



SAT作用题 purpose questions

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作用题

• 识别:

The authors most likely use/mention ... to...

The authors refer to ... in order to...

The authors' main purpose of ... is to...

What function does ... serve in this passage?

The references to ... mainly have which effect?

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• 考点:分析某单词/短语/句子/段落在文章中起到的作用

作用题——针对单词/短语的作用

• 解法: 瞻前顾后

1. 标:标记目标词/短语

2. 读: 所在句及上下文

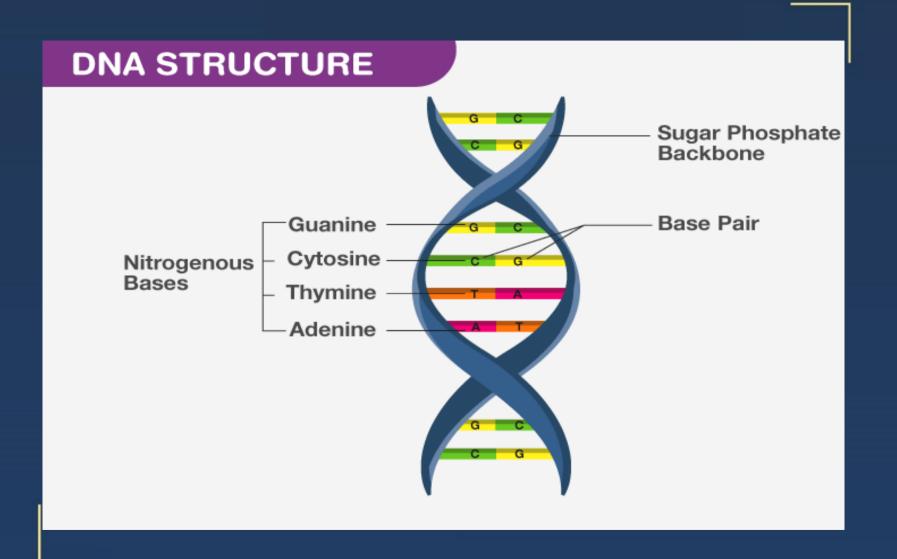
3. 选:结合目标词/短语含义及上下文

The authors use the word "backbone" in lines 3 and 7 to indicate that

- A) only very long chains of DNA can be taken from an organism with a spinal column.
- B) the main structure of a chain in a DNA molecule is composed of repeating units.
- C) a chain in a DNA molecule consists entirely of phosphate groups or of sugars.
- D) nitrogenous bases form the main structural unit of DNA.

The chemical formula of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is now well established. The molecule is a very long chain, the backbone of which consists of a regular alternation of sugar and phosphate groups. To each sugar is attached a nitrogenous base, which can be of four different types... The phosphate-sugar backbone of our model is completely regular, but any sequence of the pairs of bases can fit into the structure.





- The author's use of the words "powerhouse" and "batteries" in the second paragraph serves mainly to
- A) emphasize that mitochondria are the most important components of the cell.
- B) suggest that mitochondria use an electrical gradient to produce energy.
- C) stress that mitochondria are the main sources of energy for the cell.
- D) imply that mitochondria need to be recharged in order to function efficiently.

Researchers report in the journal Cell that the phenomenon is likely linked to two enzymes—SIRT3 and SIRT4—in mitochondria (the cell's powerhouse that, among other tasks, converts nutrients to energy). They found that a cascade of reactions triggered by lower caloric intake raises the levels of these enzymes, leading to an increase in the strength and efficiency of the cellular batteries. By invigorating the mitochondria, SIRT3 and SIRT4 extend the life of cells, by preventing flagging mitochondria from developing tiny holes (or pores) in their membranes that allow proteins that trigger apoptosis, or cell death, to seep out into the rest of the cell.

The author uses the phrase "is written in" (line 2) most likely to

- A) demonstrate the concept of the hands-on nature of the work done by scientists.
- B) highlight the fact that scientists often write about their discoveries.
- C) underscore the sense of importance that scientists have regarding their work.
- D) reinforce the idea that the evidence is there and can be interpreted by scientists.

That a powerful volcano erupted somewhere in the world, sometime in the Middle Ages, is written in polar ice cores in the form of layers of sulfate deposits and tiny shards of volcanic glass. These cores suggest that the amount of sulfur the mystery volcano sent into the stratosphere put it firmly among the ranks of the strongest climate perturbing eruptions of the current geological epoch, the Holocene, a period that stretches from 10,000 years ago to the present.

Stanton uses the phrase "high carnival" (line 1) mainly to emphasize what she sees as the

- A) utter domination of women by men.
- B) freewheeling spirit of the age.
- C) scandalous decline in moral values.
- D) growing power of women in society.

The male element has held high carnival thus far; it has fairly run riot from the beginning, overpowering the feminine element everywhere, crushing out all the diviner qualities in human nature, until we know but little of true manhood and womanhood, of the latter comparatively nothing, for it has scarce been recognized as a power until within the last century.

作用题——针对单词/短语的作用

- 目标单词/短语的特征:
- 1. 有可能不考其本身含义
- 2. 使用了修辞手法

作用题——针对句子的作用

• 解法: 瞻前顾后

1. 标:标记目标句

2. 读:目标句及上下文

3. 选:情况A/B

作用题——句子作用情况A

- •情况A:目标句是论据,选其支持/解释/引出/反驳的句子,不选论据的改写
- evidence: example, quotation, statistics, research, anecdote, fact

The authors most likely use the examples in lines 1 -8 of the passage ("Every . . . showers") to highlight the

- A) regularity with which people shop for gifts.
- B) recent increase in the amount of money spent on gifts.
- C) anxiety gift shopping causes for consumers.
- D) number of special occasions involving gift-giving.

Every day, millions of shoppers hit the stores in full force—both online and on foot—searching frantically for the perfect gift. Last year, Americans spent over \$30 billion at retail stores in the month of December alone. Aside from purchasing holiday gifts, most people regularly buy presents for other occasions throughout the year, including weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and baby showers. This frequent experience of gift-giving can engender ambivalent feelings in gift-givers. Many relish the opportunity to buy presents because gift-giving offers a powerful means to build stronger bonds with one's closest peers. At the same time, many dread the thought of buying gifts; they worry that their purchases will disappoint rather than delight the intended recipients.

In lines 6-14, the author mentions several companies primarily to

- A) note the technological advances that make space mining possible.
- B) provide evidence of the growing interest in space mining.
- C) emphasize the large profits to be made from space mining.
- D) highlight the diverse ways to carry out space mining operations.

Convened in Sydney by the Australian Centre for Space Engineering Research, the event brought together mining companies, robotics experts, lunar scientists, and government agencies that are all working to make space mining a reality.

The forum comes hot on the heels of the 2012 unveiling of two private asteroid-mining firms. Planetary Resources of Washington says it will launch its first prospecting telescopes in two years, while Deep Space Industries of Virginia hopes to be harvesting metals from asteroids by 2020. Another commercial venture that sprung up in 2012, Golden Spike of Colorado, will be offering trips to the moon, including to potential lunar miners.

The authors refer to work by Camerer and others (line 6) in order to

- A) offer an explanation.
- B) introduce an argument.
- C) question a motive.
- D) support a conclusion.

Why do gift-givers assume that gift price is closely linked to gift-recipients' feelings of appreciation? Perhaps givers believe that bigger(i.e., more expensive) gifts convey stronger signals of thoughtfulness and consideration. According to Camerer (1988) and others, gift-giving represents a symbolic ritual, whereby gift-givers attempt to signal their positive attitudes toward the intended recipient and their willingness to invest resources in a future relationship.

What is the most likely reason the author includes the 30 cm measurement in line 9?

- A) To demonstrate the accuracy with which the data loggers collected the data
- B) To present recorded data about how far an ibis flies between successive wing flaps
- C) To provide the wingspan length of a juvenile ibis
- D) To show how far behind the microlight plane each ibis flew

The study, published in Nature, took advantage of an existing project to reintroduce endangered northern bald ibises (Geronticus eremita) to Europe. Scientists used a microlight plane to show hand-raised birds their ancestral migration route from Austria to Italy. A flock of 14 juveniles carried data loggers specially built by Usherwood and his lab. The device's GPS determined each bird's flight position to within 30 cm, and an accelerometer showed the timing of the wing flaps.

作用题——句子作用情况B

- •情况B:目标句使用修辞手法,选其传达的语气/效果
- 常考的修辞手法:
- 1. metaphor: His heart is a stone.
- 2. simile: His heart is like a stone.
- 3. analogy: Just like A, B...
- 4. parallelism: Let' s ... Let' s ... Let' s ...
- 5. rhetorical questions: Isn't it obvious?
- 6. personification: The birds are singing.

作用题——句子作用情况B

7. irony:

You are so "smart"! (verbal irony)

The main remedy for traffic congestion is to build more roads and highways, which only makes the problem worse. (situational irony)

- 8. understatement: I haven't done quite well enough—I only achieved 1560 this time.
- 9. exaggeration / overstatement / hyperbole: The noise is loud enough to wake up the dead.

The sentence in lines 1-4 ("For years . . . other") mainly serves to

- A) expose a side of the narrator that he prefers to keep hidden.
- B) demonstrate that the narrator thinks in a methodical and scientific manner.
- C) show that the narrator feels himself to be influenced by powerful and independent forces.
- D) emphasize the length of time during which the narrator has prepared for his expedition.

作用题——情况B强化练习1

For years, for a lifetime, the machinery of my destiny has worked in secret to prepare for this moment; its clockwork has moved exactly toward this time and place and no other. Rising slowly from the earth that bore me and gave me sustenance, I am carried helplessly toward an uninhabited and hostile, or at best indifferent, part of the earth, littered with the bones of explorers and the wrecks of ships, frozen supply caches, messages scrawled with chilled fingers and hidden in cairns that no eye will ever see.

The main purpose of the analogy of the pingpong ball (line 6) is to

- A) popularize a little-known fact.
- B) contrast competing scientific theories.
- C) criticize a widely accepted explanation.
- D) clarify an abstract concept.

Push on a fundamental particle in an effort to increase its speed and, according to Higgs, you would feel this drag force as a resistance. Justifiably, you would interpret the resistance as the particle's mass. For a mental toehold, think of a ping-pong ball submerged in water. When you push on the ping-pong ball, it will feel much more massive than it does outside of water. Its interaction with the watery environment has the effect of endowing it with mass. So with particles submerged in the Higgs field.

The range of places and occasions listed in lines 1-6 ("Let us . . . funerals") mainly serves to emphasize how

- A) novel the challenge faced by women is.
- B) pervasive the need for critical reflection is.
- C) complex the political and social issues of the day are.
- D) enjoyable the career possibilities for women are.

Think we must. Let us think in offices; in omnibuses; while we are standing in the crowd watching Coronations and Lord Mayor's Shows; let us think ... in the gallery of the House of Commons; in the Law Courts; let us think at baptisms and marriages and funerals. Let us never cease from thinking...

作用题——段落作用

• 解法: 瞻前顾后

1. 标:标记目标段落

2. 读: 本段及上下文

3. 选:选主旨,不选细节/描述错误/未提及

What function does the discussion of water in lines 7-12(Water...stations.) serve in Passage 1?

- A) It continues an extended comparison that begins in the previous paragraph.
- B) It provides an unexpected answer to a question raised in the previous paragraph.
- C) It offers hypothetical examples supporting a claim made in the previous paragraph.
- D) It examines possible outcomes of a proposal put forth in the previous paragraph.

In this scenario, water mined from other worlds could become the most desired commodity. "In the desert, what' s worth more: a kilogram of gold or a kilogram of water?" asks Kris Zacny of HoneyBee Robotics in New York. "Gold is useless. Water will let you live."

Water ice from the moon's poles could be sent to astronauts on the International Space Station for drinking or as a radiation shield. Splitting water into oxygen and hydrogen makes spacecraft fuel, so ice-rich asteroids could become interplanetary refueling stations.

The main purpose of the fifth paragraph (lines 45-56) is to

- A) develop a counterargument to the claim that greed is good.
- B) provide support for the idea that ethics is about character.
- C) describe a third approach to defining ethical economics.
- D) illustrate that one's actions are a result of one's character.

There is yet another approach: instead of rooting ethics in character or the consequences of actions, we can focus on our actions themselves. From this perspective some things are right, some wrong we should buy fair trade goods, we shouldn't tell lies in advertisements. Ethics becomes a list of commandments, a catalog of "dos" and "don' ts." When a finance official refuses to devalue a currency because they have promised not to, they are defining ethics this way. According to this approach devaluation can still be bad, even if it would make everybody better off.

作用题总结

• 考点: 分析某单词/短语/句子/段落在文章中起到的作

用

• 解法: 瞻前顾后

• 注意: 使用修辞手法、提供论据的句子常考!





Thanks

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