mississippian culture reach its highest point of development?**

- 1) About A.D. 400
- 2) Between A.D. 400 and A.D. 700
- 3) About A.D. 1200
- 4) In the sixteenth century

28- According to the passage, how did the agriculture of the Mississippians differ from that of their Hopewell predecessors?

- 1) The Mississippians produced more durable and larger crops of food.
- 2) The Mississippians sold their food to other groups.
- 3) The Mississippians could only grow plants in warm, dry climates.
- 4) The Mississippians produced special foods for their religious leaders.

29- Why does the author mention that many Mississippians tribes called themselves "children of the Sun (second paragraph)?

- 1) To explain why they were obedient to their priest-chiefs.
- 2) To argue about the importance of religion in their culture.
- 3) To illustrate the great importance they placed on agriculture.
- 4) To provide an example of their religious rituals.

30- The phrase "charged with" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to:

- 1) passed on
- 2) experienced at
- 3) interested in
- 4) assigned to

31- According to the passage, the flat-topped mounds in Mississippian towns were used for all of the following purposes EXCEPT:

- 1) religious ceremonies
- 2) meeting places for the entire community
- 3) sites for commerce
- 4) burial sites

Passage 4:

Questions 32-40

Overland transport in the United States was still extremely **primitive** in 1790. Roads were few and short, usually extending from inland communities to the nearest river town or seaport. Nearly all interstate commerce was carried out by sailing ships that served the bays and harbors of the seaboard. Yet, in 1790 the nation was **on the threshold of** a new era of road development. Unable to finance road construction, states turned for help to private companies, organized by merchants and land speculators who had a personal interest in improved communications with the interior. The pioneer in this move was the state of Pennsylvania, which chartered a company in 1792 to construct a turnpike, a road for the use of which a toll, or payment, is collected, from Philadelphia to Lancaster.

The legislature gave the company the authority to erect tollgates at points along the road where payment would be collected, though **it** carefully regulated the rates. (The states had unquestioned authority to regulate private business in this period.)

The company built a gravel road within two years, and the success of the Lancaster Pike encouraged **imitation**. Northern states generally relied on private companies to build their toll roads, but Virginia constructed a network at public expense. Such was the road building fever that by 1810 New York alone had some 1,500 miles of turnpikes extending from the Atlantic to Lake Erie.

Transportation on these early turnpikes consisted of freight carrier wagons and passenger stagecoaches. The most common road freight carrier was the Conestoga wagon, a vehicle developed in the mid-eighteenth century by German immigrants in the area around Lancaster, Pennsylvania. It featured **large, broad wheels** able to negotiate all but the deepest ruts and holes, and its round bottom prevented the freight from shifting on a hill. Covered with canvas and drawn by four to six horses, the Conestoga wagon rivaled the log cabin as the primary symbol of the frontier. Passengers traveled in a variety of stagecoaches, the most common of which had four benches, each holding three persons. It was only a platform on wheels, with no springs; slender poles held up the top, and leather curtains kept out dust and rain.

- 32- Paragraph 1 discusses early road building in the United States mainly in terms of the .....
- 1) popularity of turnpikes
  - 2) financing of new roads
  - 3) development of the interior
  - 4) laws governing road use
- 33- The word "primitive" in the first line is closest in meaning to:
- 1) unsafe
  - 2) unknown
  - 3) inexpensive
  - 4) undeveloped
- 34- In 1790 most roads connected towns in the interior of the country with:
- 1) other inland communities
  - 2) towns in other states
  - 3) river towns or seaports
  - 4) construction sites
- 35- The phrase "on the threshold of" in line 4 is closest in meaning to:
- 1) in need of
  - 2) in place of
  - 3) at the start of
  - 4) with the purpose of
- 36- According to the passage, why did states want private companies to help with road building?
- 1) The states could not afford to build roads themselves.
  - 2) The states were not as well equipped as private companies.
  - 3) Private companies could complete roads faster than the states.
  - 4) Private companies had greater knowledge of the interior.
- 37- The word "it" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph refers to :
- 1) legislature
  - 2) company
  - 3) authority
  - 4) payment
- 38- The word "imitation" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:
- 1) investment
  - 2) suggestion
  - 3) increasing
  - 4) copying
- 39- Virginia is mentioned as an example of a state that:
- 1) built roads without tollgates
  - 2) built roads with government money
  - 3) completed 1,500 miles of turnpikes in one year
  - 4) introduced new law restricting road use
- 40- The "large, broad wheels" of the Conestoga wagon are mentioned in paragraph 4 as an example of a feature of wagons that was:
- 1) unusual in mid-eighteenth century vehicles
  - 2) first found in Germany
  - 3) effective on roads with uneven surfaces
  - 4) responsible for frequent damage to freight

### Passage 5:

#### Questions 41- 50

In Death Valley, California, one of the hottest, most arid places in North America, there is much salt, and salt can damage rocks impressively. Inhabitants of areas elsewhere, where streets and highways are salted to control ice, are familiar with the resulting rust and deterioration on cars. That attests to the chemically corrosive nature of salt, but it is not the way salt destroys rocks. Salt breaks rocks apart principally by a process called crystal prying and wedging. This happens not by soaking the rocks in salt water, but by moistening their bottoms with salt water. Such conditions exist in many areas along the eastern edge of central Death Valley. There, salty water rises from the groundwater table by capillary action through tiny spaces in sediment until it reaches the surface.

Most stones have capillary passages that suck salt water from the wet ground. Death Valley provides an ultra-dry atmosphere and high daily temperatures, which promote evaporation and the formation of salt crystals along the cracks or other openings within stones. These crystals grow as long as salt water is available. Like tree roots breaking up a sidewalk, the growing crystals exert pressure on the rock and eventually pry the rock apart along planes of weakness, such as banding in metamorphic rocks, bending in sedimentary rocks, or preexisting or incipient fractures, and along boundaries between individual mineral crystals or grains. Besides crystal growth, the expansion of halite crystals (the same as everyday table salt) by heating and of sulfates and similar salts by hydration can contribute additional stresses. A

rock **durable** enough to have withstood natural conditions for a very long time in other areas could probably be **shattered** into small pieces by salt weathering within a few generations.

The **dominant** salt in Death Valley is halite, or sodium chloride, but other salts, mostly carbonates and sulfates, also cause prying and wedging, as does ordinary ice. Weathering by a variety of salts, though often subtle, is a worldwide phenomenon. Not restricted to arid regions, intense salt weathering occurs mostly in salt-rich places like the seashore, near the large saline lakes in the Dry Valleys of Antarctica, and in desert sections of Australia, New Zealand, and central Asia.

**41- What is the passage mainly about?**

- 1) The destructive effects of salt on rocks.
- 2) The impressive salt rocks in Death Valley.
- 3) The amount of salt produced in Death Valley.
- 4) The damaging effects of salt on roads and highways.

**42- The word "it" in paragraph 1 refers to:**

- 1) salty water
- 2) groundwater table
- 3) capillary action
- 4) sediment

**43- The word "exert" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) put
- 2) reduce
- 3) replace
- 4) control

**44- In lines 13-17, why does the author compare tree roots with growing salt crystals?**

- 1) They both force hard surfaces to crack.
- 2) They both grow as long as water is available.
- 3) They both react quickly to a rise in temperature.
- 4) They both cause salty water to rise from the groundwater table.

**45- In lines 16-18, the author mentions the "expansion of halite crystals...by heating and of sulfates and similar salts by hydration" in order to**

- 1) present an alternative theory about crystal growth
- 2) explain how some rocks are not affected by salt
- 3) simplify the explanation of crystal prying and wedging
- 4) introduce additional means by which crystals destroy rocks

**46- The word "durable" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) large
- 2) strong
- 3) flexible
- 4) pressured

**47- The word "shattered" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) arranged
- 2) dissolved
- 3) broken apart
- 4) gathered together

**48- The word "dominant" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) most recent
- 2) most common
- 3) least available
- 4) least damaging

**49- According to the passage, which of the following is true about the effects of salts on rocks?**

- 1) Only two types of salts cause prying and wedging.
- 2) Salts usually cause damage only in combination with ice.
- 3) A variety of salts in all kinds of environments can cause weathering.
- 4) Salt damage at the seashore is more severe than salt damage in Death Valley.

**50- Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about rocks that are found in areas where ice is common?**

- 1) They are protected from weathering.
- 2) They do not allow capillary action of water.
- 3) They show similar kinds of damage as rocks in Death Valley.
- 4) They contain more carbonates than sulfates.



## Reading Practice Test - 2

### Passage 1:

#### Questions 1-10

By far the most important United States export product in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries was cotton, **favoured** by the European textile industry over flax or wool because it was easy to process and soft to the touch. Mechanization of spinning and weaving allowed significant centralization and expansion in the textile industry during this period, and at the same time the demand for cotton increased dramatically. American producers were able to meet this demand largely because of the invention of the cotton gin by Eli Whitney in 1793. Cotton could be grown throughout the South, but separating the fiber – or lint – from the seed was a **laborious** process. Sea island cotton was relatively easy to process by hand, because its fibers were long and seeds were concentrated at the base of the flower, but it demanded a long growing season, available only along the nation's eastern seacoast. Short-staple cotton required a much shorter growing season, but the shortness of the fibers and their mixture with seeds meant that a worker could hand-process only about one pound per day. Whitney's gin was a hand-powered machine with revolving drums and metal teeth to pull cotton fibers away from seeds. Using the gin, a worker could produce up to 50 pounds of lint a day. The later development of larger gins, powered by horses, water, or steam, multiplied productivity further.

The interaction of improved processing and high demand led to the rapid spread of the cultivation of cotton and to a **surge** in production. It became the main American export, dwarfing all others. In 1802, cotton composed 14 percent of total American exports by value. Cotton had a 36 percent share by 1810 and over a 50 percent share in 1830. In 1860, 61 percent of the value of American exports was represented by cotton. In contrast, **wheat and wheat flour** composed only 6 percent of the value of American exports in that year. Clearly, cotton was king in the trade of the young republic. The growing market for cotton and other American agricultural products led to an **unprecedented** expansion of agricultural settlement, mostly in the eastern half of the United States—west of the Appalachian Mountains and east of the Mississippi River.

**1- The main point of the passage is that the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were a time when**

- 1) the European textile industry increased its demand for American export products
- 2) mechanization of spinning and weaving dramatically changed the textile industry
- 3) cotton became a profitable crop but was still time-consuming to process
- 4) cotton became the most important American export product

**2- The word "favoured" in line 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) preferred
- 2) recommended
- 3) imported
- 4) included

**3- All of the following are mentioned in the passage as reasons for the increased demand for cotton EXCEPT:**

- 1) cotton's softness
- 2) cotton's ease of processing
- 3) a shortage of flax and wool
- 4) the growth that occurred in the textile industry.

**4- The word "laborious" in line 7 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) unfamiliar
- 2) primitive
- 3) skilled
- 4) difficult



- 5- According to the passage, one advantage of sea island cotton was its .....  
1) abundance of seeds  
2) long fibers  
3) long growing season  
4) adaptability to different climates
- 6- Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about cotton production in the United States after the introduction of Whitney's cotton gin?  
1) More cotton came from sea island cotton plants than before.  
2) More cotton came from short-staple cotton plants than before.  
3) Most cotton produced was sold domestically.  
4) Most cotton produced was exported to England.
- 7- The word "surge" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:  
1) sharp increase  
2) sudden stop  
3) important change  
4) excess amount
- 8- The author mentions "wheat and wheat flour" in paragraph 2 in order to:  
1) show that Americans exported more agricultural products than they imported.  
2) show the increase in the amount of wheat products exported.  
3) demonstrate the importance of cotton among American export products.  
4) demonstrate that wheat farming was becoming more profitable.
- 9- The word "unprecedented" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:  
1) slow  
2) profitable  
3) not seen before  
4) never explained
- 10- According to the passage, the Mississippi River was:  
1) one of the boundaries of a region where new agricultural settlement took place  
2) a major source of water for agricultural crops  
3) the primary route by which agricultural crops were transported  
4) a main source of power for most agricultural machinery

## Passage 2:

### Questions 11-19

The origins of nest-building remain **obscure**, but current observation of nest-building activities provide evidence of their evolution. Clues to this evolutionary process can be found in the activities of play and in the behavior and movements of birds during mating, such as incessant pulling at strips of vegetation or scraping of the soil. During the early days of the reproductive cycle, the birds seem only to play with the building materials. In preparation for mating, they engage in activities that resemble nest-building, and continue these activities throughout and even after the mating cycle. Effective attempts at construction occur only after mating.

Although nest-building is an instinctive ability, there is considerable adaptability in both site selection and use of materials, especially with those species which build quite elaborate constructions. Furthermore, some element of learning is often evident since younger birds do not build as well as their practiced elders. Young ravens, for example, first attempt to build with sticks of quite unsuitable size, while a jackdaw's first nest includes virtually any movable object. The novelist John Steinbeck recorded the contents of a young osprey nest built in his garden, which included three shirts, a bath towel, and one arrow.

Birds also **display** remarkable behavior in collecting building materials. Crows have been seen to tear off stout green twigs, and sparrowhawks will dive purposefully onto a branch until it snaps and then hang upside down to break it off. Golden eagles, over generations of work, construct enormous nests. One of **these**, examined after it had been dislodged by high winds, weighed almost two tons and included foundation branches almost two meters long. The carrying capacity of the eagles, however, is only relative to their size and the most birds are able to carry an extra **load** of just over **twenty percent** of their body weight.

- 11- The word "obscure" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:  
1) interesting  
2) unclear  
3) imperfect  
4) complex

- 12- According to the passage, which of the following activities is characteristic of the early part of the reproductive cycle of birds?
- 1) Selecting a mate                                      2) Collecting nest-building materials  
3) Playing with nest-building materials        4) Building a nest
- 13- The word "display" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:
- 1) communicate      2) imitate                                      3) initiate                                      4) exhibit
- 14- The novelist John Steinbeck is mentioned in second paragraph (last line) because he .....
- 1) conducted a scientific study on the behavior of ospreys  
2) was the first to describe where ospreys built their nests  
3) described the materials ospreys can use to build their nests  
4) compared the size of osprey nests with the nests of other species
- 15- Which of the following birds are mentioned as those that build nests that include unusual objects?
- 1) Ravens                                      2) Ospreys                                      3) Crows                                      4) Sparrowhawks
- 16- According to the passage, when gathering materials to build their nests, sparrowhawks do which of the following?
- 1) Hang upside down                                      2) Select only green twigs  
3) Use objects blowing in the wind                                      4) Collect more branches than necessary
- 17- The word "these" in paragraph 3 refers to:
- 1) golden eagles      2) generations                                      3) winds                                      4) nests
- 18- The word "load" in the third paragraph is closest in meaning to:
- 1) weight                                      2) number                                      3) section                                      4) level
- 19- The author mentions "twenty percent" in last line to indicate that:
- 1) eagles are twenty percent bigger than most birds  
2) twenty percent of all nests include foundation branches  
3) the nests of eagles are twenty percent of larger than those of other birds  
4) birds can carry twenty percent of their own weight

### Passage 3:

#### Questions 20-30

A survey is a study, generally in the form of an interview or a questionnaire, that provides information concerning how people think and act. In the United States, the best-known surveys are the Gallup poll and the Harris poll. As anyone who watches the news during campaigns presidential knows, these polls have become an important part of political life in the United States.

North Americans are familiar with the many person-on-the-street interviews on local television news shows. While such interviews can be highly entertaining, **they** are not necessarily an accurate indication of public opinion. First, they reflect the opinions of only those people who appear at a certain location. Thus, such samples can be biased in favor of commuters, middle-class shoppers, or factory workers, depending on which area the newspeople select. Second, television interviews tend to attract outgoing people who are willing to appear on the air, while they frighten away others who may feel intimidated by a camera. A survey must be based on a **precise**, representative sampling if it is to genuinely reflect a broad range of the population.

In preparing to conduct a survey, sociologists must **exercise** great care in the wording of questions. An effective survey question must be simple and clear enough for people to understand it. It must also be specific enough so that there are no problems in interpreting the results. Even questions that are less structured must be carefully phrased in order to **elicit** the type of information desired. Surveys can be indispensable sources of information, but only if the sampling is done properly and the questions are worded accurately.

There are two main forms of surveys: the interview and the questionnaire. Each of these forms of survey research has its advantages. An interviewer can obtain a high response rate because people find it more difficult to turn down a personal request for an interview than to throw away a written questionnaire. In addition, an interviewer can go beyond written questions and **probe** for a subject's underlying feelings and reasons. However, questionnaires have the advantage of being cheaper and more consistent.

**20- What does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The history of surveys in North America
- 2) The principles of conducting surveys
- 3) Problems associated with interpreting surveys
- 4) The importance of polls in American political life

**21- The word "they" in paragraph 2 refers to:**

- 1) North Americans
- 2) news shows
- 3) interviews
- 4) opinions

**22- According to the passage, the main disadvantage of person-on-the-street interviews is that they**

- .....
- 1) are not based on a representative sampling
  - 2) are used only on television
  - 3) are not carefully worded
  - 4) reflect political opinions

**23- The word "precise" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) planned
- 2) rational
- 3) required
- 4) accurate

**24- According to paragraph 3, which of the following is most important for an effective survey?**

- 1) A high number of respondents
- 2) Carefully worded questions
- 3) An interviewer's ability to measure respondents' feelings
- 4) A sociologist who is able to interpret the results

**25- The word "exercise" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) utilize
- 2) consider
- 3) design
- 4) defend

**26- The word "elicit" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) compose
- 2) rule out
- 3) predict
- 4) bring out

**27- It can be inferred from the passage that one reason that sociologists may become frustrated with questionnaires is that:**

- 1) respondents often do not complete and return questionnaires
- 2) questionnaires are often difficult to read
- 3) questionnaires are expensive and difficult to distribute
- 4) respondents are too eager to supplement questions with their own opinions

**28- According to the passage, one advantage of live interviews over questionnaires is that live interviews:**

- 1) cost less
- 2) can produce more information
- 3) are easier to interpret
- 4) minimize the influence of the researcher

**29- The word "probe" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) explore
- 2) influence
- 3) analyze
- 4) apply

**30- Which of the following terms is defined in the passage?**

- 1) Survey (line 1)
- 2) Public opinion (line 8)
- 3) Representative sampling (line 13)
- 4) Response rate (line 21)

**Passage 4:****Questions 31-39**

Perhaps one of the most dramatic and important changes that took place in the Mesozoic era occurred late in that era, among the small organisms that populate the uppermost, sunlit portion of the oceans--the plankton. The term "plankton" is a broad one, designating all of the small plants and animals that float about or weakly propel themselves through the sea. In the late stages of the Mesozoic era, during the Cretaceous period, there was a great expansion of plankton that precipitated skeletons or shells composed of two types of mineral: silica and calcium carbonate. This development radically changed the types of sediments that **accumulated** on the seafloor, because, while the organic parts of the plankton decayed after the organisms died, their mineralized skeletons often survived and sank to the bottom. For the first time in the Earth's long history, very large quantities of silica skeletons, which would eventually harden into rock, began to pile up in parts of the deep sea. Thick deposits of calcareous ooze made up of the tiny remains of the calcium carbonate-secreting plankton also accumulated as never before. The famous **white chalk cliffs of Dover**, in the southeast of England, are just one example of the huge quantities of such material that amassed during the Cretaceous period; there are many more. Just why the calcareous plankton were so **prolific** during the latter part of the Cretaceous period is not fully understood. Such massive amounts of chalky sediments have never since been deposited over a comparable period of time. The high biological productivity of the Cretaceous oceans also led to **ideal** conditions for oil accumulation. Oil is formed when organic material trapped in sediments is slowly buried and subjected to increased temperatures and pressures, transforming **it** into petroleum. Sediments rich in organic material accumulated along the margins of the Tethys Seaway, the tropical east-west ocean that formed when Earth's single landmass (known as Pangaea) split apart during the Mesozoic era. Many of today's important oil fields are found in those sediments--in Russia, the Middle East, the Gulf of Mexico, and in the states of Texas and Louisiana in the United States.

**31- What does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) How sediments were built up in oceans during the Cretaceous period
- 2) How petroleum was formed in the Mesozoic era
- 3) The impact of changes in oceanic animal and plant life in the Mesozoic era
- 4) The differences between plankton found in the present era and Cretaceous plankton

**32- The passage indicates that the Cretaceous period occurred:**

- 1) in the early part of the Mesozoic era
- 2) in the middle part of the Mesozoic era
- 3) in the later part of the Mesozoic era
- 4) after the Mesozoic era

**33- The passage mentions all of the following aspects of plankton EXCEPT.....**

- 1) the length of their lives
- 2) the level of the ocean at which they are found
- 3) their movement
- 4) their size

**34- The word "accumulated" in line 7 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) depended
- 2) matured
- 3) dissolved
- 4) collected

**35- According to the passage, the most dramatic change to the oceans caused by plankton during the Cretaceous period concerned:**

- 1) the depth of the water
- 2) the makeup of the sediment on the ocean floor
- 3) the decrease in petroleum-producing sediment
- 4) a decline in the quantity of calcareous ooze on the seafloor

36- The "white chalk cliffs of Dover" in line 11 are mentioned in the passage to:

- 1) show where the plankton sediment first began to buildup
- 2) provide an example of a plankton buildup that scientists cannot explain
- 3) provide an example of the buildup of plankton sediment
- 4) indicate the largest single plankton buildup on Earth

37- The word "prolific" in line 14 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) fruitful
- 2) distinct
- 3) determined
- 4) energetic

38- The word "ideal" in line 16 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) common
- 2) clear
- 3) perfect
- 4) immediate

39- The word "it" in line 18 refers to:

- 1) biological productivity
- 2) oil
- 3) organic material
- 4) petroleum

Passage 5:

#### Questions 40-50

Of all modern instruments, the violin is apparently one of the simplest. It consists in essence of a hollow, varnished wooden sound box, or resonator, and a long neck, covered with a fingerboard, along which four strings are stretched at high tension. The beauty of design, shape, and decoration is no accident: the proportions of the instrument are determined almost entirely by acoustical considerations. Its simplicity of appearance is deceptive. About 70 parts are involved in the construction of a violin. Its tone and its outstanding range of expressiveness make it an ideal solo instrument. No less important, however, is its role as an orchestral and chamber instrument. In combination with the larger and deeper-sounding members of the same family, the violins form the nucleus of the modern symphony orchestra.

The violin has been in existence since about 1550. Its importance as an instrument in its own right dates from the early 1600's, when it first became **standard** in Italian opera orchestras. Its stature as an orchestral instrument was raised further when in 1626 Louis XIII of France established at his court the orchestra known as Les Vingt-quatre Violons du Roi (**The King's 24 Violins**), which was to become widely famous later in the century.

In its early history, the violin had a dull and rather quiet tone resulting from the fact that the strings were thick and were attached to the body of the instrument very loosely. During the eighteenth and nineteenth century, exciting technical changes were inspired by such composer-violinists as **Vivaldi and Tartini**. Their instrumental compositions demanded a fuller, clearer, and more brilliant tone that was produced by using thinner strings and a far higher string tension. Small changes had to be made to the violin's internal structure and to the fingerboard so that **they** could withstand the extra **strain**. **Accordingly**, a higher standard of performance was achieved, in terms of both facility and interpretation. Left-hand technique was considerably elaborated, and new fingering patterns on the fingerboard were developed for very high notes.

40- The word "standard" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) pragmatic
- 2) customary
- 3) feasible
- 4) eccentric

41- "The King's 24 Violins" in paragraph 2 is mentioned to illustrate:

- 1) how the violin became a renowned instrument
- 2) the competition in the 1600's between French and Italian orchestras
- 3) the superiority of French violins
- 4) why the violin was considered the only instrument suitable to be played by royalty

42- What is the **main idea** presented in paragraph 3?

- 1) The violin has been modified to fit its evolving musical functions.
- 2) The violin is probably the best known and most widely distributed musical instrument in the world.

- 3) The violin had reached the height of its popularity by the middle of the eighteenth century.  
 4) The technique of playing the violin has remained essentially the same since the 1600's.

**43- The author mentions "Vivaldi and Tartini" in paragraph 3 as examples of composers whose music:**

- 1) inspired more people to play the violin                      2) had to be adapted to the violin  
 3) demanded more sophisticated violins                      4) could be played only by their students

**44- The word "they" in paragraph 3 refers to:**

- 1) Vivaldi and Tartini    2) thinner strings and a higher string tension  
 3) small changes    4) internal structure and fingerboard

**45- The word "strain" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) struggle                      2) solidity                      3) strategy                      4) stress

**46- The word "Accordingly" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) However                      2) Consequently                      3) Nevertheless                      4) Ultimately

**47- According to the passage, early violins were different from modern violins in that early violins:**

- 1) were heavier    2) broke down more easily  
 3) produced softer tones    4) were easier to play

**48- According to the passage, which of the following contributes to a dull sound being produced by a violin?**

- 1) A long fingerboard    2) A small body  
 3) High string tension    4) Thick strings

**49- Which of the following terms is defined in the passage?**

- 1) resonator (line 2)    2) solo (line 7)  
 3) left-hand technique (line 23)    4) fingering patterns (lines 24)

**50- All of the following are mentioned in the passage as contributing to the ability to play modern violin music EXCEPT .....**

- 1) more complicated techniques for the left hand  
 2) different ways to use the fingers to play very high notes  
 3) use of rare wood for the fingerboard and neck  
 4) minor alterations to the structure of the instrument

## Reading Practice Test - 3

### Passage 1:

#### Questions 1-11

If food is allowed to stand for some time, it putrefies. When the putrefied material is examined microscopically, it is found to be **teeming with** bacteria. Where do these bacteria come from, since they are not seen in fresh food? Even until the mid-nineteenth century, many people believed that such microorganisms originated by spontaneous generation, a hypothetical process by which living organisms develop from nonliving matter.

The most powerful opponent of the theory of spontaneous generation was the French chemist and microbiologist Louis Pasteur (1822-1895). Pasteur showed that structures present in air closely **resemble** the microorganisms seen in putrefying materials. He did this by passing air through **guncotton** filters, the fibers of which stop solid particles. After the guncotton was dissolved in a mixture of alcohol and ether, the particles that it had trapped fell to the bottom of the liquid and were examined on a microscope slide. Pasteur found that in ordinary air there exists a variety of solid structures ranging in size from 0.01 mm to more than **1.0mm**. Many of these bodies resembled the reproductive structures of common molds, single-celled animals, and various other microbial cells. As many as 20 to 30 of them were found in fifteen liters of ordinary air, and they could not be distinguished from the organisms found in much larger numbers in putrefying materials. Pasteur concluded that the organisms found in putrefying materials originated from the organized bodies present in the air. He **postulated** that these bodies are constantly being deposited on all objects.

Pasteur showed that if a nutrient solution was sealed in a glass flask and heated to boiling to destroy all the living organisms contaminating it, **it** never putrefied. The proponents of spontaneous generation declared that fresh air was necessary for spontaneous generation and that the air inside the sealed flask was affected in some way by heating so that it would no longer support spontaneous generation. Pasteur constructed a swan-necked flask in which putrefying materials could be heated to boiling, but air could reenter. The bends in the neck prevented microorganisms from getting in the flask. Material sterilized in such a flask did not putrefy.

#### 1- What does the passage mainly discuss?

- 1) Pasteur's influence on the development of the microscope.
- 2) The origin of the theory of spontaneous generation.
- 3) The effects of pasteurization on food.
- 4) Pasteur's argument against the theory of spontaneous generation.

#### 2- The phrase "teeming with" in line 2 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) full of
- 2) developing into
- 3) resistant to
- 4) hurt by

#### 3- Which of the following questions did the theory of spontaneous generation attempt to answer?

- 1) What is the origin of the living organisms seen on some food?
- 2) How many types of organisms can be found on food?
- 3) What is the most effective way to prepare living organisms for microscopic examination?
- 4) How long can food stand before it putrefies?

#### 4- The word "resemble" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) benefit from
- 2) appear similar to
- 3) join together with
- 4) grow from



5- The purpose of the “guncotton” mentioned in paragraph 2 was to:

- 1) trap particles for analysis
- 2) slow the process of putrefaction
- 3) increase the airflow to the microscopic slide
- 4) aid the mixing of alcohol and ether

6- The author mention “1.0mm” in paragraph 2 is describing the:

- 1) thickness of a layer of organisms that was deposited on an object
- 2) diameter of the fibers that were in the guncotton filters
- 3) thickness of the microscope slides that were used
- 4) size of the particles that were collected

7- The word “postulated” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) analyzed
- 2) doubted
- 3) persuaded
- 4) suggested

8- The objects that Pasteur removed from the air in his experiment were remarkable because they were:

- 1) primarily single-celled organisms
- 2) no different from objects found in putrefying materials
- 3) fairly rare
- 4) able to live in a mixture of alcohol and ether

9- The word “it” in the last paragraph refers to:

- 1) a nutrient solution
- 2) a glass flask
- 3) boiling
- 4) spontaneous generation

10- According to paragraph 3, proponents of spontaneous generation believed that which of the following was important for the process to succeed ?

- 1) A sealed container
- 2) Fresh air
- 3) Heat
- 4) The presence of nutrients

11- It can be inferred from paragraph 3 that Pasteur employed a swan-necked flask to

- 1) store sterilized liquids for use in future experiments
- 2) prevent heat from building up in a solution
- 3) disprove a criticism of his conclusions
- 4) estimate the number of organisms in a liter of air

### Passage 2:

#### Questions 12-20

In the early decades of the United States ,the agrarian movement promoted the farmer as society’s hero. In the minds of agrarian thinkers and writers ,the farmer was a person on whose well-being the health of the new country **depended** .The period between the Revolution, which ended in 1783,and the Civil War ,which ended in 1865 ,was the age of the farmer in the United States .Agrarian philosophers, represented most eloquently by Thomas Jefferson, celebrated farmers extravagantly for their supposed centrality in a good society, their political virtue ,and their Superior morality .And virtually all policy makers, whether they **subscribed** to the tenets of the philosophy held by Jefferson or not, recognized agriculture as the key component of the American economy .Consequently ,government at all levels worked to encourage farmers as a social group and agriculture as economic enterprise.

Both the national and state governments developed transportation infrastructure, building canals, roads, bridges, and railroads ,deepening harbors ,and removing obstructions from navigable streams .The national government imported plant and animal varieties and launched exploring expeditions into prospective farmlands in the West .In addition, government trade policies facilitated the exporting of agricultural products.



For their part ,farmers seemed to meet the social expectations agrarian philosophers had for them ,as their broader horizons and greater self-respect, both products of the Revolution,were reflected to some degree in their behavior .Farmers seemed to become more scientific ,joining agricultural societies and reading the farm newspapers that sprang up throughout the country .They began using improved implements, tried new crops and pure animal breeds , and became more receptive to modern theories of soil improvement .

They also responded to inducements by national and state governments .Farmers streamed to the West, filling frontier lands with **stunning** rapidity .But farmers responded less to the expectations of agrarians and government inducements than to growing market opportunities .European demand for food from the United States seemed insatiable .War, industrialization , and urbanization all kept demand high in Europe. United States cities and industries grew as well; even industries not directly related to farming thrived because of the market, money ,and labor that agriculture provided

**12- What does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The agrarian philosophy of Thomas Jefferson
- 2) The role of the national government in the development of agriculture
- 3) Improvements in farming techniques
- 4) The impact of the increased importance of the farmer

**13- The word “depended” in line 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) improved
- 2) relied
- 3) demanded
- 4) explained

**14- The author mentions Thomas Jefferson in paragraph 1 as an example of .....**

- 1) a leader during the Revolution
- 2) an inventor of new farming techniques
- 3) a philosopher who believed farmers were essential to the creation of a good society
- 4) a farmer who guided the agrarian movement toward an emphasis on economic development

**15- The phrase “subscribed to” in line 7 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) contributed to
- 2) agreed with
- 3) thought about
- 4) expanded on

**16- Which of the following statements is supported by the information in paragraph 1?**

- 1) All government policy makers accepted Jefferson’s views of agriculture and farmers.
- 2) Agricultural productions declined between 1783 and 1861.
- 3) The majority of farmers worked for the government.
- 4) Agriculture was a vital part of the nation’s economy.

**17- According to the passage , the national and state governments did all of the following EXCEPT:**

- 1) build roads
- 2) import new plant varieties
- 3) give farmers money for their crops
- 4) develop policies that helped farmers export their products

**18- All of the following are mentioned as examples of farmers’ meeting the expectations of agrarian philosophers EXCEPT:**

- 1) obtaining information from farm newspapers
- 2) accumulating personal wealth
- 3) planting new crops
- 4) becoming more scientific

**19- The word “stunning” in last paragraph is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) predictable
- 2) impressive
- 3) famous
- 4) gradual

**20- Which of the following statements is best supported by paragraph 4?**

- 1) Agricultural development contributed to development in other parts of the economy.
- 2) European agricultural products were of a higher quality than those produced in the United States.
- 3) The growing settlement of the West led to a decrease in agricultural production.
- 4) Farmers were influenced more by government policies than by market opportunities.

**Passage 3:**

**Questions 21-29**



The wide variety of climates in North America has helped **spawn** a complex pattern of soil regions. In general, the realm's soils also reflect the broad environmental **partitioning** into "humid America" and "arid America." Where annual precipitation exceeds 20 inches (50 centimeters), soils in humid areas tend to be acidic in chemical content, since crops do best in soils that are neither acidic (higher in acid content) nor alkaline (higher in salt content). Fertilization is necessary to achieve the desired level of neutrality between the two. Arid America's soils are typically alkaline and must be fertilized back toward neutrality by adding acidic compounds. Although many of these dryland soils, particularly in the Great Plains, are quite fertile, European settlers learned over a century ago that water is the main missing ingredient in achieving their agricultural potential. In the 1970's, certain irrigation methods were perfected and finally provided a real opportunity to expand more intensive farming west from the Central Lowland into the drier portions of the Great Plains. Glaciation also **enhanced** the rich legacy of fertile soils in the central United States, both from the deposition of mineral-rich glacial debris left by meltwater and from thick layers of fine wind-blown glacial material, called loess, in and around the middle Mississippi Valley.

Natural vegetation patterns could be displayed on a map of North America, but the enormous human modification of the North American environment in modern times has all but reduced **this regionalization scheme** to the level of the hypothetical. Nonetheless, the humid America-arid America dichotomy is still a valid generalization: the natural vegetation of areas receiving more than 20 inches of water yearly is forest, whereas the drier climates give rise to a grassland cover. The forests of North America tend to make a broad **transition** by latitude. In the Canadian North, needle-leaf forests dominate, but these coniferous trees become mixed with broadleaf deciduous trees as one crosses the border into the Northeast United States. As one proceeds toward the Southeast, broadleaf vegetation becomes dominant. Arid America mostly consists of short-grass prairies or steppes. The only areas of true desert are in the Southwest.

**21- What aspect of North America does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The wide variety of climates
- 2) Soil types and vegetation patterns
- 3) Improved irrigation methods and the expansion of agriculture

4) The change in precipitation patterns

22- The word “spawn ” in line 1 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) distinguish      2) eliminate      3) protect      4) create

23- The word “partitioning” in line 2 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) division      2) modification      3) opening      4) circulating

24- According to the passage, acidic soils tent to be associated with:

- 1) a high salt content      2) an increase in farming  
3) large amounts of rain      4) glacial meltwater

25- The word “enhanced” in line 11 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) implied      2) increased      3) indicated      4) informed

26- How did glacial meltdown affect the soil in North America?

- 1) It redistributed the soil types      2) It added salt to the soil  
3) It made the soil more neutral in content      4) It added minerals to the soil

27- The phrase “this regionalization scheme” in lines 16 & 17 refers to the:

- 1) movements of glacial deposits  
2) patterns of natural vegetation  
3) human modification of the North American environment  
4) distinction between humid America and arid America

28- The word “transition” in line 20 is closest in meaning to:

- 1) elevation      2) change      3) advantage      4) condition

29- The passage supports which of the following statements?

- 1) Arid America is not necessarily characterized by the presence of deserts  
2) Most of Canada and the northeastern United States consists of short-grass prairies wherever natural vegetation has not been modified by humans  
3) The accumulation of loess is primarily the result of irrigation  
4) Glaciation removed the fertile layer of soil from much of the Mississippi Valley

#### Passage 4:

#### Questions 30-40

Most sources of illumination generate light over an appreciable period, and indeed if an object is lit for a very brief time (less than  $1/25$  second), the human eye will not react in time to see the object. A photographic emulsion—that is, a light-sensitive coating on photographic film, paper, or glass—will, however, record much shorter bursts of light. A photographic flash can therefore be used to capture high-speed movement on film as well as to correct deficiencies of the normal surrounding lighting. Photoflash is now generated electronically, but the earliest form, first used in 1864, was a paper bag containing magnesium wire and some oxygen-rich substance, such as potassium chlorate. When the bag was **ignited**, the metal burned with an intense flash. A contemporary observer reported that “this quite unsafe device seems to have done nothing worse than engulf the room in dense smoke and lead to pictures of dubious quality and odd poses.”

The **evolution** of the photoflash was slow, flashbulbs, containing fine wire made of a metal, such as magnesium or aluminum, capable of being ignited in an atmosphere of pure oxygen at low pressure, were introduced only in the 1920's. In the earliest type, the metal was separated from the oxygen by a thin glass bulb. The flash was fired by piercing the bulb and allowing the oxygen to come into contact with the metal, which ignited spontaneously. Later bulbs were fired by an electric battery, which heated the wire by passing a small current through **it**. Other combinations, such as the pairing of oxygen difluoride with zirconium, have also been used. In each case enough energy is given out to heat the oxidizable metal **momentarily** to a white-hot emission of visible light. The smoke particles are so small that they cool

rapidly; but since they are white, they contribute to the brilliance by reflecting the light from their still-glowing neighbors. A slightly bigger form of the metal will burn for a longer time.

**30- What does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The history of the photoflash
- 2) Theories about how the eye reacts to light
- 3) The technology of modern photography
- 4) The dangers of using the early photoflash

**31- According to the passage, 1/25 second is the minimum amount of time required for the:**

- 1) recording of an image on film
- 2) generation of artificial light
- 3) creation of a photographic emulsion
- 4) human eye to react to light

**32- According to the passage, an advantage of using a photoflash is that it:**

- 1) can produce repeated bursts of light
- 2) intensifies colors in photographs
- 3) is short enough not to bother human eyes
- 4) supplements existing lighting

**33- The word "ignited" in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) set on fire
- 2) cut into
- 3) opened
- 4) shaken

**34- Which of the following phrases is defined in paragraph 1?**

- 1) "appreciable period" (line 1)
- 2) "photographic emulsion" (line 3)
- 3) "high-speed movement" (line 5)
- 4) "odd poses" (line 11)

**35- The word "evolution" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) publicity
- 2) adoption
- 3) development
- 4) manufacture

**36- The function of the glass in the first flashbulbs was to:**

- 1) produce the spark that initiated the flash
- 2) magnify the light produced by the flash
- 3) protect the photographer from the heat of the flash
- 4) keep the metal and oxygen apart before the flash

**37- The word "it" in paragraph 2 refers to:**

- 1) oxygen
- 2) battery
- 3) wire
- 4) current

**38- The word "momentarily" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) effortlessly
- 2) briefly
- 3) electronically
- 4) gradually

**39- According to the passage, the white color of the smoke particles generated by a flashbulb contributes to:**

- 1) rapid cooling
- 2) bright illumination
- 3) electrical conductivity
- 4) intense heat

**40- According to the passage, a flashbulb can be made to burn longer by using.....**

- 1) thicker wire
- 2) more oxygen
- 3) thinner glass
- 4) continuous electricity

**Passage 5:**

**Questions 41-50**

The stylistic innovation in painting known as Impressionism began in the 1870's. The Impressionists wanted to **depict** what they saw in nature, but they were inspired to portray fragmentary moments by the increasingly fast pace of modern life. They concentrated on the play of light over objects, people, and nature, breaking up seemingly solid surfaces, stressing vivid contrast between colors in sunlight and shade, and depicting reflected light in all of its possibilities. Unlike earlier artists, they did not want to observe the world from indoors. They abandoned the studio, painting in the open air and recording

spontaneous Impressions of their subjects instead of making outside sketches and then moving indoors to complete the work from memory.

Some of the Impressionists' painting methods were affected by technological advances. For example, the shift from the studio to the open air was made possible in part by the **advent** of cheap rail travel, which permitted easy and quick access to the countryside or seashore, as well as by newly developed chemical dyes and oils that led to collapsible paint tubes, which enabled artists to finish their paintings on the spot.

Impressionism acquired its name not from supporters but from angry art lovers who felt threatened by the new painting. The term "Impressionism" was born in 1874, when a group of artists who had been working together organized an exhibition of their paintings in order to draw public attention to their work. Reaction from the public and press was immediate, and derisive. Among the 165 paintings exhibited was one called *Impression: Sunrise*, by Claude Monet (1840-1926). Viewed through hostile eyes, Monet's painting of a rising sun over a misty, watery scene seemed messy, slapdash, and an **affront** to good taste. Borrowing Monet's title, art critics extended the term "Impressionism" to the entire exhibit. In response, Monet and his 29 fellow artists in the exhibit adopted the same name as a badge of their unity, despite individual differences.

From then until 1886 Impressionism had all the zeal of a "church", as the painter **Renoir** put it. Monet was faithful to the Impressionist creed until his death, although many of the **others** moved on to new styles.

**41- What aspect of painting in the nineteenth century does the passage mainly discuss?**

- 1) The impact of some artists' resistance to the fast pace of life
- 2) The differences between two major styles of art
- 3) A technological advance in the materials used by artists
- 4) A group of artists with a new technique and approach to art

**42- The word "depict" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) reorganize
- 2) deform
- 3) represent
- 4) justify

**43- According to the passage, which of the following was one of the distinguishing characteristics of Impressionist painting?**

- 1) The emphasis on people rather than nature scenes
- 2) The way the subjects were presented from multiple angles
- 3) The focus on small solid objects
- 4) The depiction of the effects of light and color

**44- Which of the following is a significant way in which Impressionists were different from the artists that preceded them?**

- 1) They began by making sketches of their subjects
- 2) They painted their subjects out-of-doors
- 3) They preferred to paint from memory
- 4) They used subjects drawn from modern life

**45- The word "advent" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:**

- 1) achievement
- 2) acceptance
- 3) arrival
- 4) advantage

**46- The exhibition of paintings organized in 1874 resulted in all of the following EXCEPT:**

- 1) attracting attention from the public
- 2) a negative reaction from the press
- 3) an immediate demand for the paintings exhibited
- 4) creating a name for a new style of painting

**47- The word “affront” in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:**

- |           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| 1) insult | 2) encouragement |
| 3) return | 4) credit        |

**48- The rejection of the Impressionist exhibition by critics was caused by which of the following?**

- 1) The small number of paintings on display
- 2) Lack of interest in exhibitions by young artists
- 3) The similarity between all the paintings exhibited
- 4) Anger about seemingly poorly painted art

**49- The author mentions "Renoir" in paragraph 4 to give an example of an artist who:**

- 1) became as famous as Monet
- 2) was consistently praised by art critics
- 3) described the enthusiasm of the Impressionists for their work
- 4) was in favor of a traditional style of painting

**50- The word “others” in paragraph 4 refers to:**

- |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1) art critics            | 2) fellow artists |
| 3) individual differences | 4) new styles     |