**Reading passage 1**

Most people can remember a phone number for up to thirty seconds. When this short amount of time **elapses**, however, the numbers are erased from the memory. How did the information get there in the first place? Information that makes its way to the short term memory (STM) does so via the sensory storage area. The brain has a filter which only allows stimuli that is of immediate interest to pass on to the STM, also known as the working memory.  
  
There is much debate about the capacity and duration of the short term memory. The most accepted theory comes from George A. Miller, a cognitive psychologist who suggested that humans can remember approximately seven chunks of information. A chunk is defined as a meaningful unit of information, such as a word or name rather than just a letter or number. Modern theorists suggest that one can increase the capacity of the short term memory by chunking, or classifying similar information together. By organizing information, one can optimize the STM, and improve the chances of a memory being passed on to long term storage.  
  
When making a conscious effort to memorize something, such as information for an exam, many people engage in "rote rehearsal". By repeating something over and over again, one is able to keep a memory alive. Unfortunately, this type of memory maintenance only succeeds if there are no interruptions. As soon as a person stops rehearsing the information, it has the tendency to disappear. When a pen and paper are not handy, people often attempt to remember a phone number by repeating it aloud. If the doorbell rings or the dog barks to come in before a person has the opportunity to make a phone call, he will likely forget the number instantly.**\*** Therefore, rote rehearsal is not an efficient way to pass information from the short term to long term memory.**\*** A better way is to practice "**elaborate** rehearsal". **\***This involves assigning semantic meaning to a piece of information so that it can be filed along with other pre-existing long term memories.**\***  
  
Encoding information semantically also makes **it** more retrievable. Retrieving information can be done by recognition or recall. **Humans can easily recall memories that are stored in the long term memory and used often; however, if a memory seems to be forgotten, it may eventually be retrieved by prompting.** The more **cues** a person is given (such as pictures), the more likely a memory can be retrieved. This is why multiple choice tests are often used for subjects that require a lot of memorization.

Glossary:  
semantic: relating to the meaning of something

**Reading comprehension questions:**

1. According to the passage, how do memories get transferred to the STM?  
  
A) They revert from the long term memory.  
B) They are filtered from the sensory storage area.  
C) They get chunked when they enter the brain.  
D) They enter via the nervous system.

2. The word **elapses** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:  
  
A) passes  
B) adds up  
C) appears  
D) continues

3. All of the following are mentioned as places in which memories are stored EXCEPT the:  
  
A) STM  
B) long term memory  
C) sensory storage area  
D) maintenance area

4. Why does the author mention a dog's bark?  
  
A) To give an example of a type of memory  
B) To provide a type of interruption  
C) To prove that dogs have better memories than humans  
D) To compare another sound that is loud like a doorbell

5. Look at the four stars that indicate where this sentence can be added to the passage. Where would the sentence fit best?  
  
**For example, a reader engages in elaborate rehearsal when he brings prior knowledge of a subject to a text. FO**URTH

6. How do theorists believe a person can remember more information in a short time?  
  
A) By organizing it  
B) By repeating it  
C) By giving it a name  
D) By drawing it

7. The author believes that rote rotation is:  
  
A) the best way to remember something  
B) more efficient than chunking  
C) ineffective in the long run  
D) an unnecessary interruption

8. The word **it** in the last paragraph refers to:  
  
A) encoding  
B) STM  
C) semantics  
D) information

9. The word **elaborate** in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:  
  
A) complex  
B) efficient  
C) pretty  
D) regular

10. Which of the following is NOT supported by the passage?  
  
A) The working memory is the same as the short term memory.  
B) A memory is kept alive through constant repetition.  
C) Cues help people to recognize information.  
D) Multiple choice exams are the most difficult.

11. The word **cues** in the passage is closest in meaning to  
  
A) questions  
B) clues  
C) images  
D) tests

12. Which of the following best provides the important information in the highlighted sentence from the passage. Incorrect answer choices leave out essential information or change the meaning of it  
  
A) Prompting is the easiest way to retrieve short term memory after an extended period of time.  
B) A memory can be retrieved by prompting, in a case where it has been rarely used.  
C) It's easier to remember short term memories than long term memories due to regular prompts.  
D) Recalling a long term memory that is often used is easy, while forgotten memories often require prompting.

13. An introductory sentence for a summary of the passage is found below. Complete the summary by choosing the THREE answer choices that contain the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not fit in the summary because they provide ideas that are not mentioned in the passage or are only minor ideas from the passage. This question is worth 2 points.  
  
The brain stores information that a person may need in the immediate future in a place called the short term memory (STM).  
  
1. Most people can only remember numbers for a short time.  
2. Many psychologists agree that only a certain amount of information can be stored in the STM at once.  
3. Some techniques for memorization don't work because of potential interruptions.  
4) Elaborate rehearsal is generally considered less effective than rote rehearsal.  
5) Assigning meaning to information makes it easier for the brain to retrieve.

**Reading passage 2**

Once the leaders of the rebellion were executed or dispersed, the British Government admitted its previous errors - tacitly, of course - and sought to rectify old wrongs. King George III, who had complained that he would go mad if his American colonies were lost, regained his spirits and proved surprisingly forgiving. No more than a third of the colonists had supported the insurrection, in any event, and six years of bloodshed and hardship that followed were quickly forgotten in the era of good feeling after the war. The colonies were placed under a unified government for the first time, and a new capital was established across the East River from Manhattan, in the fertile fields of the Brooklyn.  
  
  
**1. The passage states that the British government ............. .**  
  
a) was punished by the leaders of the rebellion  
b) in a way, apologised for its former mistakes after the rebellion was over  
c) agreed to release the rebels from the prison  
d) was supported by the majority of the colonies  
e) threatened the people in the colonies and this led to the rebellion

**2. It's clear from the passage that ....................... .**  
  
a) King George was put in a mental hospital when the American colonies rebelled  
b) one third of the colonists were killed in the attempted rebellion  
c) after the revolt, the king was not as angry as people had expected  
d) the rebels were successful in their attempt to gain power  
e) the colonist rebels became more popular with their supporters

**3. After the war, ............................... .**  
  
a) a single government was formed to unite the colonies  
b) the clan fighting and rations continued for yet another six years  
c) most colonists were still not happy about their position  
d) the colonies were full of hatred because of the previous years of death and misery  
e) many colonists moved to Brooklyn and became farmers

**Reading passage 3**

**Genetics is the study of mechanisms of the hereditary process. Modern genetics began with the experiments of Gregor Mendel in 1865. He studied the inheritance of different factors in peas, and found that some traits were "dominant" and some "recessive", the "dominant" appearing in a ratio of very nearly three to one. Mendels results were ignored for many years until their discovery at the beginning of the twentieth century .**   
  
  
**1. According to the passage .......................... .**  
  
a) the results of Mendel's experiments were immediately put into practise  
b) the purpose of Mendel's experiments was primarily agricultural  
c) genetics is essentially concerned with heredity  
d) modern genetics owes very little to Mendel's experiments  
e) the mechanisms of heredity were known prior to Mendel

**2. Clearly, in the field of genetics, ............................ .**  
  
a) certain traits have been given too much importance  
b) the 20th century has contributed very little  
c) Mendel's experiments have received and used attention  
d) Mendel is the pioneer  
e) new dominant and recessive traits are constantly being discovered

**3. Mendel discovered that ......................... .**  
  
a) recessive traits exceeded the dominant ones   
b) in peas, dominant traits appear in a ratio of three to one  
c) in peas, nearly one-third of the traits were dominant   
d) by 1865 the theory of heredity had been convincingly formulated  
e) genetics was becoming a popular science

**Reading passage 4**

**Any criminal justice system is an apparatus that society uses to enforce the standards of conduct necessary to protect individuals and the community. It operates by apprehending, prosecuting , convicting, sentencing these members of the community who violate the basic rules of group existence. The action taken against lawbreakers is designed to serve three purposes beyond the immediately punitive one. It removes dangerous people from the community; it deters others from criminal behaviour and it gives society an opportunity to attempt to transform lawbreakers into law-abiding citizens.**   
  
  
**1. We understand from the passage that the basic aim of criminal justice is .............. .**  
  
a) the protection of society and its individuals  
b) to define socially acceptable behaviour  
c) to educate lawbreakers  
d) the violation of the law  
e) to renew, as necessary, the traditions and customs of society

**2. According to the passage, prosecution is ...................... .**  
  
a) a process which follows conviction  
b) concerned with the transformation of criminal justice  
c) not to be considered a vital part of the criminal justice system  
d) actually the removal of lawbreakers from the community  
e) one of the stages in the operation of criminal justice

**3. It is pointed out in the passage that one of the effects of the criminal justice system is to ............. .**  
  
a) give guidelines for group existence   
b) discourage crime  
c) prevent the enforcement of capital punishment   
d) take immediate action against the community  
e) investigate the reasons behind criminal behavior

**Reading passage 5**

**Wages and salaries are usually paid in regular weekly or monthly instalments. However, one's expenses are normally much less regular. Bills often arrive irregularly and are usually to be paid immediately. .................. .**  
**1. Which of the following is most appropriate for the gap in the passage?**  
  
a) It is dangerous to spend more than one earns  
b) Similarly, preparing an annual budget has a number of disadvantages.  
c) Of course, much of this expenditure was almost unavoidable  
d) Therefore, some form of financial planning is needed  
e) Unfortunately, many people are unable to make a decent living

**Reading passage 6**

**Michelangelo did not like to delegate work to the students in his studio, though at that time the studios of the great masters of one age were the training ground for those of the next. ............... . Another was that Michelangelo left a lot of unfinished works.**  
  
  
**2. Which of the following is most appropriate for the gap in the passage?**  
  
a) One of his biographers has criticised  
b) It has been suggested that Michelangelo was jealous of talent in others   
c) Michelangelo was ambitious, and was satisfied with nothing short of perfection  
d) Michelangelo enjoyed enormous prestige even in his own day  
e) One result of this practice of his was that no great artist emerged from Michelangelo's studio

**Reading passage 7**

**Deserts are vast , barren, rocky and sandy wastes where there is almost no rainfall and little or no vegetation. .............. . In fact, Europe is the only continent without a desert. Among the most famous deserts in the world as the Sahara, the Gobi and the Kalahari.**

**3. Which of the following is most appropriate for the gap in the passage?**  
  
a) Such regions are found in the interior of Africa, Asia, North America and Australia  
b) Another major problem is the sand storm  
c) Moreover, many people have lost their lives trying to cross the desert  
d) It is, of course, very costly to reclaim desert land in this bay  
e) The United Nations has financed various projects for the irrigation of deserts

**Reading passage 8**

**(I) Symbolism is the bridge between Romanticism and Modernism and its use provides a basis of continuity. (II) Romantic writers mostly used symbols drawn from nature or from mythology. (III) Modern writers tend to use less obvious symbols. (IV) Rhyme is rarely used in modern poetry. (V) In one modern novel a bar of soap, for instance, has great symbolic force.**

**1. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V

**Reading passage 9**

**(I) The declaration of Human Rights gives great emphasis to education. (II) After all, the declaration shows how near the world is to being ideal. (III) This is natural as advances in the cause of freedom and of social rights depend very largely on education. (IV) Indeed, educators must accept a major share of the responsibility for shaping a society's attitudes towards Human Rights. (V) If they do not do so, the document will remain ineffective.**  
**2. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V

**Reading passage 10**

**(I) A potential weakness of committees is their tendency to make compromise decisions. (II) Their plans, too, are often middle-of-the-road plans. (III) Nevertheless, most high-level decisions are now being taken by individuals. (IV) In other words, these are the sort of plans that nobody actually opposes. (V) Nobody really believes in them either, so actually they are not of much use.**   
  
  
**3. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V

**Reading passage 11**

**(I) Many people find that libraries provide an excellent environment for serious study. (II) Even so the young in particular find background music is essential. (III) They offer the necessary quietness and the right atmosphere. (IV) The presence of others working there is also a bonus psychologically. (V) Their main drawback is that they close at fixed hours.**  
  
**4. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V

**Reading passage 12**

A star is a large ball of hot gas, thousands to millions of kilometres in diameter, emitting large amounts of radiant energy from nuclear reactions in its interior.-------- , whereas planets shine by reflected sunlight. Except for the Sun, which is the nearest star, stars appear only as points of light, even in the largest telescopes, because of their distance.  
  
  
**1. Which of the following is most appropriate for the gap in the passage?**  
  
a) Stars differ fundamentally from planets in that they are self-luminous  
b) The brightest stars in Earth's sky have long been given names  
c) Stars exist alone or in systems of two or more stars  
d) Stars are seen in the same relative positions year after year  
e) With the construction of larger telescopes it was found that stars are not precisely "fixed"

**Reading passage 13**  
  
For more than 100 years, steam was the chief source of rail power all over the world. ----- . They typically provide power for main- line passenger excursions, as well as tourist and scenic rail trips. In many countries steam locomotives are being restored and preserved in museums. In Europe, South Africa, and Russia, several historically important steam locomotives are kept operational for special occasions.

**2. Which of the following is most appropriate for the gap in the passage?**  
  
a) Diesel locomotives are more costly than steam locomotives, but diesels have many advantages  
b) Electric locomotives are most often used to pull high-speed passenger trains   
c) Steam locomotives are now used mainly for recreational railroading in many parts of the world  
d) Millions of people ride railroads each year, either for recreation or as their primary mode of transportation  
e) American freight railroads are the largest, busiest, and most profitable in the world

**Reading passage 14**

أسفل النموذج

The traditional date claimed by the Romans for their city's origin was 753 BC. According to legend, Rome was founded by a descendant of the Trojan prince Aeneas, who escaped to Italy after the city of Troy was destroyed by the Greeks during the Trojan War. The legendary founder was Romulus. ----- . Grown to manhood, they decided to build a city near the spot where the wolf had saved them. Disagreeing over the location, each built at a separate site. Later they quarrelled and Remus was killed. Romulus became the first king of the city named after him.  
  
  
**3. Which of the following is most appropriate for the gap in the passage?**  
  
a) Along with the ancient Greeks, the Romans contributed greatly to the development of Western      civilization   
b) From a small settlement, ancient Rome grew into a great city   
c) Slavery was always a part of Roman life and increased as a result of Rome's conquests  
d) Wealthy Romans who helped less fortunate citizens were called patrons  
e) He and his twin brother, Remus, had been abandoned as infants and rescued by a female wolf, who nursed them

**Reading passage 15**

أعلى النموذج

**(I) The acts of a single man are as a rule unimportant nowadays. (II) But the acts of groups are more important than they used to be. (III) If one man refuses to work, that is his own affair. (IV) After all, everyone stops working when he retires. (V) But if there is a strike in a vital industry, the whole community suffers.**

**1. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V  
  
**Reading passage 16**

أسفل النموذج

أعلى النموذج

**(I) Actually London dates back to Roman times. (II) Greater London, with its nine million population, includes the City and the County of London. (III) It also includes the outer suburbs and much land that looks more urban than rural. (IV) There are no definite boundaries, but it covers an area of some twenty miles radius from Oxford Circus (V) It is surrounded by a " a green belt" and here it is forbidden to build.**  
**2. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V  
  
 **Reading passage 17**

**(I) A thick layer of snow on a steep slope is always liable to avalanche. (II) A lot of avalanches occur in the Alps. (III) A very small disturbance may set it in motion. (IV) The vibrations caused by a passing train are sufficient. (V) Once in motion it gains in speed and crushes everything in its path.**   
  
  
**3. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V

**Reading passage 18**

**(I) At the end of 1974, the prospects of the country were far from rosy. (II) To start with, the rate of inflation was steadily going up. (III) It only dropped temporarily in July and August. (IV) So were the unemployment figures. (V) And the cold winter served to aggravate all the problems.**  
  
**4. Which of the numbered sentences can be excluded from the passage above?**  
  
a) I  
b) II  
c) III  
d) IV  
e) V

**Reading passage 19**

Complete the reading texts below.

The purpose of the proposed law requiring a doctor's prescription for obtaining hypodermic needles is to lower the incidence of drug-related deaths, both accidental and intentional, involving hypodermic needles. ..........................; yet everyone would agree that imposing legal restrictions on obtaining knitting needles would be preposterous. Hence the proposed law involving hypodermic makes no sense and should not be enacted.   
  
1-  
A. Knitting needles were known to cause injury and death   
B. The benefits of hypodermic needles outweigh those of knitting needles   
C. But even knitting needles can be lethal if they fall into the wrong hands   
D. The proposed law could not be effectively enforced   
E. Knitting needles are not readily available to anybody who wants to obtain them  
  
From bones found in the United States we have learned that many, many animals no longer found in the world once made their homes here. ............................... Sometimes, workers find their bones in pits from which rock and coal have been dug. Other workers who make way for railroad tracks and workers who dig pits for the basements of new buildings sometimes uncover them. Nowadays, scientists know where to look for them.   
  
2.  
A. A very large horse used to reside in what is now the United States  
B. How workers uncovered bones of extinct animals is important  
C. Huge fishes and enormous reptiles swam in the water  
D. Bones of extinct animals could have been found only by experts  
E. We say that these animals are extinct  
  
In the days of Christopher Columbus, people in Europe traded goods with India. The goods were carried along paths or roads from one country to another. However, no person from Europe had ever reached India by ship. After Columbus found what he thought was India by going west, people in Europe wanted to try to reach India by going east. .............................. . His sailors were just as afraid to go into open ocean as were Columbus' sailors, but Vasco da Gama insisted, and, sure enough, they found a sea route to India. They found it by sailing around the south end of Africa.

3.   
A. Columbus and Vasco da Gama were very alike   
B. The first sea captain to do this was Vasco da Gama  
C. When Gama reached there, they received a hostile reaction from local people  
D. Finding a way to get to India by ship was Gama's dream   
E. Vasco da Gama found the route to India by ship by going west. 

|  |
| --- |
| **Reading passage 20**  Ever since they were discovered by early settlers, kangaroos have fascinated biologists.  They are unique animals, considered both comical and exotic. They are found only in Australia, New Zealand and a few surrounding islands.  There are more than fifty species of kangaroos in existence today. The best known and largest species is the red and gray kangaroos, which can stand up to six feet and can weigh nearly 200 pounds. But there are kangaroo breeds that are much smaller, such as the musky rat kangaroo, which is only one foot tall. Kangaroos are very adaptable and can live in almost any climate. They can be found in mountainous regions, deserts, grasslands, even remote islands off the coast of southwestern Australia.  Kangaroos are very well suited to their environment. They have adapted over millions of years to fit into their ecological niche. They have large ears, and relatively small heads. Their front limbs are very small, but their paws are very nimble. Their hind legs are very large and powerful. When they are moving slowly, kangaroos walk on all four limbs, with the front limbs barely touching the ground. But when they feel the need to move quickly, they stand nearly upright, and start hopping on their hind legs. When they begin to hop, kangaroos use their muscular, agile tails to balance themselves, and to help them change direction.  Like all marsupials, kangaroos carry their offspring in a pouch. The mother kangaroo may nurse her young, called a *joey*, for up to a year. Because the joeys stay in a pouch for so long, kangaroos almost never have more than one baby at a time. They typically raise one litter per year, though environmental conditions sometimes make this impossible. If they survive childhood, kangaroos can live as long as eighteen years in the wild, even longer in captivity.  Except for the smallest species like the musky rat kangaroo, which eats insects and small animals, kangaroos are herbivores, subsisting upon grass and other forest vegetation. Like many other grazing animals, kangaroos have developed multi-chambered stomachs to aid in the breakdown of otherwise indigestible plant material. |
| Questions **1.**According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true about kangaroos?  kangaroos carry their offspring in a pouch kangaroos have multi-chambered stomachs kangaroos use their tails for balance kangaroos can weigh nearly 300 pounds  **2.** When do kangaroos switch from walking on four legs to walking on two legs?  when they are frightened when they need to move fast when their front limbs are holding something when their front limbs are tired  **3.**  The follow sentence can be added to the first paragraph. Where would it best fit in the paragraph? Click on the square to add the sentence to the paragraph.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Passage**  1 Ever since they were discovered by early settlers, kangaroos have fascinated biologists. 2 They are unique animals, considered both comical and exotic. 3They are found only in Australia, New Zealand and a few surrounding islands. 4 | **Insert this sentence**  **Perhaps because of their existence in such remote locations, kangaroos are regarded with fascination by schoolchildren all the world over.** |     **4.**Look at the first sentence of the passage. What does the pronoun **they** refer to?  Ever since **they** were discovered by early settlers, kangaroos have fascinated biologists.  settlers kangaroos biologists natives  **5.**Look at the word **them**in paragraph 3.  Kangaroos are very well suited to their environment. They have adapted over millions of years to fit into their ecological niche. They have large ears, and relatively small heads. Their front limbs are very small, but their paws are very nimble. Their hind legs are very large and powerful. When they are moving slowly, kangaroos walk on all four limbs, with the front limbs barely touching the ground. But when they feel the need to move quickly, they stand nearly upright, and start hopping on their hind legs. When they begin to hop, kangaroos use their muscular, agile tails to balance themselves, and to help **them** change direction.  **6.** Look at the word **their** in paragraph 4. Click on the word that **their** refers to.  Like all marsupials, kangaroos carry **their** offspring in a pouch. The mother kangaroo may nurse her young, called a joey, for up to a year. Because the joeys stay in a pouch for so long, kangaroos almost never have more than one baby at a time. They typically raise one litter per year, though environmental conditions sometimes make this impossible. If they survive childhood, kangaroos can live as long as eighteen years in the wild, even longer in captivity.  **Reading passage 21**  The most familiar speleothems (from the Greek word spelaion for cave and thema for deposit), the decorative dripstone features found in caves, are stalactites and stalagmites. Stalactites hang downward from the ceiling of the cave and are formed as drop after drop of water slowly trickles through cracks in the cave roof. Stalagmites grow upward from the floor of the cave, generally as a result of water dripping from an overhead stalactite. A column forms when a stalactite and a stalagmite grow until they join. A "curtain" or "drapery" begins to form on an inclined ceiling when drops of water trickle along a slope. Natural openings on the surface that lead to caves are called sinkholes, or swallow holes. Streams sometimes disappear down these holes and flow through the cavern. Rivers may flow from one mountain to another through a series of caves. Some caverns have sinkholes in their floors. Water often builds up a rim of dripstone around the edge of the hole. Dripping water often contains dissolved minerals as well as acid. These minerals too will be deposited; and they may give rich coloring to the deposits. If minerals in the water change, layers of different colors may be formed.  1. Stalagmites are formed by (A) drops of water which enter through cracks in the ceiling. (B) underground rivers which flow through the cave. (C) water dripping from an overhead stalactite. (D) water which trickles down a slope.  2. Sinkholes are (A) the decorative dripstone features found in caves. (B) natural openings on the surface that lead to caves. (C) colorful layers of mineral deposits. (D) None of the above  3. Which speleothem grows upward from the floor ? (A) Stalagmites (B) Stalactites (C) Sinkholes (D) Curtains  4. An "inclined ceiling" is one which (A) is straight. (B) is crooked. (C) is slanted. (D) is wet. 5. Which of the following are NOT caused by dripping water ? (A) Stalagmites (B) Stalactites (C) Slopes (D) Curtains  6. The information in the passage is most relevant to which field of study ? (A) Geography (B) Archaeology (C) Physics (D) Geology  7. "Curtains" can also be called (A) columns. (B) draperies. (C) stalagmites. (D) rims.  8. The word speeleothem comes from which language? (A) Latin (B) French (C) Greek (D) English  9. Stalagmites are formed by (A) drops of water which enter the cave through cracks in the ceiling. (B) underground rivers which flow through the cave. (C) water which seeps through the cave floor. (D) water which trickles down a slope.  10. Which speleothem hangs from the ceiling of a cave? (A) Stalagmites (B) Stalactites (C) Columns (D) Rimstones  **Reading passage 22**  Horse owners who plan to breed one or more mares should have a working knowledge of heredity and know how to care for breeding animals and foals. The number of mares bred that actually conceive varies from about 40 to 85 percent, with the average running less than 50 percent. Some mares that do conceive fail to produce living foals. This means that, on average, two mares are kept a whole year to produce one foal, and even then, some foals are disappointments from the standpoint of quality. By careful selection, breeders throughout history have developed various kinds of horses with a wide variety of characteristics to suit many different needs. The Great Horse of the Middle Ages, for example, was bred for size and strength to carry a heavily armored knight. The massive horses of such breeds are often called "cold blooded." The Arabs bred lithe desert horses that were small and swift. These animals are often referred to as "hot blooded. " Cross-breeding of hot-blooded and cold-blooded horses for certain characteristics produced breeds ranging from riding horses to draft horses. The Thoroughbred is considered by many to be the highpoint of elegance and fine selective breeding. Many persons mistakenly apply the name Thoroughbred to any purebred horse. But a Thoroughbred is a distinct breed of running horses that traces its ancestry through the male line directly back to three Eastern stallions: the Byerly Turk, the Darley Arabian, and the Godolphin Barb. For convenience the breeds of horses are often divided into three major groups: (1) ponies, (2) heavy, or draft horses, and (3) light horses.  11. Which of the following is not an example of an Eastern stallion? (A) Byerly Turk (B) Darley Arabian (C) Thoroughbred (D) Godolphin Barb  12. Which of the following was NOT a characteristic of the Great Horse of the MiddleAges? (A) Large size (B) Swiftness (C) Strength (D) "Cold-bloodedness"  13. It can be inferred from the passage that cold-blooded and hot-blooded horses were cross-bred for what reason? (A) Such cross-breeding was a safer means of reproduction. (B) Cross-bred horses were preferred by Arabs. (C) By cross-breeding, horses with desirable mixed characteristics could be produced. (D) Cross-breeding produced Thoroughbred horses.  14. In line 11, "lithe" most nearly means (A) graceful. (B) clumsy. (C) massive. (D) bulky.  15. Which of the following is NOT one of the major divisions of horse breeds? (A) Draft horses (B) Ponies (C) Foals (D) Light horses  16. According to the passage, which of the following horses is considered to be the finest purebred? (A) Darley Arabian (B) Thoroughbred (C) Godolphin Barb (D) Byerly Turk  17. To conceive is to (A) become sick. (B) become pregnant. (C) die. (D) be born.  18. A foal is a (A) male horse. (B) female horse. (C) old horse. (D) baby horse.  19. The average amount of mares bred which actually conceive is less than what percent? (A) 40 (B) 85 (C) 50 (D) 75  20. A mare is a (A) male horse. (B) baby horse. (C) female horse. (D) old horse.  **Reading passage 23**  Animals that produce large amounts of offspring depend upon the sheer size of the litter for the perpetuation of their species. The young mature very quickly and are not educated, as the parents are usually involved with obtaining their own food and with reproduction. Should some of the offspring become endangered, the parent will not interfere, because it is not expected that all the young survive, which is the reason for a large litter. One animal that produces large litters is the hamster. A female hamster is able to bear young when she is six weeks to two months old. The gestation period is about 16 days. Although an average litter size is from five to ten, hamsters commonly have as few as three or as many as a dozen offspring at a time. Mothers will sometimes eat their own young, particularly when the number of offspring is large. Females may produce litters up to an age of about 15 months at monthly intervals. The blind, hairless young begin to grow fur in two to three days. Their eyes open after about two weeks. After ten days they begin eating solid food, though the mother will continue to nurse them for about two more weeks. In captivity, a typical hamster may live for two to three years.  21. The gestation period for hamsters is about (A) nine months. (B) one month. (C) 16 days. (D) six weeks.  22. Female hamsters will sometimes eat their young for what reason? (A) Hunger (B) Because of a large number of offspring (C) Deformed babies (D) The young mature too quickly  23. Female hamsters may reproduce as young as (A) six weeks old. (B) six months old. (C) 15 months old. (D) two weeks old.  24. "Perpetuation" in line 2 means (A) extinction. (B) annihilation. (C) variation. (D) continuation.  25. Hamsters can produce offspring until what age? (A) two years (B) six weeks (C) 15 months (D) 16 days  26. What is the tone of the passage? (A) Argumentative (B) Informative (C) Biased (D) Farcical  27. What is the BEST title for this passage ? (A) "Endangered Animal Litters" (B) "Reasons for Large Litters" (C) "Parents of Large Litters" (D) "Educating Litters"  28. What is a litter? (A) The amount of parents an animal has (B) The amount of garbage an animal has (C) The amount of offspring an animal has (D) The amount of siblings an animal has  29. Why would an animal parent not be able to care for its litter? (A) It is busy reproducing and food gathering. (B) It is busy educating the litter. (C) It interferes with the litter. (D) It is busy playing.  30. Which of the following is NOT a reason for a large litter? (A) The young are not expected to live. (B) The young are educated. (C) The parents are too busy to protect them. (D) The young mature quickly..  **Reading passage 24**  Juan Ponce de Leon was the first Spaniard to touch the shores of the present United States. As Columbus had not remotely realized the extent of his momentous discovery, so de Leon never dreamed that his "island" of Florida was a peninsular extension of the vast North American continent. After coming to the New World with Columbus in 1493, he had led the occupation of Puerto Rico in 1508 and governed it from 1509 to 1512. In 1509, de Leon started a colony at Caparra, later abandoned in favor of San Juan. He was one of the first adelantados—men who "advanced" the Spanish Empire by conquest, subjugation of the Indians, and establishment of a semi-military government. In Puerto Rico he heard a legend about an island called Bimini, where there was said to be a spring that restored youth to all who bathed in it. It is said he was seeking this spring when he discovered Florida. He sailed from Puerto Rico in March 1513. On Easter Sunday he sighted the coast. A few days later he landed on Florida's east coast, near what is now St. Augustine. He named the place La Florida after the Spanish term for Easter Sunday—Pascua florida, or "flowery feast." He then sailed around the peninsula and up the west coast. He returned to Florida in 1521.  31. In what year did de Leon discover Florida? (A) 1508 (B) 1513 (C) 1521 (D) 1492  32. What was the title of the first colony started by Ponce de Leon in Puerto Rico? (A) San Juan (B) La Florida (C) Caparra (D) St. Augustine  33. What was the name of the legendary island where the fabled Fountain of Youth was said to be? (A) Cuba (B) Bimini (C) Atlantis (D) Bermuda  34. Which of the following is implied by the passage? (A) Ponce de Leon was the true discoverer of the North American continent. (B) Ponce de Leon rejected the philosophy of the adelantados. (C) Ponce de Leon may have discovered Florida "by accident." (D) Ponce de Leon's greatest contribution was his discovery of the Fountain of Youth.  35. Pascua florida is the Spanish term for which holiday? (A) Easter Sunday (B) Christmas (C) Thanksgiving (D) Palm Sunday  36. According to the passage, which of the following was NOT a means of advancement of the Spanish Empire in the New World? (A) Conquest (B) Subjugation of Indians (C) Establishment of semi-military governments (D) Treaties and negotiation  37. From the passage, it can be assumed that a "peninsula" is (A) a volcanic island. (B) an island completely surrounded by water. (C) an extension of land surrounded almost completely by water. (D) an island inhabited by Indians.  38. The tone of the word "advanced" in line 7 suggests that (A) adelantados favor progress. (B) progress could not have occurred without subjugation. (C) progress is related to conquest and subjugation. (D) conquest, subjugation, and semi-military government are not progress.  39. According to the passage. Ponce de Leon believed the land he discovered was (A) part of the .Bahamas. (B) the new "island" of Florida. (C) the mainland of the United States. (D) Puerto Rico.  40. Ponce de Leon was classified as an adelantado because he (A) was a great explorer. (B) was the first Spaniard to see the shores of the United States. (C) conquered and ruled by military force. (D) claimed Florida for the King of Spain.  **Reading passage 25**  Any list of the greatest thinkers in history contains the name of the brilliant physicist Albert Einstein. His theories of relativity led to entirely new ways of thinking about time, space, matter, energy, and gravity. Einstein's work led to such scientific advances as the control of atomic energy, even television as a practical application of Einstein's work. In 1902 Einstein became an examiner in the Swiss patent office at Bern. In 1905, at age 26, he published the first of five major research papers. The first one provided a theory explaining Brownian movement, the zig-zag motion of microscopic particles in suspension. The second paper laid the foundation for the photon, or quantum, theory of light. In it he proposed that light is composed of separate packets of energy, called quanta or photons, that have some of the properties of particles and some of the properties of waves. A third paper contained the "special theory of relativity" which showed that time and motion are relative to the observer, if the speed of light is constant and the natural laws are the same everywhere in the universe. The fourth paper was a mathematical addition to the special theory of relativity. Here Einstein presented his famous formula, E = m(cc), known as the energy mass equivalence. In 1916, Einstein published his general theory of relativity. In it he proposed that gravity is not a force, but a curve in the space-time continuum, created by the presence of mass. Einstein spoke out frequently against nationalism, the exalting of one nation above all others. He opposed war and violence and supported Zionism, the movement to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. When the Nazis came to power in 1933, they denounced his ideas. He then moved to the United States. In 1939 Einstein learned that two German chemists had split the uranium atom. Einstein wrote to President Franklin D. Roosevelt warning him that this scientific knowledge could lead to Germany developing an atomic bomb. He suggested the United States begin its own atomic bomb research.  41. Einstein's primary work was in the area of (A) chemistry. (B) biology. (C) physics. (D) engineering.  42. Which of the following inventions is mentioned in the passage as a practical application of Einstein's discoveries? (A) Radio (B) Automobiles (C) Computers (D) Television  43. According to the passage, Einstein supported all of the following except (A) the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. (B) nationalism. (C) atomic bomb research in the United States. (D) the defeat of the Nazis.  44. In which country was Einstein born? (A) Switzerland (B) United States (C) Germany (D) Israel  45. What is "Brownian movement"? (A) The zig-zag motion of microscopic particles in suspension (B) The emission of electrons from solids when struck by light (C) The motion of photons in light (D) The basis of the theory of relativity  46. Einstein was a citizen of all of the following countries EXCEPT (A) Belgium. (B) Germany. (C) United States. (D) Switzerland.  47. It is clear from the tone of the passage that the author feels (A) Einstein's work in physics was somewhat tarnished by his conservative political views. (B) Albert Einstein was one of the most brilliant thinkers in history. (C) Einstein's work in physics, though theoretically impressive, led to few practical applications. (D) Einstein's theories have been consistently proven incorrect.  48. According to Einstein's special theory of relativity, (A) all properties of matter and energy can be explained in a single mathematical formula. (B) light is composed of separate packets of energy. (C) time and motion are relative to the observer. (D) some solids emit electrons when struck by light.  49. In line 18, the word "exalting" most nearly means (A) elevation. (B) criticism. (C) support. (D) elimination.  50. According to Einstein, light is composed of separate packets of energy called (A) electrons. (B) photoelectrons. (C) quanta. (D) gamma rays.  **Reading passage 26**  We believe the Earth is about 4.6 billion years old. At present we are forced to look to other bodies in the solar system for hints as to what the early history of the Earth was like. Studies of our moon, Mercury, Mars, and the large satellites of Jupiter and Saturn have provided ample evidence that all these large celestial bodies were bombarded by smaller objects in a wide variety of sizes shortly after the larger bodies had formed. This same bombardment must have affected Earth as well. The lunar record indicates that the rate of impacts decreased to its present low level about 4 billion years ago. On Earth, subsequent erosion and crustal motions have obliterated the craters that must have formed during this epoch. Scientists estimate the Earth's age by measuring the ratios of various radioactive elements in rocks. The oldest Earth rocks tested thus far are about 3 1/3 billion years old. But no one knows whether these are the oldest rocks on Earth. Tests on rocks from the moon and on meteorites show that these are about 4.6 billion years old. Scientists believe that this is the true age of the solar system and probably the true age of the Earth.  51. In line 8, the word "obliterated" means (A) created. (B) destroyed. (C) changed. (D) eroded.  52. According to this passage, how do scientists estimate the age of the Earth? (A) By measuring the ratios of radioactive elements in rocks (B) By examining fossils (C) By studying sunspots (D) By examining volcanic activity  53. Scientists estimate the age of the Earth as (A) 3 1/3 billion years old. (B) 4 billion years old. (C) 4.6 billion years old. (D) 6 billion years old.  54. Which of the following processes led to the obliteration of the craters formed by the bombardment of the Earth by celestial bodies? (A) Volcanic activity (B) Solar radiation (C) Gravity (D) Crustal motions  55. According to the passage, why are scientists forced to look at other bodies in the solar system to determine the early history of the Earth? (A) Human alteration of the Earth (B) Erosion and crustal motions (C) Solar flares (D) Deforestation  56. What is the BEST title for this passage? (A) "Determining the Age of the Earth" (B) "Determining the Age of the Solar System" (C) "Erosion and Crustal Motion of Earth" (D) "Radioactive Elements in Rocks"  57. Which of the following bodies was NOT studied to give evidence that the Earth was bombarded in its early history? (A) Mars (B) Mercury (C) Jupiter (D) Earth's moon  58. Bombardment of the Earth at one time by various sized bodies is (A) inferred from what happened on other planetary bodies. (B) documented fact. (C) proven by the lunar record. (D) indicated by erosion.  59. The level of impacts of the bombardments of Earth have (A) decreased to below normal. (B) increased to a current high. (C) increased after a periodic low. (D) decreased to a current low.  60. In line 6, the word "bombardment" means (A) an avoidance. (B) an assault. (C) an effect. (D) a cause. |