

## Reading Comprehension

Line Anthropologists once thought that the ancestors of modern humans began to walk upright because it freed their hands to use stone tools, which they had begun to make as the species evolved a brain of

(5) increased size and mental capacity. But discoveries of the three-million-year-old fossilized remains of our hominid ancestor *Australopithecus* have yielded substantial anatomical evidence that upright walking appeared prior to the dramatic enlargement of the

(10) brain and the development of stone tools.

Walking on two legs in an upright posture (bipedal locomotion) is a less efficient proposition than walking on all fours (quadrupedal locomotion) because several muscle groups that the quadruped uses for propulsion

(15) must instead be adapted to provide the biped with stability and control. The shape and configuration of various bones must likewise be modified to allow the muscles to perform these functions in upright walking. Reconstruction of the pelvis (hipbones) and

(20) femur (thighbone) of “Lucy,” a three-million-year-old skeleton that is the most complete fossilized skeleton from the *Australopithecine* era, has shown that they are much more like the corresponding bones of the modern human than like those of the most closely

(25) related living primate, the quadrupedal chimpanzee. Lucy's wide, shallow pelvis is actually better suited to bipedal walking than is the rounder, bowl-like pelvis of the modern human, which evolved to form the larger birth canal needed to accommodate the head of a

(30) large-brained human infant. By contrast, the head of Lucy's baby could have been no larger than that of a baby chimpanzee.

If the small-brained *australopithecines* were not toolmakers, what evolutionary advantage did they

(35) gain by walking upright? One theory is that bipedality evolved in conjunction with the nuclear family: monogamous parents cooperating to care for their offspring. Walking upright permitted the father to use his hands to gather food and carry it to his mate

(40) from a distance, allowing the mother to devote more time and energy to nurturing and protecting their children. According to this view, the transition to bipedal walking may have occurred as long as ten million years ago, at the time of the earliest hominids,

(45) making it a crucial initiating event in human evolution.

**Questions 151–155 refer to the passage.**

RC62100.01-10

151. The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. present an interpretation of the chronological relationship between bipedal locomotion and certain other key aspects of human evolution
- B. compare the evolutionary advantages and disadvantages of bipedal locomotion to those of quadrupedal locomotion
- C. argue that the transition to a nuclear family structure was a more crucial step in human evolution than was the development of stone tools
- D. analyze anatomical evidence of bipedal locomotion to show that the large brain of modern humans developed at a later stage of evolution than was previously believed
- E. use examples of muscle and bone structure to illustrate the evolutionary differences between modern humans, australopithecines, and chimpanzees

**Main idea**

To discern the primary purpose of a passage requires an understanding of the key messages within the passage. The passage states that a once-favored view was that modern human beings' ancestors began to walk upright around the same time that they began to use stone tools.

However, this argument has been weakened by archaeological discoveries indicating that these ancestors began to walk upright before the enlargement of the brain that led to the development of such tools.

Furthermore, the passage indicates that these ancestors had a shallow pelvis that would actually suit walking upright better than the bowl-shaped human pelvis, a development that allows for children to be born with larger brains and therefore heads.

Given that walking upright is less efficient than walking on all fours, the passage suggests that some sort of evolutionary advantage came from walking upright; the passage suggests that this advantage may have been that it allowed monogamous parents to cooperate in the care of offspring.

- A. **Correct.** As the review above indicates, the passage is primarily concerned with the chronological relationship between bipedal locomotion and certain other important developments in human evolution, such as fitness for cooperative parental roles.
- B. While the passage does mention the relative efficiency of bipedal and quadrupedal locomotion, it does so primarily to motivate the larger purpose of the passage. That is, it justifies the need to explain the development of bipedal locomotion. In other words, if bipedal locomotion were more efficient rather than less efficient, this efficiency boost would be sufficient to explain its evolution.
- C. The passage does not discuss whether the development of the nuclear family or the development of stone tools was the more crucial step in human evolution. Rather, it simply rules out the development of stone tools as an explanation for the development of bipedal locomotion and proposes the transition to a nuclear family as a possible explanation.
- D. The passage does present such evidence, but it does so merely as one step in pursuit of the primary purpose of presenting the chronological relationships among the evolution of bipedal locomotion and other key human developments.
- E. The passage does use such examples, but it does so merely as one step in pursuit of the overall, primary purpose of presenting the chronological relationships among the evolution of bipedal locomotion and other key human developments.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC62100.01-20

152. The passage suggests that proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 assume that which of the following steps in human evolution occurred most recently?

- A. Development of a nuclear family structure
- B. Transition from walking on all fours to walking upright
- C. Dramatic enlargement of the brain
- D. Use of the hands to gather and carry food
- E. Modification of propulsive muscles to provide stability and control in locomotion

**Inference**

The passage states that fossilized remains provide anatomical evidence that upright walking, which required a modification of propulsive muscles to provide stability and control in locomotion, occurred before the dramatic enlargement of the brain.

Proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 argue that walking upright may have evolved alongside the nuclear family structure because it allowed for cooperative caring for infants, which would have required the use of hands to gather and carry food. Thus, the dramatic enlargement of the brain was the most recent of the developments listed among the answer options.

- A. Proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 hold that the dramatic enlargement of the brain occurred more recently than the development of walking upright, which happened alongside the development of a nuclear family structure.
- B. Proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 hold that the dramatic enlargement of the brain occurred more recently than the transition from walking on all fours to walking upright.
- C. **Correct.** Proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 hold that the dramatic enlargement of the brain was the most recent of these developments to occur.
- D. Proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 hold that the dramatic enlargement of the brain occurred more recently than the use of hands to gather and carry food, which occurred alongside the development of walking upright.
- E. Proponents of the theory mentioned in lines 35–38 hold that the dramatic enlargement of the brain occurred more recently than the modification of propulsive muscles to provide stability and control in locomotion, which is a key factor in the development of walking upright.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC62100.01-30

153. According to the passage, the hominid australopithecine most closely resembled a modern human with respect to which of the following characteristics?

- A. Brain size
- B. Tool-making ability
- C. Shape of the pelvis
- D. Method of locomotion
- E. Preference for certain foods

### **Supporting idea**

The passage directly states that australopithecines walked upright (used bipedal locomotion), as human beings do.

- A. The passage states that the dramatic enlargement of the brain among hominids occurred after the australopithecine era; it follows that the size of the australopithecine brain did not closely resemble that of the modern human brain.
- B. The passage states that stone-tool-making ability did not develop until some time after the australopithecine era. The passage suggests that study of *Australopithecus* indicates that there is substantial evidence that upright walking appeared prior to . . . stone tools.
- C. The passage specifies notable differences in shape between the australopithecine pelvis and the pelvis of modern human beings.
- D. **Correct.** As noted above, the passage indicates that australopithecines walked upright, or used bipedal locomotion, as modern human beings do.
- E. The passage does not indicate the types of foods preferred by australopithecines.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC62100.01-40

154. The passage suggests that, in comparison with the hominid australopithecines, modern humans are

- A. less well adapted to large-group cooperation
- B. less well adapted to walking upright
- C. more agile in running and climbing
- D. more well suited to a nuclear family structure
- E. more well suited to cooperative caring for their offspring

### **Inference**

The information needed to answer this question is contained in the second paragraph. This is the only place in the passage where comparisons between australopithecines and modern human beings occur; the passage points out (1) that the pelvis and the femur of australopithecines are more similar to those of modern humans than they are to those of chimpanzees, the most closely related living primate, and (2) that the pelvis of australopithecines is better suited for bipedal locomotion than is the pelvis of modern humans.

- A. The passage makes no mention of large-group cooperation.
- B. **Correct.** As discussed above, the passage notes that the modern human pelvis is less suited for bipedal locomotion than was the australopithecine pelvis. This suggests that, in comparison with australopithecines, modern humans are less well adapted to walking upright.
- C. The fact that australopithecines were better suited for walking upright than modern humans are would suggest if anything that australopithecines would also be better suited than humans to running and climbing (rather than vice versa). Regardless, the passage provides no clear evidence of whether modern humans or australopithecines were

more agile.

- D. In the third paragraph, the passage suggests that australopithecines may have been physically well suited to a nuclear family structure. The passage gives no information as to whether australopithecines were more or less physically well suited to such a structure than are modern humans.
- E. In the third paragraph, the passage suggests that australopithecines may have been physically well suited to cooperative caring for their offspring. The passage gives no information as to whether they were more or less physically well suited to such caring than modern humans.

**The correct answer is B.**

RC62100.01-50

155. The theory mentioned in lines 35–38 suggests that which of the following was true for the hominid ancestors of modern humans before they made the transition to walking upright?

- A. Their brains were smaller than the brains of present-day chimpanzees.
- B. They competed rather than cooperated in searching for food.
- C. Their mating patterns and family structure were closer to those of present-day chimpanzees than to those of modern humans.
- D. Males played a more significant role in child rearing than they played after the transition to walking upright.
- E. Females' ability to nurture and protect their offspring was limited by the need to find food for themselves.

### **Inference**

The theory mentioned in lines 35–38 holds that bipedality evolved among modern humans' hominid ancestors specifically because it granted monogamous couples the ability to cooperate in the care of their offspring. According to this theory, because they could now walk upright, fathers were able to use their hands to gather food and carry it to their mates from a distance. This in turn allowed mothers to expend greater amounts of time and energy to the nurture and protection of their children.

This implies that prior to the development of walking upright, mothers had to spend more time acquiring their own food, and therefore less time nurturing and protecting their offspring.

- A. According to the passage, the brains of baby australopithecine hominids were no larger than the brains of baby chimpanzees. This in no way implies that the brains of these ancestors were smaller than those of chimpanzees. Nothing in the passage indicates that the theory would disagree with this.
- B. The theory states that walking upright allowed for cooperation for food within a monogamous couple; a simple lack of cooperation does not imply

that these ancestors necessarily competed for food. For example, these groups could have engaged in cooperative hunting, just as many nonbipedal animals are now.

- C. The theory does suggest that prior to the development of bipedality, these ancestors were not as capable of cooperative care. However, this still does not imply that their mating patterns and family structures were more similar to those of chimpanzees than to those of modern humans.
- D. The theory actually suggests the opposite: that bipedality developed because it allowed for greater cooperative care among hominid parents.
- E. **Correct.** As discussed above, the development of bipedality allowed fathers to assist mothers in acquiring food. This, thereby, freed up time and energy for mothers to nurture and protect their offspring.

**The correct answer is E.**

Line Recent feminist scholarship concerning the United States in the 1920s challenges earlier interpretations that assessed the 1920s in terms of the unkept “promises” of the women's suffrage movement. This

(5) new scholarship disputes the long-held view that because a women's voting bloc did not materialize after women gained the right to vote in 1920, suffrage failed to produce long-term political gains for women. These feminist scholars also challenge

(10) the old view that pronounced suffrage a failure for not delivering on the promise that the women's vote would bring about moral, corruption-free governance. Asked whether women's suffrage was a failure, these scholars cite the words of turn-of-the-century social

(15) reformer Jane Addams, “Why don't you ask if suffrage in general is failing?”

In some ways, however, these scholars still present the 1920s as a period of decline. After suffrage, they argue, the feminist movement lost its cohesiveness,

(20) and gender consciousness waned. After the mid-1920s, few successes could be claimed by feminist reformers: little could be seen in the way of legislative victories.

During this decade, however, there was intense

(25) activism aimed at achieving increased autonomy for women, broadening the spheres within which they lived their daily lives. Women's organizations worked to establish opportunities for women: they strove to secure for women the full entitlements of citizenship,

(30) including the right to hold office and the right to serve on juries.

**Questions 156–161 refer to the passage.**

RC04200.01-10

156. The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. providing evidence indicating that feminist reformers of the 1920s failed to reach some of their goals
- B. presenting scholarship that contrasts suffragist “promises” with the historical realities of the 1920s
- C. discussing recent scholarship concerning the achievements of women's suffrage during the 1920s and presenting an alternative view of those achievements
- D. outlining recent findings concerning events leading to suffrage for women in the 1920s and presenting a challenge to those findings
- E. providing support for a traditional view of the success of feminist attempts to increase gender consciousness among women during the 1920s

**Main idea**

To understand the primary concern of the passage requires a clear understanding of the passage as a whole. This passage discusses recent scholarship concerning the 1920s that challenges an earlier interpretation in which the women's suffrage movement during the 1920s was considered a failure because it had not achieved long-term political goals. The scholars responsible for this earlier interpretation present the 1920s as a *period of decline*, and the passage presented here challenges this assessment.

- A. The passage is primarily concerned with discussing how recent scholarship challenged an earlier assessment of the women's suffrage movement. The passage provides no specific evidence indicating that feminist reformers of the 1920s failed to reach their goals.
- B. Although the passage refers to the unkept “promises” of the women's suffrage movement, the passage does not present scholarship that contrasts such a “promise” with the historical realities of the 1920s.
- C. **Correct.** The passage discusses recent scholarship concerning the achievements of women's suffrage. In the final paragraph, the passage



presents an alternative view of those achievements.

- D. The passage does not outline findings regarding what led to suffrage for women. The passage's focus is on scholarship regarding what followed women gaining suffrage.
- E. The passage does not provide support for a traditional view of 1920s feminists' success at increasing gender consciousness among women. In fact, the passage conflicts with the traditional view by suggesting that, during the 1920s, there existed intense activism aimed at increasing autonomy for women.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC04200.01-20

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157. It can be inferred that the author of the passage disagrees with the “new scholarship” mentioned in line 5 regarding the

- .  
A. degree to which the “promises” of the suffrage movement remained unkept
- B. degree to which suffrage for women improved the morality of governance
- C. degree to which the 1920s represented a period of decline for the feminist movement
- D. degree of legislative success achieved by feminist reformers during the 1920s
- E. accuracy of the view that a women's voting bloc did not materialize once suffrage was achieved

### **Inference**

In the final paragraph of the passage, the author offers several points to counter the claim made by the *new scholarship* that the 1920s were still, in some ways, a period of decline.

- A. Both the author and this new scholarship question the claims of the earlier interpretation that the “promises” of the women's suffrage movement were unkept.
- B. There is no indication of agreement or disagreement between the author of the passage and this new scholarship about how much women improved the morality of governance in the 1920s.
- C. **Correct.** In the final paragraph, the author gives a counterpoint to the claim of the new scholarship that the 1920s, in some ways, represented a period of decline for the feminist movement.
- D. Nothing in the passage supports the claim that the author disagrees with the new scholarship regarding the degree of legislative success achieved by feminist reformers. Note that none of the achievements discussed in the final paragraph are indicated to be legislative successes.
- E. While the author of the passage mentions the new scholarship's claim that

a women's voting bloc failed to materialize once suffrage was achieved, the author does not explicitly disagree with this statement.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC04200.01-30

158. The purpose of the second paragraph of the passage is to

- A. suggest a reason why suffragist “promises” were not kept
- B. contrast suffragist “promises” with the reality of the 1920s
- C. deplore the lack of successful feminist reform in the 1920s
- D. explain a view held by feminist scholars
- E. answer the question asked by Jane Addams

### Evaluation

The second paragraph of the passage describes certain views presented in the *recent feminist scholarship* discussed in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, this *new scholarship* is described as challenging earlier interpretations that suggested that “promises” of the women's suffrage movement had not been kept.

Though this *new scholarship* argues that it is a mistake to view women's suffrage as a failure, the scholarship nonetheless does, in some ways, present the 1920s as a period of decline. The second paragraph of the passage explains precisely how the scholars present such a view.

- A. Both the author and the new scholarship discussed in the passage reject the interpretation that suffragist “promises” remained unkept.
- B. The second paragraph does not present a contrast between the reality of the 1920s and the suffragist “promises.” This paragraph does present ways in which the new scholarship saw the 1920s as a period of decline. However, both the author and this new scholarship argue that it is improper to interpret the results of women's suffrage in the 1920s as unkept “promises.”
- C. As noted in the third paragraph, the author sees successful feminist reform in the 1920s. It is therefore incorrect to suggest that the author intends the second paragraph to deplore a lack of successful feminist reform during this period.
- D. **Correct.** As discussed above, the second paragraph explains how this new scholarship presents the 1920s as a period of decline.
- E. Jane Addams's question was rhetorical; there is no answer to this question in the passage.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC04200.01-40

159. It can be inferred from the passage that recent scholars cite the words of Jane Addams primarily in order to

- A. suggest that women's achievement of suffrage brought about changes in government that were not taken into account by early interpretations
- B. point out contradictions inherent in the goals of the women's suffrage movement
- C. show why a women's voting bloc was not formed when women won the right to vote
- D. emphasize the place of social reform movements in the struggle for suffrage for women
- E. suggest that the old view of women's suffrage was inappropriate

### **Inference**

The scholars cite the words of Jane Addams to suggest that it is no more appropriate to ask whether women's suffrage was a failure than to ask whether suffrage in general is a failure. The clear implication is that it is inappropriate to ask either question, presumably because suffrage has value in and of itself.

- A. The scholars do not dispute the claim that women's suffrage failed to bring about significant changes in government. The point of Addams's statement is that it is inappropriate to call women's suffrage into question simply because it does not bring about all desired changes.
- B. The scholars suggest no inherent contradictions in the goals of the women's suffrage movement. Even if such a claim had been made, there is little relation between that claim and Jane Addams's statement.
- C. The scholars accept the earlier interpretation's assertion that a women's voting bloc was not formed; however, the scholars offer no explanation as to why such a bloc was not formed.
- D. While it may be true that social reform movements played a significant role in the struggle for suffrage for women, this particular quotation does not convey that idea.
- E. **Correct.** The old view suggested that in many ways the women's suffrage movement was a failure because it had failed to attain certain goals that had been associated with women's suffrage. The scholars quote Addams to suggest that this view is inappropriate: women's suffrage should no more be considered a failure for failing to reach all of its goals than suffrage in general should be considered a failure for failing to reach all of its goals.

**The correct answer is E.**

RC04200.01-50

160. It can be inferred that the analyses of the author of the passage and the scholars mentioned in lines 20–23 differ with regard to which of the following?

- . A. The criteria they use to evaluate the success of the feminist movement during the 1920s
- B. Their interpretations of the “promises” of the suffragist movement
- C. The suggestions they make for achieving feminist goals
- D. Their definitions of what constitutes a legislative victory
- E. Their estimations of the obstacles preventing women's having achieved a voting bloc in the 1920s

### **Inference**

The author of the passage mentions ways in which the *new scholarship* mentioned in the first paragraph sees the 1920s as *a period of decline* for the feminist movement. For example, these scholars suggest that after the mid-1920s, *few successes could be claimed by feminist reformers: little could be seen in the way of legislative victories.*

The author points out actual gains for women, for example, the establishment by women's organizations of broader opportunities for women, striving to *secure for women the full entitlements of citizenship, including the right to hold office and the right to serve on juries.* The author thereby appears to counter these scholars' suggestion that the 1920s was a *period of decline* by suggesting other criteria that can be used to evaluate the attainments of the 1920s feminist movement.

- A. **Correct.** As discussed above, the author applies different criteria from those attributed to the scholars mentioned in the second paragraph in evaluating the success of the feminist movement during the 1920s.
- B. The author presents these scholars' discussion of these “promises” in the first paragraph; the author does not appear to disagree with the scholars' assessment.
- C. The passage does not discuss any suggestions that these scholars have made about how to achieve feminist goals.
- D. The passage mentions legislative victories but offers no definition of the term.
- E. Nowhere does the passage discuss obstacles preventing the formation of a voting bloc in the 1920s.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC04200.01-60

. 161. The “new scholarship” mentioned in the first paragraph suggests which of the following concerning the “promises” mentioned in lines 4–5?

- . A. Failure to keep these promises is not a measure of the success of the suffrage movement.
- B. Failure to keep these promises caused the feminist movement to lose

- cohesiveness during the 1920s.
- C. Failure to keep these promises led recent feminist scholars to reevaluate the success of the suffrage movement.
  - D. These promises included securing for women the right to hold office and the right to serve on juries.
  - E. These promises were of little importance in winning suffrage for women.

### **Inference**

The passage indicates that *new scholarship* disputed a long-held view that because certain promises of the women's suffrage movement—e.g., that a women's voting bloc would form; that the women's vote would bring about moral, corruption-free governance—went unkept, the movement was a failure. This scholarship rejected the view that *unkept "promises"* suggested a failure of the movement.

- A. **Correct.** As indicated above, the new scholarship rejected the notion that the failure to keep these promises was a reasonable measure of the success or failure of the suffrage movement.
- B. The second paragraph of the passage explains the new scholarship's view that the feminist movement lost its cohesiveness in the 1920s. However, there is no suggestion that a failure to keep the promises of the suffrage movement was actually a cause of this.
- C. The new scholarship reevaluated the success of the suffrage movement. However, this scholarship did not suggest that it did so because the suffrage movement failed to keep its promises.
- D. There is nothing in the passage to indicate that the new scholarship suggests that these promises include securing the right to hold office and the right to serve on juries for women.
- E. There is nothing in the passage to suggest either that the promises were of little importance in winning suffrage for women or even that this new scholarship believed that they were.

**The correct answer is A.**

Line    *This passage is excerpted from material published in 1997.*

Is there a massive black hole at the center of our galaxy, the Milky Way? The evidence is inconclusive.

(5) Just as the Sun's mass can be determined, given knowledge of other variables, by the velocity at which its planets orbit, the mass at the center of the Milky Way can be revealed by the velocities of stars and gas orbiting the galactic center. This dynamical

(10) evidence, based on recently confirmed assumptions about the stars' velocities, argues for an extremely compact object with a mass two to three million times the mass of our Sun. Although according to current theory this makes the mass at the center

(15) of the galaxy too dense to be anything but a black hole, the relative lack of energy radiating from the galactic center presents a serious problem. A black hole's gravity attracts surrounding matter, which swirls around the black hole, emitting some energy

(20) as it is engulfed. Scientists believe that the amount of energy that escapes the black hole should be about 10 percent of the matter's rest energy (the energy equivalent of its mass according to the equation  $E=mc^2$ ). But when the energy coming from the

(25) galactic center is compared to widely held predictions based on how much matter should be falling into a theoretical central black hole, there is a discrepancy by a factor of a few thousand.

**Questions 162–165 refer to the passage.**

RC60500.01-10

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162. The primary purpose of the passage is to

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A. present several theories that could account for a particular phenomenon  
B. argue that a certain question needs to be reframed in light of new evidence  
C. resolve an apparent inconsistency between two lines of evidence  
D. explain why a certain issue remains unresolved  
E. present evidence that calls into question certain assumptions of a current theory

**Main idea**

*Our goal is to determine which of the five options best expresses the primary purpose of the passage.* Note that this question regards the topic and how that topic is discussed: the issue that the passage primarily focuses on concerns the mass at the center of our galaxy. The passage primarily aims to explain why the specific nature of that mass had not—at least in 1997, when the passage was written—been adequately understood.

- A. While the passage draws upon certain theoretical findings, it does not present multiple theories.

- B. The passage suggests that the author is puzzled by the enormous mass at the center of the Milky Way, in light of evidence showing the relatively low level of energy radiating outward. Nevertheless, the passage never attempts to convince us that the question needs to be reframed.
- C. The passage describes an apparent inconsistency—or discrepancy—between two lines of evidence but does not seek to resolve that inconsistency.
- D. **Correct.** As indicated above, this choice expresses the primary purpose of the passage; that is, to explain why the nature of the mass at the center of our galaxy was not adequately understood.
- E. Although some of the evidence presented may cast doubt on one or more assumptions of a theory that was current when the passage was written, the passage itself is not primarily focused on identifying any such assumptions.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC60500.01-20

163. According to the passage, the dynamical evidence referred to in lines 9–10 supports which of the following?

- A. Recent assumptions about the velocities of stars
- B. Widely held predictions about the amount of matter a black hole will engulf
- C. The existence of an extremely dense object at the center of the Milky Way
- D. The contention that too much energy is coming from the mass at the Milky Way's galactic center for that mass to be a black hole
- E. The conclusion that a compact object of two to three million times the mass of our Sun is too dense to be anything but a black hole

### **Supporting idea**

*What does the passage claim the dynamical evidence mentioned supports?* The passage states that the dynamical evidence *argues for an extremely compact object with a mass two to three million times the mass of our Sun* at the center of the Milky Way. An extremely compact object with such a mass would, of course, be tremendously dense.

- A. The passage in no way suggests that the dynamical evidence mentioned supports assumptions about the velocities of stars. Rather, it states that the assumptions about the velocities of the stars have been “recently confirmed” and that the dynamical evidence is actually based on these assumptions. If the dynamical evidence is a product of these assumptions, then it cannot be used to support them.
- B. The passage suggests that the dynamical evidence is consistent with the existence in the Milky Way of an extremely dense object that is likely a

black hole. However, the evidence in no way suggests that reliable predictions can be made about how much matter such a hypothetical black hole would engulf.

- C. **Correct.** As indicated above, this refers to the extremely compact object of immense mass; this object would of course be “extremely dense.”
- D. This choice presents a suggestion opposite to the information in the passage. The passage suggests that the object at the center of the Milky Way is in fact radiating too little to be easily identifiable as a black hole.
- E. The passage acknowledges that the density of the mass at the center of the Milky Way is consistent with the existence of a black hole there. However, the passage further suggests that an unexpectedly small quantity of energy radiating outward from the center of the Milky Way calls this into question.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC60500.01-30

164. The “serious problem” referred to in line 17 could be solved if which of the following were true?

- A. Current assumptions about how much matter a black hole would engulf proved to be several thousand times too high.
- B. Current assumptions about how much matter a black hole would engulf proved to be a few thousand times too low.
- C. The object at the center of the Milky Way turned out to be far more dense than it is currently estimated to be.
- D. The object at the center of the Milky Way turned out to be far more massive than it is currently estimated to be.
- E. Matter being engulfed by a black hole radiated far more energy than is currently assumed.

### **Application**

*Which one of the five options would, if true, indicate a possible solution to the serious problem referred to?* The serious problem is said to arise from the *relative lack of energy radiating from the galactic center* compared with the expected value if a matter-engulfing black hole were truly at the center of the Milky Way.

According to the passage, the radiated energy turned out to be a few thousand times less than had been expected, on theoretical grounds, to radiate from mass engulfed by the hypothetical black hole. However, if it were discovered that the matter engulfed were several thousand times less than previously estimated, the relatively low level of radiated energy observed would no longer seem at odds with the existence of the hypothesized black hole.

- A. **Correct.** Reviewing the assumptions underlying the widely held



- predictions could lead to revised predictions that harmonize with the observational evidence regarding radiated energy from the galaxy's center.
- B. The passage states that the assumed quantity of engulfed matter already seems to be radiating too little; this answer choice would actually make the “serious problem” in the passage worse. That is, assuming that there is actually more engulfed matter with such a small amount of radiation would simply worsen the problem.
  - C. The passage does not specify what impact a greater-than-estimated density would have on the quantity of energy that is radiated. That is, even if greater mass would change predictions, greater density may not do so.
  - D. If the object were more massive, then presumably the matter engulfed by this hypothetical more massive black hole would radiate a quantity of energy even greater than the observed quantity. This again would simply make the “serious problem” worse.
  - E. Given that not enough radiated energy is currently being observed, finding that the matter being engulfed radiates even more energy than expected would make the “serious problem” significantly worse. That is, the relatively low quantity of radiated energy observed would fall even farther short of the quantity expected.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC60500.01-40

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165. The “widely held predictions” mentioned in line 25 are predictions about the
- .
- A. compactness of objects whose mass is millions of times the mass of our Sun
  - B. velocities of stars orbiting the galactic center
  - C. amount of matter swirling around the object at the center of the Milky Way
  - D. amount of matter falling into a theoretical central black hole
  - E. amount of energy that should be coming from a black hole at the center of the Milky Way

### **Evaluation**

*What do the “widely held predictions” mentioned in the passage’s final sentence refer to?* Notice that the final sentence of the passage refers to a comparison between two things: *the energy coming from the galactic center* and the quantity of energy widely predicted to be radiated from matter being engulfed by a black hole. It follows that the best answer should present an option that refers to a predicted quantity of energy.

- A. This choice fails to refer to any predicted quantity of energy.
- B. This choice fails to refer to any predicted quantity of energy.

- C. This choice fails to refer to any predicted quantity of energy.
- D. This choice fails to refer to any predicted quantity of energy.
- E. **Correct.** This choice presents the only option that refers to a predicted quantity of energy.

**The correct answer is E.**

Line Despite their many differences of temperament and of literary perspective, Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville, and Whitman shared certain beliefs. Common to all these writers is their humanistic perspective.

(5) Its basic premises are that humans are the spiritual center of the universe and that in them alone is the clue to nature, history, and ultimately the cosmos. Without denying outright the existence of a deity, this perspective explains humans and the world in terms

(10) of humanity.

This common perspective is almost always universalized. It emphasizes the human as universal, freed from the accidents of time, space, birth, and talent. Thus, for Emerson, the “American Scholar”

(15) turns out to be simply “Man Thinking,” while, for Whitman, the “Song of Myself” merges imperceptibly into a song of all the “children of Adam,” where “every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.”

Also common to all five writers is the belief

(20) that self-realization depends on the harmonious reconciliation of two universal psychological tendencies: first, the self-asserting impulse of the individual to be responsible only to himself or herself, and second, the self-transcending impulse

(25) of the individual to know and become one with that world. These conflicting impulses can be seen in the democratic ethic. Democracy advocates individualism, the preservation of the individual's freedom and self-expression. But the democratic self

(30) is torn between the duty to self, which is implied by the concept of liberty, and the duty to society, which is implied by the concepts of equality and fraternity.

A third assumption common to the five writers is that intuition and imagination offer a surer road to

(35) truth than does abstract logic or scientific method. It is illustrated by their emphasis upon introspection—their belief that the clue to external nature is to be found in the inner world of individual psychology—and by their interpretation of experience as, in essence,

(40) symbolic. Both these stresses presume an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos of which only intuition and imagination can properly take account. These writers' faith in the imagination and in themselves led them to conceive of the writer as a

(45) seer.

### Questions 166–172 refer to the passage.

RC39461.01-10

- .
166. The author's discussion of Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville, and Whitman is primarily concerned with explaining
- .
- A. some of their beliefs about the difficulties involved in self-realization
  - B. some of their beliefs concerning the world and the place that humanity occupies in the universal order
  - C. some of their beliefs concerning the relationship between humanism and democracy
  - D. the way some of their beliefs are shaped by differences in temperament and literary outlook
  - E. the effects of some of their beliefs on their writings

### Main idea

Understanding the primary concern of the passage implies understanding the passage as a whole. The passage starts by stating that these five American writers have many differences, but that it will focus on those beliefs that they share. The passage suggests that all five of the writers hold that *humans are the spiritual center of the universe and that in them alone is the clue to nature, history, and ultimately the cosmos.*

The passage continues by providing more specific evidence for this assertion, outlining beliefs that the writers hold in common. Note that the first sentences of each paragraph from the second onward identify a particular perspective, belief, or assumption that the writers hold in common.

- A. The scope of this choice is too narrow. The third paragraph of the passage discusses two apparently conflicting psychological tendencies that the writers suggest must be reconciled in order to achieve self-actualization. However, this point is not of great concern throughout the rest of the passage.
- B. **Correct.** As discussed above, the passage is primarily concerned with beliefs the writers share concerning the fundamental role of humanity in the universal order.
- C. The scope of this choice is too narrow. In the third paragraph, the passage considers the role of democracy in the five writers' thinking. However, it is only one of several such issues that the passage discusses.
- D. This choice presents an idea contrary to the primary concern of the passage: the passage focuses not on the differences among these writers, but rather on the beliefs, concerns, and assumptions they share.
- E. The passage primarily focuses on the common beliefs of these writers, not on any particular effects that these beliefs have on the writers' work.

**The correct answer is B.**

RC39461.01-20

167. According to the passage, the five writers object to the scientific method primarily because they think it

- A. is not the best way to obtain an understanding of the relationship between the individual and the cosmos
- B. is so specialized that it leads to an understanding of separate parts of the universe but not of the relationships among those parts
- C. cannot provide an adequate explanation of intuition and imagination
- D. misleads people into believing they have an understanding of truth, when they do not
- E. prevents people from recognizing the symbolic nature of experience

### Evaluation

The final paragraph of the passage indicates that the five writers suggest that the scientific method provides a less sure way to arrive at truth than do intuition and imagination. In particular, these authors propose that intuition and imagination allow us to recognize, in a way the scientific method cannot, the *organic relationship between the self and the cosmos*.

- A. **Correct.** As indicated above, the passage indicates that these five writers believe that the scientific method is not a sure way to obtain an

understanding of how the individual self relates to the cosmos.

- B. The passage suggests that these five writers objected to use of the scientific method to obtain understanding of how the individual relates to the cosmos, not because it is too “specialized.”
- C. The passage suggests that these five writers believed that intuition and imagination were surer means of arriving at truth than the scientific method. This does not imply that the scientific method is incapable of providing an adequate explanation of intuition and imagination themselves.
- D. The passage does not indicate whether the writers believed that, as a result of the scientific method, people falsely believed that they understood the truth. The passage does suggest that the writers believed that the scientific method cannot lead to certain types of fundamental truths. However, this does not imply that these authors thought that any beliefs arrived at through the scientific method are inherently false.
- E. The passage indicates that the writers did not believe that the scientific method could effectively lead to recognizing the symbolic nature of experience. Nevertheless, it does not indicate that they believe that the scientific method prevents people from recognizing the symbolic nature of experience.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC39461.01-30

168. The author quotes Whitman primarily in order to

- A. show that the poet does not agree with Emerson
- B. indicate the way the poet uses the humanist ideal to praise himself
- C. suggest that the poet adapts the basic premises of humanism to his own individual outlook on the world
- D. illustrate a way the poet expresses the relationship of the individual to the humanistic universe
- E. demonstrate that the poet is concerned with the well-being of all humans

### **Evaluation**

The second paragraph stresses that these five writers emphasize *the human as universal, freed from the accidents of time, space, birth, and talent*; they see this idea as falling within the general notion that humans are the spiritual center of the universe.

In this second paragraph the author presents two examples of writing, one from Emerson and one from Whitman, which demonstrate this emphasis.

Answering the question requires recognizing that Whitman's statement illustrates the idea that each individual human has such a general relationship with the universe.

- A. The quotations from Emerson and Whitman are intended to illustrate the same idea—namely, the human as universal—not to show how these two writers differ.
- B. The author quotes Whitman to illustrate a general idea shared by the five writers rather than to indicate how Whitman uses the humanist ideal to praise himself. Furthermore, this choice is incorrect because the quotation itself indicates something true of all the “children of Adam”—all of humanity—rather than something true of Whitman specifically.
- C. Once again, the author's quotation of Whitman is not meant to indicate anything distinctive about Whitman, but rather to illustrate a perspective he shared with the other four writers.
- D. **Correct.** The author quotes Whitman to illustrate how Whitman expresses—as do each of the other writers under consideration—the relationship of each individual to a humanistic universe.
- E. The quotation illustrates Whitman's view of the relationship of the individual to the universe. Even though Whitman may in fact be concerned with the well-being of all humans, the quotation itself in no way suggests this.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC39461.01-40

169. It can be inferred that intuition is important to the five writers primarily because it provides them with

- A. information useful for understanding abstract logic and scientific method
- B. the discipline needed in the search for truth
- C. inspiration for their best writing
- D. clues to the interpretation of symbolic experience
- E. the means of resolving conflicts between the self and the world

### **Inference**

The final paragraph states that the five writers all held that *intuition and imagination offer a surer road to truth than does abstract logic or scientific method*. Furthermore, the author states that this is illustrated, in part, by *their interpretation of experience as, in essence, symbolic*. This suggests that intuition's value is largely related to its ability to assist in interpreting symbolic experience.

- A. The passage suggests that the writers believed intuition to be a surer road to truth than are abstract logic and the scientific method. Nevertheless, it does not indicate that these writers believed intuition to be useful for understanding abstract logic or the scientific method.
- B. The passage suggests that the writers believed intuition to be helpful in arriving at the truth. However, it does not indicate that this is because it

provides them with any sort of discipline needed in the search for the truth.

- C. It may be true that intuition served as inspiration for the five writers' best writing. However, the passage provides no information that allows us to make such an inference.
- D. **Correct.** The passage suggests that these writers believed intuition to be important because intuition (and imagination) assist in the interpretation of symbolic experience.
- E. The passage nowhere indicates that intuition is involved in the resolution of conflicts between the self and the world.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC39461.01-50

170. The author discusses “the democratic ethic” (see lines 26–32) in order to

- A. explain the relationship between external experience and inner imagination
- B. support the notion that the self contains two conflicting and irreconcilable factions
- C. illustrate the relationship between the self's desire to be individual and its desire to merge with all other selves
- D. elaborate on the concept that the self constantly desires to realize its potential
- E. give an example of the idea that, in order to be happy, the self must reconcile its desires with external reality

### **Evaluation**

The passage discusses *the democratic ethic* as a specific instance of two conflicting impulses: the desire to be responsible to the self versus the desire to transcend the self and become one with the world. In particular, the democratic ethic relates to the conflict between one's duty to self and one's duty to society.

- A. The passage's discussion of the democratic ethic relates to the conflict of the individual's self-asserting and self-transcending impulses. However, the democratic ethic is brought up to illustrate rather than explain this idea. Furthermore, the democratic ethic does not deal specifically with inner imagination and external experience, but rather with conflicting duties.
- B. The passage nowhere indicates that the self has two irreconcilable factions. The discussion of the democratic ethic is part of a discussion regarding the importance of the harmonious reconciliation of two psychological tendencies.

- C. **Correct.** As discussed above, the author's discussion of the democratic ethic is intended to illustrate the relationship between one's duty to oneself and one's duty to be a part of society; we can interpret the latter as one form of becoming one with the world.
- D. The passage does not indicate that these five writers believed that the self constantly desires to realize its own potential.
- E. The passage does not indicate that these five writers believed that happiness requires a reconciliation of the self's desires with external reality.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC39461.01-60

171. It can be inferred that the idea of “an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos” (see lines 40–41) is necessary to the thinking of the five writers because such a relationship

- A. enables them to assert the importance of the democratic ethic
- B. justifies their concept of the freedom of the individual
- C. sustains their faith in the existence of a deity
- D. is the foundation of their humanistic view of existence
- E. is the basis for their claim that the writer is a seer

### **Inference**

The passage discusses the idea of *an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos* in the context of discussion of the five writers' shared beliefs *that the clue to external nature is to be found in the inner world of individual psychology* and that experience is, essentially, symbolic.

The passage indicates that these views presume the idea that there is an *organic relationship* between the self and the cosmos. This presumption of an organic relationship is, it seems, the basis of their humanistic view of existence.

- A. It is possible to assert the importance of the democratic ethic without holding to these writers' view regarding an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos. In fact, this view may have played a part in their promotion of the democratic ethic. Nevertheless, the writers certainly could have asserted that this ethic was important without presuming such a view.
- B. The passage indicates tension between the idea of individual freedom and the individual's duty to society, a view that these writers link to the organic relationship between the self and the cosmos. It is therefore unclear specifically how this idea justifies these five authors' conception of the freedom of the individual.
- C. The passage indicates that these authors do not specifically deny the



existence of a deity. However, their belief in the humanistic view of existence stands in tension with a belief in a deity. Therefore, it is unlikely that the idea of an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos—a concept that underlies that humanistic view—would sustain whatever faith they might have in the existence of a deity distinct from the universe itself.

- D. **Correct.** As indicated above, these five writers' humanistic view of existence presupposes an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos.
- E. The passage indicates that the writers' faith in the imagination and in themselves underlies their claim that the writer is a seer, not their idea that there is an organic relationship between the self and the cosmos.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC39461.01-70

172. The passage is most relevant to which of the following areas of study?

- A. Aesthetics and logic
- B. History and literature
- C. Theology and sociology
- D. Anthropology and political science
- E. Linguistics and art

### Evaluation

The passage discusses five historically important literary figures; it follows that this passage is most relevant to *history and literature*.

- A. Because the passage discusses only thematic characteristics of these five writers, it has little to do with aesthetics, that is, the study of beauty. Furthermore, it does not discuss any general features of reasoning and argumentation, so it has little to do with the study of logic.
- B. **Correct.** Because the passage focuses on five historically important literary figures, it is most relevant to the study of history and literature.
- C. The passage does not focus on the study of religion or on the structure and functioning of human society. Therefore, the passage has little to do with to either theology or sociology.
- D. The passage does not focus on either human society and culture or on political activity and behavior. Therefore, it has little to do with either anthropology or political science.
- E. The passage does not engage in a study of language or the structure of language, so it has little to do with linguistics. Furthermore, it is relevant to only one particular type of art, literature, and so is of only limited relevance to the study of art in general.

**The correct answer is B.**

Line The final quarter of the nineteenth century marked a turning point in the history of biology—biologists became less interested in applying an ideal of historical explanation deductively to organic function

(5) and more interested in discerning the causes of vital processes through experimental manipulation. But it is impossible to discuss the history of biology in the nineteenth century without emphasizing that those areas of biology most in the public eye had depended

(10) on historical explanation. Wherever it was applied, historical explanation was deemed causal explanation. The biologist-as-historian and the general historian of human events dealt with comparable phenomena and assumed necessarily a common mode of explanation.

(15) Nineteenth-century biologists found a historical explanation of organic function attractive partly because their observation of the formation of a new cell from a preexisting cell seemed to confirm a historical explanation of cell generation. The

(20) same direct observation of continuous stages of development was also possible when they examined the complex sequence of events of embryogenesis. In both cases, the observer received a concrete impression that the daughter cell was brought into

(25) being, or caused, by the prior cell. The argument that these scientists employed confuses temporal succession and causal explanation, of course, but such confusion is the heart of most historical explanation.

(30) Not surprisingly, the evolutionary biologists of the nineteenth century encountered a particularly troublesome problem in their attempts to document historical explanation convincingly: the factual record of the history of life on earth (e.g., that provided by

(35) fossils) was incomplete. The temporal continuity of living forms was convincing, but was an assumption that was difficult to uphold when one compared

species or organisms forming any two stages of the evolutionary record. Nineteenth-century biologists

(40) recognized this problem and attempted to resolve it. Their solution today appears to be only verbal, but was then regarded as eminently causal. The fact of evolution demanded some connection between all reproducing individuals and the species that they

(45) compose, as well as between living species and their extinct ancestors. Their solution, the concept of heredity, seemed to fill in an admittedly deficient historical record and seemed to complete the argument for a historical explanation of evolutionary

(50) events.

**Questions 173–177 refer to the passage.**

RC49461.01-10

173. The primary purpose of the passage is to
- A. compare the information about organic function made available by historical explanation with that made available by the experimental investigation of living organisms
  - B. assess the influence that theories of history had on developments in the field of biology in the nineteenth century
  - C. discuss the importance of historical explanation in the thinking of nineteenth century biologists
  - D. contrast biologists' use of historical explanation during the early nineteenth century with its use during the final quarter of the nineteenth century
  - E. evaluate the way in which the concept of heredity altered the use of historical explanation by nineteenth-century biologists

**Main idea**

This question requires that we understand the fundamental purpose of the passage, which is a function of both its structure and content.

The first paragraph of the passage notes a turning point in the history of biology. In the late nineteenth century, biologists made a shift away from historical explanation of biology.

However, as the passage continues, it addresses the importance of historical explanation in biology throughout the nineteenth century.

- A. The passage says little about the information about organic function that

is made available by the experimental investigation of living organisms.

- B. The passage focuses on historical explanation in biology. It does not discuss different theories of history. Therefore, it does not assess the influence of different theories of history on the influence on developments in biology.
- C. **Correct.** The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss the importance of historical explanation in nineteenth-century biology.
- D. The passage mentions the final quarter of the nineteenth century specifically to note the turning point when biologists began to use experimental manipulation as a way to discern the causes of vital processes. The passage does not contrast these biologists' use of historical explanation during the final quarter of the nineteenth century with their use of it earlier in the nineteenth century.
- E. The final sentence of the passage suggests that the concept of heredity seemed to complete the argument for a historical explanation of evolutionary events. However, this is just one part of the passage's discussion of historical explanation in biology in the nineteenth century.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC49461.01-20

174. According to information presented in the passage, which of the following is a true statement about the methods of explanation used by biologists and historians in the nineteenth century?

- A. Neither biologists nor historians were able to develop methods of explanation that were accepted by the majority of their colleagues.
- B. The methods used by biologists to explain phenomena changed dramatically, whereas the methods used by historians to explain events did not change as noticeably.
- C. Biologists believed that they had refined the methods of explanation used by historians.
- D. Biologists' and historians' methods of explaining what they believed to be comparable phenomena were similar.
- E. Although biologists and historians adopted similar methods of explanation, the biologists were more apologetic about their use of these methods.

### **Supporting idea**

The passage states *The biologist-as-historian and the general historian of human events dealt with comparable phenomena and assumed necessarily a common mode of explanation.* This indicates, in other words, that biologists' and historians' methods were similar in explaining what they believed to be comparable phenomena.

- A. The passage suggests that biologists through most of the nineteenth century tended to use historical explanation. Presumably, it is not true that biologists were unable to develop methods that were accepted by the majority of their colleagues.
- B. The passage suggests that methods used by biologists changed significantly toward the end of the nineteenth century. However, nothing in the passage indicates to what extent, if at all, historians' methods changed.
- C. The passage suggests that biologists believed that, in observing embryogenesis and cell formation, there existed a clear justification for the utility of historical explanation in biology. However, there is no indication that these biologists believed that they had refined the historical methods used by historians.
- D. **Correct.** The final sentence of the first paragraph indicates that the methods of biologists and historians in the nineteenth century were similar.
- E. The only evidence that biologists were apologetic about their methods in the nineteenth century is that a turning point in their methods existed toward the end of the century. This is of course only weak evidence that biologists were apologetic. And even if these biologists were apologetic, nothing in the passage indicates whether historians were more or less apologetic.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC49461.01-30

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175. Which of the following best summarizes the “turning point” mentioned in line 2?

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- A. The beginning of the conflict between proponents of the ideal of historical explanation and the proponents of experimentation
- B. The substitution of historical explanation for causal explanation
- C. The shift from interest in historical explanation to interest in experimentation
- D. The attention suddenly paid to problems of organic function
- E. The growth of public awareness of the controversies among biologists

### **Evaluation**

The *turning point* mentioned in the passage refers to a shift among biologists during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Specifically, this shift was from favoring historical explanation to a greater interest in experimentation.

- A. The passage does not specify any sort of conflict between proponents of the ideal of historical explanation and the proponents of experimentation. The passage only notes that there was a shift in interest from historical

explanation—applied deductively to organic function—to experimentation.

- B. The passage indicates, with some criticism, that historical explanation was seen as a type of causal explanation.
- C. **Correct.** As noted above, the turning point was a shift away from historical explanation—the dominant thread in biology throughout most of the nineteenth century—toward experimentation.
- D. The passage suggests that, throughout the nineteenth century, biology had been concerned with organic function: initially it explained organic function through historical processes and then it began to explain organic function through experimentation.
- E. The passage does not indicate whether public awareness of controversies among biologists grew.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC49461.01-40

176. The author implies that nineteenth-century biologists who studied embryogenesis believed that they

- A. had discovered physical evidence that supported their use of historical explanation
- B. were the first biologists to call for systematic experimentation on living organisms
- C. were able to use historical explanation more systematically than were biologists who did not study embryogenesis
- D. had inadvertently discovered an important part of the factual record of the history of living organisms on earth
- E. had avoided the logical fallacies that characterize the reasoning of most nineteenth-century biologists

### **Implication**

The author indicates that nineteenth-century biologists used a historical explanation of organic function. This use, they believed, was justified through observations of cell generation and stages in embryogenesis.

- A. **Correct.** The author suggests that nineteenth-century biologists who studied embryogenesis believed that they had discovered physical evidence supporting the use of historical explanation.
- B. The passage does not imply that biologists who studied embryogenesis were the first to call for systematic experimentation on living organisms.
- C. The passage does not imply that biologists who studied embryogenesis were any more successful in using historical explanation systematically than biologists who did not.
- D. The passage states that the fossil record was incomplete, so it is likely that

this means many important things were missing. Any specific inadvertent discovery would have to be mentioned directly in the passage. The passage does not suggest any sort of discovery.

- E. The author, in the second paragraph, indicates that both those nineteenth-century biologists who studied cell generation and those who studied embryology confused temporal succession and causal explanation.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC49461.01-50

177. The passage would be most likely to appear in which of the following?

- A. An essay investigating the methodology used by historians of human events  
B. A book outlining the history of biology in the nineteenth century  
C. A seminar paper on the development of embryogenesis as a field of study in nineteenth-century biology  
D. A review of a book whose topic is the discovery of fossils in the nineteenth century  
E. A lecture whose subject is the limitations of experimental investigation in modern biology

### Evaluation

The passage discusses a turning point in the late nineteenth century in the history of biology. It then focuses primarily on the use of historical explanation in the field of biology during the nineteenth century. Therefore, it seems that, among the five options here, the one this passage would be most likely to appear in would be a book discussing the history of biology in the nineteenth century.

- A. The passage focuses on nineteenth-century biologists' use of historical explanation. It presents no specific investigation of how historians used that methodology. Therefore, it would not be of particular value in an essay investigating the methodology used by historians of human events.  
B. **Correct.** The passage focuses mainly on nineteenth-century biologists' use of historical explanation. It also mentions a turning point in the history of biology. It references the history of human events primarily as an analogy to help clarify the biologists' use of this historical method. These facts about the passage suggest that, among the five options here, the one the passage would be most likely to appear in would be a book outlining the history of biology in the nineteenth century.  
C. The passage spends only a portion of one paragraph saying anything about embryogenesis. Even that portion is primarily offered only to give some explanation of why nineteenth-century biologists were attracted to the use of historical explanation. It does not seem that it would appropriate to use

the entire passage in a seminar paper on the topic of embryogenesis as a field of study in nineteenth-century biology.

- D. There is no reference to a book whose topic is the discovery of fossils in the nineteenth century. The passage only briefly mentions fossils. It seems unlikely that the passage would be of any use to a review of such a book.
- E. The passage says almost nothing about experimental investigation in modern biology, and says absolutely nothing about its limitations.

**The correct answer is B.**

Line Critics maintain that the fiction of Herman Melville (1819–1891) has limitations, such as its lack of inventive plots after *Moby-Dick* (1851) and its occasionally inscrutable style. A more serious, yet

(5) problematic, charge is that Melville is a deficient writer because he is not a practitioner of the “art of fiction,” as critics have conceived of this art since the late nineteenth-century essays and novels of Henry James. Indeed, most twentieth-century commentators

(10) regard Melville not as a novelist but as a writer of romance, since they believe that Melville's fiction lacks the continuity that James viewed as essential to a novel: the continuity between what characters feel or think and what they do, and the continuity

(15) between characters' fates and their pasts or original social classes. Critics argue that only *Pierre* (1852), because of its subject and its characters, is close to being a novel in the Jamesian sense.

However, although Melville is not a Jamesian

(20) novelist, he is not therefore a deficient writer. A more reasonable position is that Melville is a different kind of writer, who held, and should be judged by, presuppositions about fiction that are quite different from James's. It is true that Melville wrote

(25) “romances”; however, these are not the escapist fictions this word often implies, but fictions that range freely among very unusual or intense human experiences. Melville portrayed such experiences because he believed these best enabled him to



(30) explore moral questions, an exploration he assumed was the ultimate purpose of fiction. He was content to sacrifice continuity or even credibility as long as he could establish a significant moral situation. Thus Melville's romances do not give the reader

(35) a full understanding of the complete feelings and thoughts that motivate actions and events that shape fate. Rather, the romances leave unexplained the sequence of events and either simplify or obscure motives. Again, such simplifications and obscurities

(40) exist in order to give prominence to the depiction of sharply delineated moral values, values derived from a character's purely personal sense of honor, rather than, as in a Jamesian novel, from the conventions of society.

**Questions 178–185 refer to the passage.**

RC59461.01-10

178. The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. make a case for the importance of skillful psychological motivation in well-written novels and romances
- B. contrast the romantic and novelistic traditions and assert the aesthetic superiority of the romantic tradition
- C. survey some of the responses to Melville's fiction put forward by James and twentieth-century literary critics
- D. argue that the charges made against Melville's fiction by literary critics are suspect and misleading
- E. note several accusations made against Melville's fiction by literary critics and refute one of these accusations

**Main idea**

*Our goal is to find the primary purpose of the passage, which requires a firm understanding of the structure of the passage and its objectives.* The passage notes various criticisms of Melville's fiction, but its main argument is to support the idea that Melville's fiction is valid even though it does not follow Henry James's conception of the novel.

Furthermore, the passage defends Melville's fiction by arguing that Melville had an equally valid conception of the purpose of fiction: one that differed fundamentally from that of James. The passage indicates that Melville's strength does not derive from depictions of character motivation. Rather, it

lies in Melville establishing a strong moral situation; occasionally this might be done at the expense of continuity or credibility.

- A. The passage specifically refers to Melville's novels and does not suggest that well-written novels or romances all share any particular characteristic.
- B. The passage is specifically concerned with Melville's novels, not the general romantic or novelistic traditions. Furthermore, the passage suggests that the romantic tradition in fiction has its own literary validity, as has the novelistic tradition, but does not indicate that one is superior to the other.
- C. This passage does not simply give a survey of literary responses to Melville's fiction; the passage goes further in arguing for the literary worth of Melville's work.
- D. Because the passage argues against certain criticisms of Melville's work, it might be argued that the author of the passage considers some criticisms of Melville "suspect." However, there is nothing in the passage to imply this applies to all criticisms of Melville's work. Furthermore, there is absolutely nothing in the passage to indicate that these critics' work is "misleading."
- E. **Correct.** The primary purpose of the passage is to counter one of several negative evaluations of Melville's novels made by literary critics.

**The correct answer is E.**

RC59461.01-20

179. The author draws which of the following conclusions about the fact that Melville's fiction often does not possess the qualities of a Jamesian novel?

- A. Literary critics should no longer use Jamesian standards to judge the value of novels.
- B. Literary critics who have praised Melville's fiction at the expense of James's fiction should consider themselves justified.
- C. Literary critics should no longer attempt to place writers, including Melville and James, in traditions or categories.
- D. Melville and James should be viewed as different sorts of writers and one should not be regarded as inherently superior to the other.
- E. Melville and James nevertheless share important similarities and these should not be overlooked or slighted when literary critics point out differences between the two writers.

### **Supporting idea**

*Which among the answer choices is a conclusion drawn by the author of the passage regarding the contrast between Melville's fiction and that of James? The second sentence of the final paragraph states this: Melville is a*

*different kind of writer, who held, and should be judged by, presuppositions about fiction that are quite different from James's.* In other words, Melville held different standards regarding fiction and one needs to evaluate Melville on these standards rather than on James's standards.

- A. The passage suggests that Jamesian standards may be inappropriate for Melville's novels. However, it does not suggest that Jamesian standards are necessarily invalid for judging the value of other novels.
- B. The passage mentions nothing about critics who have praised Melville's novels at the expense of James's novels. In fact, the passage never mentions James's novels.
- C. The passage does not suggest that critics should avoid categorization of writers. In fact, the passage in lines 19–20 states that Melville is not a Jamesian novelist, which is in itself such a categorization.
- D. **Correct.** This accurately expresses a conclusion drawn by the author, namely that Melville and James have valid, if different, approaches to fiction writing.
- E. The author indicates no important similarities between Melville and James's writing. In fact, the author emphasizes certain key differences between the two authors' work.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC59461.01-30

180. Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- A. Melville's Unique Contribution to Romantic Fiction
- B. Melville's Growing Reputation Among Twentieth-Century Literary Critics
- C. Melville and the Jamesian Standards of Fiction: A Reexamination
- D. Romantic and Novelistic: The Shared Assumptions of Two Traditions
- E. The Art of Fiction: James's Influence on the Novelistic Tradition

### **Main idea**

*Given the content of the passage, which of these choices could most reasonably be used as a title?* The passage's main purpose is to counter the criticisms of those critics who describe Melville's works of fiction as romances. These critics claim that Melville's works lack significant literary value because they fail to satisfy James's criteria for literary worth in novels, a standard that is widely accepted by literary critics. The passage argues that Melville's novels would be more appropriately evaluated using the criteria that Melville himself espoused; these criteria differ significantly from James's criteria.

- A. This choice is inappropriate because nothing in the passage suggests that Melville's approach was unique; that is, nothing in the passage indicates that Melville's contribution is the only one of its kind.

- B. This choice is inappropriate because the passage never states how Melville's literary reputation among twentieth-century critics evolved.
- C. **Correct.** This choice reflects the central idea of the passage that the literary worth of Melville's fiction is not appropriately judged using the Jamesian standard; rather, it is appropriately judged using Melville's own notion of the ultimate purpose of fiction.
- D. Although the passage suggests that issues of morality figured in the fiction of both James and Melville, the passage does not address any assumptions shared between James and Melville.
- E. Although the passage suggests that James had a significant influence on critical standards for the novel, the passage centers on Melville's works rather than James' influence.

**The correct answer is C.**

RC59461.01-40

181. The author probably mentions Melville's *Pierre* to

- A. refute those literary critics who have made generalizations about the quality of Melville's fiction
- B. argue that the portrayal of characters is one of Melville's more accomplished literary skills
- C. give an example of a novel that was thought by James to resemble his own fiction
- D. suggest that literary critics find few exceptions to what they believe is a characteristic of Melville's fiction
- E. reinforce the contention of literary critics

### **Evaluation**

*Why does the author of the passage mention Pierre?* The final sentence of the first paragraph reads: *Critics argue that only Pierre (1852), because of its subject and characters, is close to being a novel in the Jamesian sense.*

This statement indicates that literary critics regard *Pierre* as the only possible exception to their negative characterization of Melville's fiction as *romance* because *Pierre* has at least some of the properties that James considered essential to novels of literary value.

- A. This is not a purpose of mentioning *Pierre*. The passage does not cite any critics who claim that most of Melville's novels satisfy Jamesian criteria.
- B. This is not a purpose of mentioning *Pierre*. The author of the passage does not endorse the view that character portrayal is a particular strength of Melville's novels. In fact, the author suggests that Melville's novels tend to give questionable portrayals of what characters feel or think.
- C. The passage lacks any information indicating James's personal view of *Pierre*. Given the information in the passage, it is entirely possible that

James never even read *Pierre*.

- D. **Correct.** The critics of Melville's novels generally characterize them as "romances" rather than "novels" given that they lack certain properties Henry James regarded as essential to novels. The mention of *Pierre* shows that the critics see it as the only one of Melville's novels that might fit the Jamesian criteria.
- E. In the sentence in which *Pierre* is mentioned, the author of the passage does not endorse criticism suggesting that Melville's works are romances rather than novels. Furthermore, the sentence is not intended to endorse a contention of any other type of literary critic.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC59461.01-50

182. Which of the following statements best describes the author's method of argumentation in lines 24–31?

- A. The author describes an important standard of evaluation used by critics of Melville and then attacks that standard.
- B. The author admits a contention put forward by critics of Melville but then makes a countercharge against those critics.
- C. The author describes a charge advanced by critics of Melville and then points out a logical flaw in this charge.
- D. The author provides evidence that seems to support a position held by critics of Melville but then demonstrates that the evidence actually supports a diametrically opposed position.
- E. The author concedes an assertion made by critics of Melville but then mitigates the weight of the assertion by means of an explanation.

### Evaluation

*Which answer choice best describes the reasoning in lines 24–32?* The author suggests that Melville's novels can reasonably be called "romances," but also is careful to explain a sense of this designation that still regards Melville's novels as valid works of literature.

- A. The text in lines 24–31 does not describe any standard of evaluation used by Melville's critics.
- B. There is no countercharge against, or even mention of, Melville's critics in lines 24–31.
- C. Again, there is no mention of criticisms of Melville's work in the lines 24–31; it follows that the author does not point out a "logical flaw" in such criticisms within lines 24–31.
- D. In lines 24–31, the author accepts that Melville's novels can be called "romances." In lines 24–31, of course, the author presents no evidence to show that Melville's novels are not romances.

- E. **Correct.** In lines 24–31, the author concedes that Melville's novels are romances. However, the author argues that this does not detract from the literary value of Melville's work.

**The correct answer is E.**

RC59461.01-60

183. Which of the following can logically be inferred from the passage about the author's application of the term “romance” to Melville's work?

- A. The author uses the term in a broader way than did Melville himself.
- B. The author uses the term in a different way than do many literary critics.
- C. The author uses the term in a more systematic way than did James.
- D. The author's use of the term is the same as the term's usual meaning for twentieth-century commentators.
- E. The author's use of the term is less controversial than is the use of the term “novel” by many commentators.

### **Inference**

*Which of the following conclusions regarding the term “romance” as applied to Melville's work is most strongly supported by the information in the passage?* The author of the passage uses the term without the negative connotation that the passage suggests the term carried for many twentieth-century critics of Melville.

- A. There is no information in the passage regarding how, or even whether, Melville used the term “romance.”
- B. **Correct.** The author of the passage will call Melville's novels romances provided this term is used without the disparaging connotations of this term (particularly as used by many critics of Melville's work).
- C. Nothing in the passage specifies James's use of the term “romance.”
- D. The author of the passage specifically applies the term “romance” in a way that avoids the disparaging connotations of escapism present in the use of the term by some critics of Melville's work.
- E. The passage provides no information by which we can gauge how controversial the author's use of “romance” as applied to Melville's works is, relative to other commentators' use of the term “novel.”

**The correct answer is B.**

RC59461.01-70

184. Which of the following can most logically be inferred about the author's estimation of the romantic and novelistic traditions of fiction?

- A. The romantic tradition should be considered at least as valuable as the novelistic tradition in the examination of human experience.
- B. The romantic tradition should be considered the more vital tradition primarily because Melville is part of that tradition.
- C. The romantic tradition should be considered the superior tradition because it is so widespread.
- D. The romantic tradition has had as much success in pleasing literary critics as has the novelistic tradition.
- E. The romantic and novelistic traditions have always made important contributions to literature, but their most important contributions have been in the twentieth century.

### **Inference**

*We must determine which statement regarding the author's evaluation of the romantic and novelistic traditions of fiction is most strongly supported by the information in the passage.* The passage states: *although Melville is not a Jamesian novelist, he is not therefore a deficient writer.* The author of the passage tells us that Melville sought to explore moral questions, an exploration that Melville assumed to be *the ultimate purpose of fiction*. These statements indicate that the author of the passage regards the romantic tradition's fictional examination of human experience as at least equal in value to the novelistic tradition's examination of it.

- A. **Correct.** The passage suggests that both traditions are concerned with the examination of human experience, yet their approaches to this examination differ. The passage argues that Melville's body of fiction is no less valuable as literature than James's.
- B. The passage provides nothing to indicate that Melville's position as a romantic writer therefore implies that romance is "more vital" than the novelistic tradition. Note that such a comparison would need to be clearly made for this to be a valid answer choice.
- C. The passage provides no information regarding how widespread the romantic tradition is.
- D. The passage provides no information to suggest that literary critics are more pleased by romantic works than they are by novelistic works. Note that such a comparison would need to be clearly made for this to be a valid answer choice.
- E. The passage provides no information to suggest that the most important contributions of the romantic and novelistic traditions have been during the twentieth century. In fact, given that Melville and James both worked in the nineteenth century, it seems doubtful that the passage would make such a claim.

**The correct answer is A.**

185. The author of the passage would be most likely to agree that a writer's fiction should be evaluated by which of the following criteria?

- A. How consistently that fiction establishes credibility with the reader
- B. How skillfully that fiction supersedes the presuppositions or conventions of a tradition
- C. How completely that fiction satisfies the standards of judgment held by most literary critics
- D. How well that fiction fulfills the premises about fiction maintained by the writer of the fiction
- E. How well that fiction exhibits a continuity of subject and style over the course of the writer's career

### Application

*Which criteria would the author of the passage most likely agree to be useful for evaluating a writer's fiction?* The passage argues that even though Melville's novels fail to satisfy Henry James's criteria for literary value in a novel, they still have a different kind of literary value. In particular, they match the criteria set out by Melville's own conception of fiction.

The author states that Melville sought in his fiction *to explore moral questions, an exploration he assumed was the ultimate purpose of fiction*. Therefore, the author would likely agree that the literary value of a writer's fiction is determined by the degree to which the writer's fiction fulfills the writer's own conception of what fiction should accomplish.

- A. The author of the passage would be unlikely to agree that fiction must establish credibility with the reader. In the passage, the author suggests that Melville was prepared to sacrifice some credibility in his fiction if doing so would help him to establish a significant moral situation.
- B. Nothing in the passage suggests that its author would agree with the idea that fiction must “supersede presuppositions or conventions of a tradition.” While the author indicates that Melville's novels do not satisfy James's criteria for a good literary novel, this does not indicate that Melville's work supersedes or replaces any tradition.
- C. The author of the passage clearly rejects this criterion and actually argues against the standards of many critics. Note the author's position that criticisms based on widespread acceptance by literary critics of James's standards for literary novels are not necessarily valid for all fiction.
- D. **Correct.** The author of the passage argues that Melville's fiction must be judged by reference to Melville's own criteria rather than by those of James or the critics who accepted James's criteria.
- E. Nowhere does the passage mention continuity of style over a career. Therefore, nothing in the passage suggests that the author would accept it.

**The correct answer is D.**



Line Behind every book review there are two key figures:  
a book review editor and a reviewer. Editors decide  
whether a book is reviewed in their publication, when  
the review appears, how long it is, and who writes the

(5) review.

When many periodicals feature the same books,  
this does not prove that the editors of different  
periodicals have not made individual decisions.  
Before publication, editors receive news releases and

(10) printer's proofs of certain books, signifying that the  
publishers will make special efforts to promote these  
books. They will be heavily advertised and probably  
be among the books that most bookstores order in  
quantity. Not having such books reviewed might give

(15) the impression that the editor was caught napping,  
whereas too many reviews of books that readers will  
have trouble finding in stores would be inappropriate.  
Editors can risk having a few of the less popular  
titles reviewed, but they must consider what will be

(20) newsworthy, advertised, and written about elsewhere.

If these were the only factors influencing editors,  
few books that stand little chance of selling well would  
ever be reviewed. But editors feel some concern  
about what might endure, and therefore listen to

(25) literary experts. A generation ago, a newspaper used  
a brilliant system of choosing which books to feature.  
The book review editor sent out a greater number of  
books than reviews he actually intended to publish.  
If a review was unenthusiastic, he reasoned that the

(30) book was not important enough to be discussed  
immediately, and if good reviews of enough other  
books came in, the unenthusiastic review might never  
be printed. The unenthusiastic reviewers were paid  
promptly anyway, but they learned that if they wanted

(35) their material to be printed, it was advisable to be kind.

Most editors print favorable and unfavorable reviews; however, the content of the review may be influenced by the editor. Some editors would actually

(40) feel that they had failed in their responsibility if they gave books by authors they admired to hostile critics or books by authors they disapproved of to critics who might favor them. Editors usually can predict who would review a book enthusiastically and who would

(45) tear it to shreds.

### Questions 186–193 refer to the passage.

RC69461.01-10

186. According to the passage, book review editors pay attention to all of the following in deciding which books should be reviewed in their publications EXCEPT

- A. news releases from publishers
- B. sales figures compiled by bookstores
- C. the opinions of literary experts
- D. the probability that the books will be extensively advertised
- E. the likelihood that the books will be reviewed in other publications

### Supporting idea

*Which of the following is a factor that the passage does NOT indicate is considered by book review editors when deciding which book reviews to publish?* The passage indicates that major decisions regarding which books will be reviewed in a given publication occur *before* the relevant books have been published; it follows that sales data for those books *would not exist* when initial decision making occurs.

This immediately suggests that answer choice B may be correct. But to verify that answer choice B is correct, it will be important to quickly check two things: first, that the passage neither states nor implies review editors consider sales data and, second, that for each of the other factors listed, the passage either states or implies that review editors do consider that factor.

- A. The passage indicates that book review editors do in fact consider news releases from publishers.
- B. **Correct.** Nothing in the passage indicates that book review editors consider sales figures compiled by bookstores. Furthermore, the passage indicates that such data would NOT be available for certain books that the

editors and book publishers consider most worth publishing. Even so, the passage does not exclude the possibility that book review editors may consider publishing reviews of books already in bookstores, based on a review of bookstore sales data. However, it is important to note that the passage neither states nor implies that this is so.

- C. According to the passage, book review editors do in fact listen to literary experts regarding books that may sell well over time despite slow initial sales.
- D. According to the passage, book review editors receive news releases and printers' proofs of certain books; this implies that the books will in fact be heavily advertised.
- E. The passage states that book review editors must consider what will be newsworthy, advertised, and written about elsewhere. In other words, other publications' writing about the same books factor into the decisions of these editors.

**The correct answer is B.**

RC69461.01-20

187. The main idea of the second paragraph is that

- A. decisions made by book review editors are influenced by the business of selling books
- B. book review editors must be familiar with all aspects of the book trade
- C. advertising is the most important factor influencing book sales
- D. book reviews usually have no influence on what books are ordered in quantity by stores
- E. publishers deliberately try to influence the decisions of book review editors

### **Evaluation**

*What idea is most central to the second paragraph?* A good strategy here is to identify the two most plausible answer candidates by quickly eliminating the three least plausible.

Looking through the options, answer choices B, C, and D can be reasonably easily eliminated, leaving the remaining two options as the most plausible candidates. Note that the paragraph focuses on the idea that review editors' decisions are influenced by the business of selling books (answer choice A).

- A. **Correct.** As indicated, this idea is the main theme of the paragraph.
- B. The paragraph is focused on how editors' decisions are influenced by the business of selling books, not on how much knowledge book review editors must have.
- C. Although the paragraph suggests that advertising may significantly influence book orders by bookstores, the paragraph does not indicate that

- advertising is the most important factor.
- D. The paragraph does not indicate that book reviews usually have no influence on book orders by bookstores.
- E. The paragraph does not indicate that publishers' pre-publication outreach to review editors is a deliberate effort to influence the editors' decisions.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC69461.01-30

188. According to the passage, a major concern of the unenthusiastic book reviewers mentioned in line 33 was to

- A. ensure prompt payment for their work
- B. influence public opinion of books
- C. confirm the opinions of other reviewers
- D. promote new books by their favorite authors
- E. have their reviews published in the newspaper

### Supporting idea

*What does the passage suggest was a major concern of the unenthusiastic book reviewers mentioned?* The necessary information is found in the final sentence of the third paragraph.

Given that the reviewers *were paid promptly anyway*, it follows that *prompt payment* would not be a *major concern* for them. This sentence goes on to suggest that having their material published in the newspaper was of concern, specifically implying that this concern may have induced some of them to provide more favorable reviews in order to ensure publication. While this is not directly stated, this line of reasoning is confirmed by the information that the review editor's *brilliant system* tended to publish only positive reviews.

- A. The passage suggests that the practice was to promptly pay all reviewers—even those whose reviews were not published.
- B. Nothing in the passage suggests that influencing public opinion was part of the agenda of any of the reviewers, even those occasionally writing unenthusiastic reviews.
- C. Nothing in the passage suggests that writers of unenthusiastic book reviews were necessarily influenced by the opinions of other reviewers.
- D. Nothing in the passage suggests that unenthusiastic book reviewers attempted to promote any book, let alone ones from their favorite authors.
- E. **Correct.** The final sentence of the third paragraph indicates that this may have been a major concern of the unenthusiastic reviewers.

**The correct answer is E.**

RC69461.01-40

189. The passage provides information to answer which of the following questions?

- A. Would most book review editors prefer to have books reviewed without regard to the probable commercial success of the books?
- B. Are publishers' efforts to persuade bookstores to order certain books generally effective?
- C. On what basis do literary experts decide that a book is or is not important?
- D. What criteria are used to determine the length of a particular book review?
- E. Have book review practices in general changed significantly since a generation ago?

### **Inference**

*Which one of the five questions can be answered based on the information given in the passage?* This implies that four of the answer choices will be questions that we cannot answer based on the passage. Certain among these choices are easily eliminated: the question regarding literary experts' evaluation and the question regarding criteria for length of reviews.

The question of whether book review practices in general have changed over the last generation is also fairly easily eliminated: the information about such practices a generation ago only concerns the system used by one review editor in one newspaper.

Thus we can narrow down our answer candidates to the following: the question about how expected commercial success relates to review editors' preferences, and the question about whether book publishers' outreach efforts for certain books succeed in persuading bookstores to order large quantities of those books. Which one of these two questions does the passage help answer?

- A. The passage provides neither a definitive "yes" nor a definitive "no" answer to this question, at least as concerns "most" book editors. The second paragraph of the passage indicates that expectations regarding the books that bookstores will order in quantity does figure prominently in decision making regarding publication of reviews. However, this does not necessarily indicate what most editors would prefer. It is possible, if not likely, that book review editors differ widely in their preferences. This does not of course answer whether book review editors listen to their personal preferences when making decisions about publication of book reviews. Ultimately, we do not have the information to address either this question or its nuances.
- B. **Correct.** The passage tells us that the books that publishers heavily advertise will probably be among the books that most bookstores order in quantity. This provides a "yes" answer to the question.
- C. The passage provides no information regarding how literary experts decide whether a book is "important." Note that the passage

specifically discusses book review editors. It is unclear whether this is the same thing as “literary expert,” but we are given no reason to think so.

- D. The passage provides no information regarding how the length of a book review is determined.
- E. The passage indicates that a generation ago, a review editor for a newspaper had a brilliant system of publishing only the reviews that were enthusiastic about particular books. However, the passage does not indicate that this was common editorial practice at the time. Rather, the passage tells us that most editors currently publish both positive and negative reviews. Nothing in the passage indicates that this practice was different a generation ago.

**The correct answer is B.**

RC69461.01-50

190. The passage suggests which of the following about book review readers?

- A. They pay careful attention to reviewers' biases as they read reviews.
- B. They disapprove of book review editors who try to influence what their reviewers write.
- C. They use book reviews in order to gauge whether a book is likely to endure.
- D. They expect to see timely reviews of widely publicized books in the periodicals they read.
- E. They are usually willing to search in several stores for a highly recommended book that is hard to find.

### **Inference**

*What does the passage convey about readers of book reviews?* Note that the question does not concern what is most likely true of *at least some* book review readers; rather, the passage most strongly suggests what is true of book review readers *in general*.

Nothing in the passage implies that any of the first three answer choices given is true of book review readers *in general*. This leaves the final two answer choices as possible candidates. Of the two, D more clearly describes something that the passage suggests is generally true of book review readers.

- A. No doubt some book review readers pay attention to reviewers' biases, but the passage does not imply that this is generally true of readers of book reviews.
- B. The passage does not tell us that readers of book reviews generally know whether review content is influenced by book review editors. Furthermore, it does not tell us whether these readers generally approve or disapprove of such editors.

- C. The passage nowhere suggests that readers of book reviews generally make judgments as to whether a book is likely to be a long-lasting cultural legacy.
- D. **Correct.** The passage indicates that book review editors in general feel responsible to meet their readers' expectations by providing reviews of books that are newsworthy, advertised, and written about elsewhere.
- E. The passage nowhere suggests that most book review readers will search in several stores for a highly recommended book. The passage refers to books that readers will have trouble finding in stores; however, this is more plausibly read as readers of books rather than readers of book reviews. Furthermore, it does not suggest that most readers—or most readers of book reviews—will go to several stores to search for a book.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC69461.01-60

191. Which of the following words, if substituted for “brilliant” in line 26, would LEAST change the meaning of the sentence?

- A. showy
- B. articulate
- C. literate
- D. stingy
- E. absurd

### Evaluation

Which word, if substituted for “brilliant” in the sentence, would least alter the meaning of the sentence? In other words, we must pick the word we could substitute for *brilliant* in the sentence without significantly changing the meaning of the sentence.

Note that neither *articulate* nor *literate* would be an apt modifier of the word *system*. *Stingy* indicates a financial use of the *system*, which seems inappropriate.

Eliminating these options leaves only *showy* and *absurd* as candidates. Given these choices, it is fairly clear that brilliant is meant ironically. We are told that the unenthusiastic reviewers *quickly learned that if they wanted their material to be printed, it was advisable to be kind*.

- A. Nothing in the passage conveys that the system, ironically designated brilliant, was showy, that is, eye-catching.
- B. Articulate could describe fluent or coherent speech, description, or writing, but it does not appropriately modify the noun *system* in this context.
- C. The adjective *literate* does not appropriately modify *system*; furthermore, it fails to convey a clear meaning that would match the ironic meaning of the modifier brilliant.

- D. The system does not seem to have a monetary purpose, so stingy would not fit. Note that the final sentence of the paragraph suggests that the system self-selects for books that are likely to be successful, potentially at the expense of writers who write “unenthusiastic reviews.” Nevertheless, the passage notes that the unpublished writers would still be paid, so their risk lies in not having their work read rather than in not being paid for their work.
- E. **Correct.** Among the answer choices, absurd best captures the ironic use of brilliant and preserves the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

**The correct answer is E.**

RC69461.01-70

192. Which of the following is an assumption made by the book review editor referred to in line 27?

- A. A book of great worth will receive only good reviews.
- B. An important book will endure despite possible bad reviews.
- C. Reviewers might hide their true opinions in order to have their reviews published.
- D. Book review editors should select reviewers whose opinions can be guessed in advance.
- E. Book review editors have an obligation to print extensive reviews of apparently important books.

### Evaluation

*Which one of the five options is an assumption the book review editor made in following the book review system described?* The editor's policy was to publish the reviews that gave books a sufficiently positive evaluation while often refusing to publish unenthusiastic reviews; that is, reviews that did not rate books highly.

Given the information in the passage, it is likely that this editor followed other editors in *feeling some concern about what might endure*. That is, these editors would presumably not wish to risk ignoring *a book of great worth*. Therefore, this editor may have believed that his *brilliant system* of not publishing negative reviews would guard against such a risk. In other words, the editor assumed that unenthusiastic reviews accurately reflected the value of the books reviewed. By this logic, a book of great worth would, of course, receive only positive reviews.

- A. **Correct.** The editor, in applying the system described, assumed that a book of great worth would receive only positive reviews.
- B. If the editor assumed this, he would be justified in publishing bad reviews given that a good book would eventually be vindicated.
- C. There is nothing to suggest that the editor thought the reviewers to be



dishonest in representing their views of the books they review; that is, that the reviewers would lie in order to get their reviews published. While this may have been the case, the passage provides no evidence to suggest that the editor assumed this.

- D. Nothing in the passage suggests that the editor's practice was governed by this sort of rule regarding how book review editors should select reviewers.
- E. The passage suggests the book review editor wanted books of significant worth reviewed in his newspaper. However, it does not suggest that the editor assumed this rule should apply to all book review editors.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC69461.01-80

193. It can be inferred that, as a prospective book buyer, the author of the passage would generally respond to highly enthusiastic reviews of new books with

- A. resignation
- B. amusement
- C. condemnation
- D. skepticism
- E. disinterest

### **Inference**

*What does the passage suggest about how its author might respond to highly enthusiastic reviews of new books?* Nothing in the passage suggests the response would be resignation, amusement, or condemnation.

This narrows down the possibilities to skepticism or disinterest. The intended meaning of *disinterest* is “lack of interest.” It is unlikely that the author of the passage would be generally uninterested in highly enthusiastic reviews of new books.

This of course leaves skepticism as the best candidate. The passage does suggest that this might be the passage author's attitude: the passage discusses the impact of commercial considerations—the business of selling books—on review editors' choices regarding which books to review. It follows that *highly enthusiastic* reviews may, at least in some cases, be influenced by such considerations. With this in mind, the author of the passage is likely to approach such reviews with skepticism. In other words, the author holds a certain amount of doubt as to whether such reviews accurately reflect the true worth of the books reviewed.

- A. Given the critical approach to reviewing practices conveyed in the passage, it is unlikely that the response of the author would be resignation.
- B. The author of the passage might, for various reasons, be amused at some

highly enthusiastic reviews. Nevertheless, the passage does not suggest that amusement would be the author's response to any highly enthusiastic review.

- C. Nothing in the passage suggests that the author's general response to enthusiastic reviews would be condemnation.
- D. **Correct.** As explained above, skepticism is most likely to be the author's most usual response.
- E. Some book reviews, even highly enthusiastic ones, might not interest the author of the passage. However, nothing in the passage indicates that the author's general response would be to show no interest.

**The correct answer is D.**

Line There are two theories that have been used to explain ancient and modern tragedy. Neither quite explains the complexity of the tragic process or the tragic hero, but each explains important elements

(5) of tragedy, and, because their conclusions are contradictory, they represent extreme views. The first theory states that all tragedy exhibits the workings of external fate. Of course, the overwhelming majority of tragedies do leave us with a sense of the

(10) supremacy of impersonal power and of the limitation of human effort. But this theory of tragedy is an oversimplification, primarily because it confuses the tragic condition with the tragic process: the theory does not acknowledge that fate, in a tragedy,

(15) normally becomes external to the hero only after the tragic process has been set in motion. Fate, as conceived in ancient Greek tragedy, is the internal balancing condition of life. It appears as external only after it has been violated, just as justice is an

(20) internal quality of an honest person, but the external antagonist of the criminal. Secondarily, this theory of tragedy does not distinguish tragedy from irony. Irony does not need an exceptional central figure: as a rule, the more ignoble the hero the sharper the

(25) irony, when irony alone is the objective. It is heroism that creates the splendor and exhilaration that is unique to tragedy. The tragic hero normally has an

extraordinary, often a nearly divine, destiny almost within grasp, and the glory of that original destiny

(30) never quite fades out of the tragedy.

The second theory of tragedy states that the act that sets the tragic process in motion must be primarily a violation of moral law, whether human or divine; in short, that the tragic hero must have a

(35) flaw that has an essential connection with sin. Again it is true that the great majority of tragic heroes do possess hubris, or a proud and passionate mind that seems to make the hero's downfall morally explicable. But such hubris is only the precipitating

(40) agent of catastrophe, just as in comedy the cause of the happy ending is usually some act of humility, often performed by a noble character who is meanly disguised.

### Questions 194–200 refer to the passage.

RC79461.01-10

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194. The primary purpose of the passage is to

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- A. compare and criticize two theories of tragedy
- B. develop a new theory of tragedy
- C. summarize the thematic content of tragedy
- D. reject one theory of tragedy and offer another theory in its place
- E. distinguish between tragedy and irony

### Main idea

*What is the primary purpose of the passage?* The hypothesis that the primary purpose of the passage is to compare and criticize two theories of tragedy is attractive. After all, the substance of the passage consists mainly of a discussion of the two theories.

To confirm that answer choice A is the best choice, however, we need to quickly review the other options. Does the passage develop a new theory of tragedy? No. Does it summarize the thematic content of tragedy? This would be clear if so; it is not clear. Does it offer a theory of tragedy to replace a theory it rejects? Definitely not. Does it distinguish between tragedy and irony? This is discussed, but only in a manner incidental to the main idea of the passage. Given the unsuitability of the other answer choices, we are left with answer

choice A: that the main purpose of the passage is to compare and criticize two theories of tragedy.

- A. **Correct.** This best describes the main purpose of the passage, based on the analysis above.
- B. The passage does not develop a new theory of tragedy.
- C. While the passage summarizes the thematic content of tragedy in a very general way, it does so only as a means to providing a critical analysis of the two theories of tragedy discussed.
- D. The passage does not advance a new theory of tragedy; it simply considers two existing theories.
- E. The passage distinguishes between tragedy and irony; it does so only in service of the larger analysis that is the main focus of the passage.

**The correct answer is A.**

RC79461.01-20

195. The author states that the theories discussed in the passage “represent extreme views” (see line 6) because their conclusions are

- A. unpopular
- B. complex
- C. paradoxical
- D. contradictory
- E. imaginative

### Supporting idea

*What reason does the author of the passage state for the claim that the two theories of tragedy discussed represent extreme views?*

A careful reading of the first few sentences of the passage provides a quick answer to this question. In the second sentence of the passage, the author states that the two theories represent extreme views *because their conclusions are contradictory*.

It may be that the author has other reasons for this conclusion. However, no other such reasons are stated.

- A. The author neither explicitly nor implicitly characterizes either of the theories as unpopular.
- B. The author refers to the complexity of the tragic process, but this statement is not used to complain that the theories are extreme.
- C. The author nowhere states that either of the theories—or their juxtaposition—is paradoxical.
- D. **Correct.** The author presents this as reason for concluding that the theories are extreme.
- E. The author nowhere refers to imaginativeness as a reason for the claim that the theories are extreme.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC79461.01-30

- .
196. The author objects to the theory that all tragedy exhibits the workings of external fate primarily because
- .
- A. fate in tragedies is not as important a cause of action as is the violation of a moral law
  - B. fate in tragedies does not appear to be something that is external to the tragic hero until after the tragic process has begun
  - C. the theory is based solely on an understanding of ancient Greek tragedy
  - D. the theory does not seem to be a plausible explanation of tragedy's ability to exhilarate an audience
  - E. the theory does not seem applicable to the large number of tragedies in which the hero overcomes fate

### Supporting idea

*What is the author's main reason for objecting to the theory that all tragedy exhibits the workings of external fate?*

This view is attributed, in the passage's third sentence, to the first of the two theories considered. The author characterizes this view as *an oversimplification, primarily because it confuses the tragic condition with the tragic process*. In other words, the tragic hero's relationship with fate changes as the *tragic process* continues: fate is used to balance the tragic hero's life, and becomes an external condition as the hero's life becomes unbalanced.

The author elaborates that in ancient Greek tragedy fate *normally becomes external to the hero only after the tragic process has begun*. Therefore, the correct answer will likely mention either the tragic "process" or the tragic "condition."

- A. This option mentions neither the tragic condition nor the tragic process.
- B. **Correct.** This option mentions the tragic process and accurately captures the reason presented by the author to support the objection raised.
- C. The author invokes ancient Greek tragedy to illustrate and support the objection raised; it is not invoked to indicate a flaw in the theory objected to.
- D. The author does not cite tragedy's ability to exhilarate an audience as a primary reason for the objection raised.
- E. The author does not cite the large number of tragedies in which the hero overcomes fate as the primary reason for the objection raised.

**The correct answer is B.**

RC79461.01-40

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197. Which of the following comparisons of the tragic with the ironic hero is best supported by information contained in the passage?

- A. A tragic hero's fate is an external condition, but an ironic hero's fate is an internal one.
- B. A tragic hero must be controlled by fate, but an ironic hero cannot be.
- C. A tragic hero's moral flaw surprises the audience, but an ironic hero's sin does not.
- D. A tragic hero and an ironic hero cannot both be virtuous figures in the same tragedy.
- E. A tragic hero is usually extraordinary, but an ironic hero may be cowardly or even villainous.

### Inference

*Which one of the comparisons between the tragic hero and the ironic hero is most strongly supported by the information in the passage?*

To eliminate some of the choices, note the following: first, the passage indicates that the tragic hero's fate is initially internal, but the passage does not apply this to the ironic hero's fate. Second, the passage does not suggest that an ironic hero cannot be controlled by fate. Third, the passage does not attribute a sin to the ironic hero, yet it does indicate that the character of the ironic hero tends to be *ignoble*.

In any case, the passage is silent as to whether a tragedy can feature two heroes, one tragic and the other ironic. Finally, the passage implies that tragedy, unlike irony, needs *an exceptional central figure*. Furthermore, the passage suggests the following about an ironic hero: *the more ignoble the hero the sharper the irony*.

- A. The passage indicates that the tragic hero's fate is initially internal but becomes external as part of the tragic process. The passage does consider whether an ironic hero can be controlled by fate but also does not exclude that possibility. Therefore, the passage does not suggest that externalized fate is a factor that distinguishes the tragic hero from the ironic hero.
- B. Nothing in the passage indicates that an ironic hero cannot be controlled by fate.
- C. The passage indicates that the character of the ironic hero tends to be ignoble. However, it does not imply that a sin by the ironic hero is essential to the development of the irony.
- D. The passage does not address whether a tragedy can feature two heroes, one of whom is tragic and one of whom is ironic.
- E. **Correct.** Among the choices provided, this comparison is best supported: tragedy requires an exceptional central figure, while for irony, the more ignoble the hero the better.

**The correct answer is E.**

198. The author contrasts an honest person and a criminal (see lines 19–21) primarily to

- A. prove that fate cannot be external to the tragic hero
- B. establish a criterion that allows a distinction to be made between irony and tragedy
- C. develop the distinction between the tragic condition and the tragic process
- D. introduce the concept of sin as the cause of tragic action
- E. argue that the theme of omnipotent external fate is shared by comedy and tragedy

### Evaluation

*For what reason does the author draw a contrast between an honest person and a criminal?* The contrast is presented during the discussion of the first of the two theories of tragedy; in particular, it is introduced to question whether fate is necessarily external in the tragic hero. The author suggests that fate, as conceived in ancient Greek tragedy, is *initially the internal balancing condition of life*. However, fate becomes external once the tragic process is unleashed. The tragic process begins when the theory violates this internal balance, ultimately leading to the tragic condition.

From this perspective, fate is both internal and external during the tragic process. Attributing *sin* to the tragic hero pertains only to the discussion of the second theory of tragedy. Note that no reference to comedy occurs in the context of the contrast drawn between an honest person and a criminal.

- A. The passage suggests that fate can be external as well as internal in ancient Greek tragedy.
- B. The distinction between tragedy and irony is offered as a critique of the first theory of tragedy; it is not presented as derived from the preceding discussion about fate.
- C. **Correct.** As explained above, the contrast between the internal and external forms of fate is presented to distinguish between the tragic process itself and the tragic condition that is the outcome of the tragic process.
- D. The attribution of sin to the tragic hero figures only in the discussion of the second theory of tragedy; therefore it is not associated with the mentioned contrast.
- E. While the passage briefly mentions comedy, it is not in association with the contrast mentioned.

**The correct answer is C.**

199. The author suggests that the tragic hero's "original destiny never quite fades out of the tragedy" (see lines 29–30) primarily to

- A. qualify the assertion that the theory of tragedy as a display of external fate is inconsistent
- B. introduce the discussion of the theory that tragedy is the consequence of individual sin
- C. refute the theory that the tragic process is more important than the tragic condition
- D. support the claim that heroism creates the splendor and exhilaration of tragedy
- E. distinguish between fate as conceived in ancient Greek tragedy and fate in more recent tragedy

### Evaluation

*Which one of the five answer choices best describes the primary purpose of the author's claim that the glory of the tragic hero's "original destiny never quite fades out of the tragedy"? In the sentence immediately preceding this claim, we read: *It is heroism that creates the splendor and exhilaration that is unique to tragedy.**

Tragedy persistently reminds us of the extraordinary destiny that could have been attained by the hero. This reminds the audience that this glorious destiny has been tragically lost. The final sentence of the first paragraph, therefore, serves to support the claim in the sentence that precedes it.

- A. Nothing suggests that the author regards this claim as lessening the flaw that the author sees in the theory of tragedy first discussed.
- B. This claim does not introduce the discussion of the second theory in the sense of creating a meaningful transition to it.
- C. Nowhere does the passage address a theory that the tragic process is more important than the tragic condition; the author suggests that both are inherent in tragedy.
- D. **Correct.** The context indicates that the author's suggestion is presented to support the claim expressed in the sentence that precedes it.
- E. Nowhere does the passage mention a distinction between ancient Greek tragedy and more recent tragedy.

**The correct answer is D.**

RC79461.01-70

200. In the author's opinion, an act of humility in comedy is most analogous to

- A. a catastrophe in tragedy
- B. an ironic action in tragedy



- C. a tragic hero's pride and passion
- D. a tragic hero's aversion to sin
- E. a tragic hero's pursuit of an unusual destiny

### **Inference**

*What would the author regard as most analogous to an act of humility in comedy?* The author writes that *a proud and passionate mind is the precipitating agent of catastrophe, just as in comedy the cause of the happy ending is usually some act of humility*. In other words, in tragedy, the hero's hubris leads to his or her downfall.

- A. A catastrophe is an external event rather than the quality of a character, whereas both hubris and humility are qualities of human characters.
- B. Nowhere does the passage associate an ironic action in tragedy with an act of humility.
- C. **Correct.** The author compares how hubris leads to catastrophe in tragedy with how an act of humility leads to a happy ending in comedy.
- D. The author refers to how the second theory associates the tragic hero with sin. However, the author makes no reference to the tragic hero's aversion to sin as analogous to an act of humility in comedy.
- E. The author does not propose any similarity between the extraordinary aspiration of the tragic hero—that is, the hero's unusual destiny—and an act of humility in comedy.

**The correct answer is C.**