

Reading and Writing

Module 2

(33 questions)

QUESTION 1

Choice B is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the archaeologists' study of the ancient amphitheater in Switzerland. In this context, "provide" means make available or supply. The text states that the archaeologists believe that the amphitheater dates to the fourth century CE. The text goes on to say that the archaeologists discovered a coin made between 337 and 341 CE (that is, made during the fourth century CE) and building materials appropriate to the era in question. This context suggests that these discoveries provide evidence for the archaeologists' theory about the dating of the amphitheater.

Choice A is incorrect because the archaeologists' discoveries are presented as supplying evidence in favor of their theory about the dating of the amphitheater, not something that would "dismiss," or reject serious consideration of, evidence for that theory. *Choice C* is incorrect because nothing in the text suggests that the archaeologists' discoveries would "regulate," or govern or bring order to, evidence for the archaeologists' theory about the dating of the amphitheater. The discoveries are presented as supplying evidence for the archaeologists' theory, not as changing how evidence for the theory is controlled or ordered. *Choice D* is incorrect because the archaeologists' discoveries are presented as supplying evidence in favor of their theory about the dating of the amphitheater, not something that would "refuse," or be unwilling to accept, evidence for the archaeologists' theory.

QUESTION 2

Choice C is the best answer because as used in the text, “simply” most nearly means easily, or involving minimal difficulty or effort. The text first provides Alice’s reflections on her plan to gain access to a garden and then offers commentary on her plan by the novel’s narrator. The text indicates that a reason Alice likes her plan despite not being fully thought through is that she nonetheless believes it can be efficiently arranged. In other words, the text indicates that one of the supposed benefits of Alice’s plan is that it can be easily arranged.

Choice A is incorrect because the text describes how Alice’s plan can be arranged, and it wouldn’t make sense to say that it can be arranged “faintly,” or with little strength or not strongly. Instead, the text indicates that the plan can be arranged with little difficulty. **Choice B** is incorrect. Although in some contexts “simply” can mean quickly, hastily, or hurriedly, the word “hastily” indicates that something is done too quickly. Although it may be true that Alice’s plan was made in haste, the text doesn’t focus on this aspect of her plan. Instead, the text focuses on the plan’s seemingly good qualities, saying that Alice thinks of it as “the best,” and the narrator refers to it as “excellent” and “neatly,” or efficiently, arranged. **Choice D** is incorrect. Although in some contexts “simply” can mean foolishly, or lacking good sense, it doesn’t have this meaning in this context. Although the text says that Alice doesn’t know how to go about her plan, it begins by presenting her plan in a positive light: Alice describes her plan as “the best,” and the narrator refers to the plan as “excellent” and “neatly,” or efficiently, arranged.

QUESTION 3

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text’s discussion of cucurbits. In this context, “ensuring” means guaranteeing, or making sure of, the cucurbits’ survival. The text states that cucurbits faced extinction in the past because their means of seed dispersal disappeared, but the ancestors of Indigenous peoples in North America began farming cucurbits around that same time, so the crops were no longer threatened. Therefore, the context supports the idea that the ancestors of Indigenous peoples in North America helped with ensuring the cucurbits’ survival.

Choice A is incorrect because in this context verifying means making sure that something is accurate. In the text, the ancestors of Indigenous peoples in North America were ensuring the survival, not the accuracy of, the cucurbits. **Choice B** is incorrect. Although the cucurbit crops themselves were multiplying, or growing in number, as a result of the work of the ancestors of Indigenous peoples in North America, it wouldn’t make sense in context to say that the survival of the plants was multiplying. **Choice C** is incorrect because according to the text, in raising cucurbits as crops, the ancestors of Indigenous peoples in North America were attempting to help the plants grow and survive; they weren’t attempting to comfort, or free the plants from pain.

QUESTION 4

Choice C is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the discovery of a carved wooden figure dating to around 2,000 years ago. In this context, "rarely" means infrequently. The text states that the discovery of the figure was "truly surprising" and notes that wooden objects are highly prone to rot. This context conveys the idea that wooden objects infrequently survive for as long as the carved figure has survived.

Choice A is incorrect because "sturdily" means strongly, which wouldn't make sense in context. If wooden objects in general could strongly survive for long periods of time, then the discovery of a wooden figure that's around 2,000 years old wouldn't be surprising. *Choice B* is incorrect because "carelessly" means accidentally. The text conveys the idea that wooden objects in general don't survive for very long because they rot, not that wooden objects in general accidentally survive despite this. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text conveys the idea that wooden objects in general don't survive for very long because they rot, not that wooden objects in general "simply," or merely, survive for long periods of time. If wooden objects in general could merely survive for as long as the figure has survived, then the discovery of the figure wouldn't have been surprising.

QUESTION 5

Choice C is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of Ikeguchi's model of bicycle supply. In this context, "saturated with" means thoroughly or completely supplied with. The text explains a problem encountered by some bicycle-sharing programs: users can return bicycles to different locations than where the users picked up the bicycles to start, which can result in a mismatch between bicycle supply (that is, where the bicycles are currently located) and user demand (that is, the locations where users are hoping to pick up bicycles). The text goes on to explain that Ikeguchi developed a way to identify when this mismatch is likely to occur. This context suggests that Ikeguchi's method will show when it is likely that some locations have an insufficient supply and other locations, by implicit contrast, are saturated with bicycles.

Choice A is incorrect because nothing in the text suggests that some locations are "susceptible to," or sensitive to or easily influenced by, bicycles. The text describes the phenomenon of bicycles being redistributed away from locations where users want them, not anything about those locations being influenced by the bicycles. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text describes situations in which some locations have an insufficient supply of bicycles because the bicycles have been relocated elsewhere, which suggests that the other locations have many bicycles, not that the other locations are "contingent on," or dependent on, the bicycles. Nothing in the text suggests that the locations themselves depend on the bicycles for anything. *Choice D* is incorrect because it would not make sense in context to say that some locations are "depleted of," or empty of, bicycles while

others have an insufficient supply. The text describes situations in which bicycles have been relocated such that there is a mismatch between bicycle supply and user demand—the bicycles are no longer at the locations where users want to pick them up. This means that some locations do not have enough bicycles, while other locations must have many bicycles, not be depleted of bicycles.

QUESTION 6

Choice A is the best answer because it most accurately describes how the underlined sentence functions in the text as a whole. The first sentence explains that Bernabei and his team studied growth rings to obtain information about the ancient oak planks found during a construction project in Rome. The next sentence presents what the researchers learned: the wood from the planks came from France’s Jura region, which is far from Rome. The underlined sentence then presents the implications of the findings about the planks: the wood must have been brought to Rome by boat, a difficult task that suggests Roman trade routes were complex. Thus, the underlined sentence mainly functions to present a conclusion about Roman trade routes based on the team’s findings.

Choice B is incorrect because the text doesn’t suggest that the team thought the ancient planks were used in the construction of a boat, nor does the underlined sentence question that conclusion. Instead, the text states that the wood could only have been transported from Jura to Rome in a boat. **Choice C** is incorrect because the underlined sentence simply offers a conclusion drawn from the team’s findings about the likely place of origin of the ancient planks; the text never mentions why oak was chosen for the planks instead of other wood. **Choice D** is incorrect because neither the underlined sentence nor the text as a whole addresses any methods that Romans used in constructing subways. Instead, the underlined sentence offers a conclusion drawn from the team’s findings about the likely place of origin of the ancient wooden planks discovered.

QUESTION 7

Choice C is the best answer because it most accurately describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole. The text’s subject is Beverly Glenn-Copeland’s 1986 album *Keyboard Fantasies*, notable for its innovative, experimental arrangements. According to the text, the album was not initially admired, but in recent years it has become popular among younger musicians. The underlined portion of the text mentions two of those musicians, Blood Orange and Moses Sumney, who “cite the album as an influence.” Therefore, the underlined portion of the text offers examples of younger musicians whose work has been impacted by *Keyboard Fantasies*.

Choice A is incorrect because even though the underlined sentence states that Blood Orange and Moses Sumney were influenced by *Keyboard Fantasies*, it doesn't say that all other musicians should also embrace the album's experimental style. *Choice B* is incorrect. Although the text states that *Keyboard Fantasies* was not admired on its first release, the text doesn't present any criticism of the album by younger musicians: it only presents two younger musicians who cite it as an influence. *Choice D* is incorrect because the underlined sentence doesn't mention any differences between *Keyboard Fantasies* and the work of Blood Orange and Moses Sumney.

QUESTION 8

Choice C is the best answer because it most accurately describes the main purpose of the text, which is to illustrate two approaches that Indigenous politicians have taken to achieve political representation for their communities. The text begins by explaining that one approach is exemplified by Indigenous politicians in the United States who, in an effort to ensure that the interests of their communities are represented in government, joined preexisting political parties and were subsequently elected to Congress. The text goes on to highlight a second approach adopted by Indigenous leaders in Canada and several Latin American countries: rather than joining established political parties, many Indigenous politicians in these countries have instead formed their own parties to promote candidates for office who support causes that are important to their communities.

Choice A is incorrect because the text's focus is on the contrasting approaches adopted by different Indigenous political movements in different countries; thus, it isn't accurate to say that the text traces the history of one political movement. Moreover, the text only discusses examples from 2000 to 2021, a relatively short period of time; therefore, it provides very little in the way of discussion of larger historical developments, nor does it make any predictions about how these movements might continue to develop in the future. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text never urges Indigenous politicians in the US to alter their strategy of striving for representation through the established political parties, nor does it suggest that this strategy is inferior to that of Indigenous politicians in Canada and Latin America, who have formed their own parties. In fact, the text notes that both strategies have resulted in the election of Indigenous politicians to national governments. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text never suggests that Indigenous politicians in the US have influenced those in Canada and Latin America; instead, it stresses how Indigenous politicians' approach toward achieving representation in the US government has differed from the approach Indigenous politicians have taken to achieve representation in national governments elsewhere in the Americas.

QUESTION 9

Choice C is the best answer because it characterizes how Maddux would most likely respond to the conclusion Sharif reached after her research. Text 1 describes Sharif's study of the benefits of free time, saying that the reported sense of satisfaction plateaued at two hours per day and began to decline at five hours per day. Further research led Sharif to conclude that time spent doing tasks she defines as unproductive, such as watching TV or playing games, correlated with a drop in life satisfaction. However, in Text 2 Maddux says that there is no objective definition of what constitutes productive behavior, giving the example that reading a book might be considered productive by some but unproductive by others. It can be inferred that Maddux would also assert that whether watching TV or playing games is productive or unproductive is a matter of subjective judgment. Thus, Maddux would most likely caution against making an overly broad assumption, as there is no clear consensus in distinguishing between productive and unproductive activities.

Choice A is incorrect because Maddux asserts that individuals have unique needs for life satisfaction: some may want to spend that time productively, others unproductively, and what counts as productive is subjective. Therefore, Maddux would likely not consider it universally true that free time is more likely to enhance life satisfaction when it is spent productively. *Choice B* is incorrect because the study described in Text 1 concerns whether free time contributes to life satisfaction, not whether productivity contributes to life satisfaction. The dip in life satisfaction that Sharif claims to observe in Text 1 happens only after five hours, and mainly if the time is spent unproductively—that is, two hours of free time spent productively might increase life satisfaction just as much as two hours spent unproductively. *Choice D* is incorrect because Maddux holds the opinion that whether an activity is productive or unproductive is subjective and depends on the individual; therefore, he would most likely claim that watching TV or playing games might be productive for some and unproductive for others.

QUESTION 10

Choice C is the best answer because it gives the age for the fossil discovered by Wang and colleagues that is directly supported by the text. According to the text, Xin Wang and colleagues discovered a 164-million-year-old plant fossil. This plant fossil included a flower bud, which the researchers believe provides evidence that flowering plants emerged in the Jurassic period, which falls between 145 million and 201 million years ago.

Choice A is incorrect because the text states that Wang and colleagues discovered a 164-million-year-old flowering plant fossil in China, not one that is 150 million years old. Although 150 million years ago would fall within the Jurassic period, according to the text it isn't the age of the discovered fossil. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text states that Wang and colleagues discovered a 164-million-year-old flowering plant fossil in China, not one that is 145 million years old. Although 145 million years ago would fall at the end of the Jurassic

period, according to the text it isn't the age of the discovered fossil. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text states that Wang and colleagues discovered a 164-million-year-old flowering plant fossil in China, not one that is 201 million years old. Although 201 million years ago would fall at the beginning of the Jurassic period, according to the text it isn't the age of the discovered fossil.

QUESTION 11

Choice B is the best answer because it most accurately states the main idea of the text. The text indicates that dog owners typically claim that some dog breeds are “more likely than others to have particular personality traits.” In other words, the text points out that a commonly held belief about dog breeds is that their personality traits are heritable. The text then states that Kathleen Morrill and colleagues undertook research about dog trait heritability and found that “behavior varies widely among dogs of the same breed.” Because Morrill and colleagues found evidence for variability rather than consistency in the behavior of dogs of the same breed, the statement that research fails to uphold a commonly held belief about dog breeds and behavior accurately reflects the main idea of the text.

Choice A is incorrect. Although the text mentions that humans have long intervened in dogs' reproduction by intentionally crossbreeding certain dogs, it doesn't argue that such intervention is essential to the existence of dog breeds. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text doesn't discuss the popularity of any dog breeds; breeds are mentioned as having certain traits, but the text says nothing about the popularity of these breeds or traits. *Choice D* is incorrect. Although the text briefly mentions that Morrill and colleagues conducted a study about dog traits using both surveys and DNA sequencing, this is not the main focus of the text. The text concerns the study's results about the heritability of dog traits, not the particular methodology used by Morrill and colleagues.

QUESTION 12

Choice D is the best answer because it presents a statement about the site discovered by the researchers that is supported by the text. The text discusses Fiorelli and colleagues' discovery of egg clutches, single eggs, and eggshells in a Brazilian mine. According to the text, the presence of these eggs, which are from the Late Cretaceous period, led the researchers to conclude that the location was once a nesting and breeding site for titanosaurs. The text then explains that the finding is important because of the “previous lack of known nesting sites in northern regions of South America.” If there haven't been any other discoveries of a nesting site in South America's northern regions and the site in the Brazilian mine is the first, then the text strongly suggests that the site is farther north than other nesting sites that have been discovered in South America.

Choice A is incorrect because the text doesn't suggest that the site discovered by Fiorelli and colleagues is the earliest titanosaur nesting and breeding site known to paleontologists but rather that it's the first nesting site found in northern regions of South America. Moreover, the text doesn't suggest how the timeline of the newly discovered site compares with that of other titanosaur nesting and

breeding sites. *Choice B* is incorrect because there is no mention in the text about any difficulties that Fiorelli and colleagues faced when they were excavating the nesting and breeding site in the Brazilian mine. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text doesn't support the idea that the nesting and breeding site in the Brazilian mine was occupied by sauropods other than titanosaurs. The text simply mentions that titanosaurs are sauropod dinosaurs and presents the researchers' conclusion that the site they discovered was for titanosaurs.

QUESTION 13

Choice A is the best answer because it most effectively uses data from the table to complete the example of the high cost and low popularity of world's fairs. The text presents Chow's argument that the United States hasn't hosted a world's fair since 1984 because people think these exhibitions are overly expensive and insufficiently popular. The text then cites the 1984 World's Fair as an example, noting that it cost \$350 million. Since the example should illustrate both high cost and insufficient popularity, the best completion of the example is the information from the table that the 1984 World's Fair had 7.35 million visitors.

Choice B is incorrect because it misrepresents data from the table. The table indicates that the 1984 World's Fair, which is the world's fair used as an example in the text, had 7.35 million, not 9.60 million, visitors. *Choice C* is incorrect because it misrepresents data from the table. The table indicates that the 1984 World's Fair, which is the world's fair used as an example in the text, had 7.35 million, not 6.40 million, visitors. *Choice D* is incorrect because it misrepresents data from the table. The table indicates that the 1984 World's Fair, which is the world's fair used as an example in the text, had 7.35 million, not 5.60 million, visitors.

QUESTION 14

Choice C is the best answer because it most effectively uses data from the table to complete the statement. The table shows that on day 1, the menu for NASA's Gemini missions included sugar cookie cubes for meal B.

Choice A is incorrect because according to the table, shrimp cocktail was served on day 4, not day 1; moreover, the item was served for meal C, not meal B, as this choice claims. *Choice B* is incorrect because according to the table, hot cocoa was served on day 3, not on day 1; moreover, the item was served for meal A, not for meal C, as this choice claims. *Choice D* is incorrect because according to the table, chicken and vegetables were served on day 2, not on day 1; moreover, the item was served for meal B, not for meal A, as this choice claims.

QUESTION 15

Choice C is the best answer because it most effectively uses a quotation to illustrate the claim that Lady Gertrude Chiltern is perceived as “both extremely virtuous and unforgiving.” In the quotation, a man describes Lady Chiltern as someone who “does not know what weakness or temptation is.” In other words, the man regards her as someone who is strong and adheres to a strict definition of moral perfection. However, he ironically suggests that this definition excludes mercy and forgiveness—qualities that are also thought of as virtues; according to him, Lady Chiltern is “pitiless in her perfection—cold and stern and without mercy.” This description supports the idea that Lady Chiltern is perceived by others as virtuous as well as unforgiving.

Choice A is incorrect. The quotation supports the claim that Lady Chiltern is perceived as virtuous, in that it describes her as “a woman of the very highest principles.” However, it doesn’t characterize her as unforgiving or being perceived as such. **Choice B** is incorrect. The quotation suggests that Lady Chiltern is concerned with morality, but it suggests that her interest in discussing it is fundamentally hypocritical and functions as a means by which to judge others. However, the quotation doesn’t address the question of whether Lady Chiltern is unmerciful to those who seek forgiveness for harm they have caused. **Choice D** is incorrect because it doesn’t address either Lady Chiltern’s perceived virtuousness or her perceived lack of forgiveness; instead, it expresses the belief that she is sensible.

QUESTION 16

Choice A is the best answer because it most effectively uses data from the table to support the student’s argument about the role of bufadienolide in the egg preferences of cane toad tadpoles. For each of five amphibian species included in the 2022 study, the table gives the percentage of available eggs that the cane toad tadpoles ate. According to the table, the tadpoles ate 10% of striped burrowing frog eggs and 1% of dainty green tree frog eggs, which suggests a preference for striped burrowing frog eggs over dainty green tree frog eggs. The table also indicates that neither of these species’ eggs produces bufadienolide. Thus, these data suggest that something other than the presence or absence of bufadienolide is needed to adequately explain the tadpoles’ egg preferences.

Choice B is incorrect. Although the table shows that for each of the five amphibian species, the cane toad tadpoles ate less than 100% of that species’ eggs, which demonstrates that the tadpoles did indeed leave some eggs for each species unharmed, this fact alone is irrelevant to the tadpoles’ preferences for some species’ eggs over others species’ eggs. **Choice C** is incorrect. Although the table indicates that the cane toad tadpoles ate 90% of the cane toad eggs and 7% of the short-footed frog eggs, which suggests that they prefer cane toad eggs over short-footed frog eggs, the table also indicates that cane toad eggs produce bufadienolide, whereas short-footed frog eggs do not. Therefore, these data are not sufficient to exclude that bufadienolide alone could explain the tadpoles’

preference for some species' eggs over other species' eggs. *Choice D* is incorrect. Although the table shows that for both dainty green tree frog eggs and little red tree frog eggs, the cane toad tadpoles ate 1% of those species' eggs, it also indicates that neither produces bufadienolide. Thus, these data alone don't indicate bufadienolide's role in the tadpoles' egg preferences.

QUESTION 17

Choice D is the best answer because it presents a finding that, if true, would support Asmerom and colleagues' conclusion that the ITCZ may have expanded northward and southward rather than shifting south during the Little Ice Age. The text indicates that the ITCZ, a band of clouds in the tropics that is a significant rainfall source, can change position. Data from Peru's Huagapo Cave suggest that the ITCZ shifted south during the Little Ice Age. But according to the text, if the ITCZ moved into South America in that way, then Central America should have been drier than climate models suggest it was. In other words, rainfall should have been reduced in Central America because the ITCZ, a significant rainfall source, had shifted into South America, but climate models do not show such a reduction in Central America. The text goes on to say that Asmerom and colleagues tried to resolve this apparent conflict by collecting data from Yok Balum cave in Central America and comparing them with data from Huagapo, which led the researchers to conclude that the ITCZ may have expanded both northward and southward rather than simply shifting south. If it is true that Yok Balum in Central America and Huagapo in South America show strongly correlated patterns of high rainfall during the Little Ice Age, such a finding would support Asmerom and colleagues' conclusion by suggesting that the two areas were affected by the same rainfall source, and thus that the ITCZ may have expanded rather than shifted.

Choice A is incorrect because there is no information in the text about how, if at all, the ITCZ affects temperature in areas where it is located. Rather, the text states that temperature variations across Earth's hemispheres can shift the position of the ITCZ. Finding that neither Yok Balum nor Huagapo data show evidence of significant local variations in temperature during the Little Ice Age would have no clear bearing on Asmerom and colleagues' claim. *Choice B* is incorrect because finding that both Yok Balum and Huagapo experienced prolonged dry conditions during the Little Ice Age would not support Asmerom and colleagues' conclusion that the ITCZ, a major source of rainfall, may have expanded northward and southward rather than simply shifting south. Dry conditions in both locations would suggest that the ITCZ did not cover either location. Additionally, finding that temperatures were elevated in both locations would have no clear bearing on Asmerom and colleagues' conclusion, since there is no information in the text that indicates how, if at all, the ITCZ affects temperature. *Choice C* is incorrect because finding that Yok Balum experienced prolonged dry conditions at the same time that Huagapo experienced high rainfall would weaken Asmerom and colleagues' conclusion, not strengthen it. Such a finding would suggest that the ITCZ shifted south and left Central America dry rather than expanding both northward and southward.

QUESTION 18

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of potential benefits of interruptions in the workplace. The text indicates that a common belief in business is that interruptions to working employees decrease energy and productivity levels. However, the text goes on to explain that a research team led by Harshad Puranik has found that there could be a social benefit to these interruptions. Since the team found that workplace interruptions can increase employees' sense of belonging and job satisfaction, it follows that the interpersonal benefits of some interruptions can offset the perceived negative effects.

Choice B is incorrect. Although the text presents research findings that suggest some workplace interruptions can have a positive effect on employee job satisfaction, no further information is presented to suggest at what frequency these interruptions are ideal. Furthermore, the text doesn't tie workplace interruptions to increased productivity, but rather links it to social benefits such as sense of belonging. **Choice C** is incorrect because the text doesn't address employees' motives for choosing not to interrupt their colleagues. The text presents research findings that suggest that there are some positive interpersonal effects of workplace interruptions that can increase employee job satisfaction.

Choice D is incorrect because asking businesses to discourage workplace interruptions doesn't follow from the team's research about the benefits of workplace interruptions, nor does the text describe an ideal work environment. Instead, the text presents research suggesting that there may be positive aspects to workplace interruptions that haven't previously been considered.

QUESTION 19

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of verbs to express tense in a sentence. In this choice, the present perfect tense verb "have contributed," used in conjunction with the phrase "since it began in 2012," correctly indicates that map editors have contributed in the past and continue to do so in the present.

Choice A is incorrect because the present tense verb "contribute" is inconsistent with the phrase "since it began in 2012," which suggests that the contributions occurred in the past and continue into the present. **Choice B** is incorrect because the future tense verb "will contribute" is inconsistent with the phrase "since it began in 2012," which suggests that the contributions occurred in the past and continue into the present. **Choice D** is incorrect because the future tense verb "will be contributing" is inconsistent with the phrase "since it began in 2012," which suggests that the contributions occurred in the past and continue into the present.

QUESTION 20

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is pronoun-antecedent agreement. The plural pronoun “they” agrees in number with the plural antecedent “animals,” which refers to tardigrades.

Choice A is incorrect because the singular pronoun “that” doesn’t agree in number with the plural antecedent “animals.” *Choice B* is incorrect because the singular pronoun “it” doesn’t agree in number with the plural antecedent “animals.” *Choice D* is incorrect because the singular pronoun “he” doesn’t agree in number with the plural antecedent “animals.”

QUESTION 21

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is end-of-sentence punctuation. This choice correctly uses a question mark to punctuate the interrogative sentence “how are they able to move so fast?” The interrogative sentence asks a direct question, and the next sentence answers it.

Choice A is incorrect because the context requires an interrogative sentence. The exclamative sentence “how they are able to move so fast!” emphasizes the penguin’s high rate of speed, but it doesn’t set up the next sentence’s explanation of how the penguins achieve such speeds. *Choice B* is incorrect because a period can’t be used in this way to punctuate an interrogative sentence. *Choice C* is incorrect because the context requires an interrogative sentence. The exclamative sentence “how they are able to move so fast” emphasizes the penguin’s high rate of speed, but it doesn’t set up the next sentence’s explanation of how the penguins achieve such speeds.

QUESTION 22

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is punctuation between a supplementary phrase and a main clause. This choice correctly uses a comma to mark the boundary between the introductory supplementary phrase (“By linking the Hudson River to Lake Erie”), which identifies how the canal reduced transport time, and the main clause (“the canal reduced transport time to nine days and cut costs to six dollars per ton”).

Choice A is incorrect because a semicolon can’t be used in this way to mark the boundary between a supplementary phrase (“By...Erie”) and the main clause (“the canal...ton”). *Choice B* is incorrect because an open parenthesis can’t be used in this way to mark the boundary between a supplementary phrase (“By... Erie”) and the main clause (“the canal...ton”). *Choice D* is incorrect because a colon can’t be used in this way to mark the boundary between an introductory supplementary phrase (“By...Erie”) and the main clause (“the canal...ton”).

QUESTION 23

Choice A is the best answer. The convention being tested is punctuation between a subject and a verb. When, as in this case, a subject (“Generations of mystery and horror writers”) is immediately followed by a verb (“have been influenced”), no punctuation is needed.

Choice B is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the subject and the verb. *Choice C* is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the subject and the verb. *Choice D* is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the subject and the verb.

QUESTION 24

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is subject-verb agreement. The singular verb “sweeps” agrees in number with the singular subject “she,” which refers to Alice Coltrane.

Choice A is incorrect because the plural verb “sweep” doesn’t agree in number with the singular subject “she.” *Choice B* is incorrect because the plural verb “are sweeping” doesn’t agree in number with the singular subject “she.” *Choice C* is incorrect because the plural verb “were sweeping” doesn’t agree in number with the singular subject “she.”

QUESTION 25

Choice A is the best answer. The conventions being tested are the use of possessive determiners and plural nouns. The singular possessive determiner “its” and the plural noun “wings” correctly indicate that the butterfly has multiple wings.

Choice B is incorrect because the context requires the plural noun “wings,” not the plural possessive noun “wings’.” *Choice C* is incorrect because the context requires the singular possessive determiner “its” and the plural noun “wings,” not the contraction “it’s” and the singular possessive noun “wing’s.” *Choice D* is incorrect because the context requires the singular possessive determiner “its” and the plural noun “wings,” not the contraction “it’s” and the plural possessive noun “wings’.”

QUESTION 26

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is punctuation use between sentences. In this choice, the period is used correctly to mark the boundary between the first sentence (“On...temperature”) and the second sentence (“Adding...effect”). The gerund phrase beginning with “adding” is the subject of the second sentence, and the verb phrase “helps combat this effect” describes what adding a light-colored covering can do.

Choice A is incorrect because a semicolon can’t be used in this way to join the sentence “On...temperature” and the supplementary phrases that follow. Doing so leaves the verb phrase “helps combat” without a subject and thus results in a grammatically unconventional sentence. *Choice B* is incorrect because it results in a comma splice. A comma can’t be used in this way to mark the boundary

between sentences. *Choice D* is incorrect. This choice results in a confusing and illogical sentence that suggests that adding a light-colored covering to an existing dark roof raises the temperature of the surrounding air. Furthermore, it creates ambiguity by leaving the verb phrase “helps combat” without a subject (so it isn’t clear what helps combat the effect).

QUESTION 27

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is punctuation use between a main clause and a supplementary phrase. This choice correctly uses a comma to mark the boundary between the main clause (“The haiku-like...writers”) and the supplementary phrase (“among...Cole”) that specifies a contemporary writer who has praised Tomas Tranströmer’s haiku-like poems.

Choice A is incorrect because it results in a rhetorically unacceptable sentence fragment beginning with “among.” *Choice B* is incorrect because it fails to mark the boundary between the main clause and the supplementary phrase with appropriate punctuation. *Choice C* is incorrect because a semicolon can’t be used in this way to join the main clause (“The haiku-like...writers”) and the supplementary phrase (“among...Cole”).

QUESTION 28

Choice B is the best answer. “First” logically signals that the question in this sentence—whether there is a daily period during which jellyfish pulse rates decline—is the first in a sequence of three questions the researchers attempted to answer about jellyfish sleep behavior.

Choice A is incorrect because “as a result” illogically signals that the question in this sentence is a result of the three questions the researchers attempted to answer. Instead, it is the first of those three questions. *Choice C* is incorrect because “additionally” illogically signals that the question in this sentence is an additional question related to the three questions the researchers attempted to answer. Instead, it is the first of those three questions. *Choice D* is incorrect because “however” illogically signals that the question in this sentence contrasts with the three questions the researchers attempted to answer. Instead, it is the first of those three questions.

QUESTION 29

Choice C is the best answer. “Indeed” logically signals that the information in this sentence—that Laleh Mehran’s installation resembled both a typical movie theater and a coal mine—supports the previous sentence’s claim that the space Mehran created felt both “familiar and distant.”

Choice A is incorrect because “next” illogically signals that the description of Laleh Mehran’s installation in this sentence is the next step in a process. Rather, it supports the previous sentence’s claim about Mehran’s installation. *Choice B* is incorrect because “nevertheless” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is true despite the claim about Laleh Mehran’s installation in the previous sentence. Rather, it supports that claim. *Choice D* is incorrect because “instead” illogically signals that this sentence presents an alternative to the previous sentence’s claim about Laleh Mehran’s installation. Rather, it supports that claim.

QUESTION 30

Choice B is the best answer. “In contrast” logically signals that the information in this sentence—that ABA triggers accelerated growth in the mustard plant *Schrenkiella parvula*—contrasts with the previous information about ABA triggering a slowdown in most plants’ biological processes.

Choice A is incorrect because “moreover” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about the mustard plant merely adds to the previous information about the effects of ABA. Instead, it contrasts with that information. *Choice C* is incorrect because “for example” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about the mustard plant provides an example consistent with the previous information about the effects of ABA. Instead, it contrasts with that information. *Choice D* is incorrect because “thus” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about the mustard plant is a consequence, or result, of the previous information about the effects of ABA. Instead, it contrasts with that information.

QUESTION 31

Choice D is the best answer. “For instance” logically signals that the details in this sentence—that Mexican conductor Alondra de la Parra and Colombian conductor Lina Gonzalez-Granados took new conducting positions—are examples supporting the previous claim about the new generation of artists.

Choice A is incorrect because “in addition” illogically signals that the details in this sentence about de la Parra and Gonzalez-Granados are merely additional facts related to the previous claim about the new generation of artists. Instead, they are examples supporting that claim. *Choice B* is incorrect because “lastly” illogically signals that the details in this sentence about de la Parra and Gonzalez-Granados are the last step or a concluding summary of the previous claim about the new generation of artists. Instead, they are examples supporting that claim. *Choice C* is incorrect because “granted” illogically signals that the details in this sentence about de la Parra and Gonzalez-Granados are exceptions to the previous claim about the new generation of artists. Instead, they are examples supporting that claim.

QUESTION 32

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between C-type and S-type asteroids, noting that C-type asteroids are mainly composed of carbon, while S-type asteroids are mainly composed of silicate minerals.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence states that C-type and S-type are two types of asteroids, but it doesn't emphasize a difference between them. *Choice B* is incorrect because it doesn't directly mention C-type or S-type asteroids. *Choice C* is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that 17 percent of known asteroids are S-type asteroids, it doesn't identify the percentage of asteroids that are C-type. Therefore, the sentence doesn't emphasize a difference between the two types.

QUESTION 33

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence provides an overview of the matsutake commodity chain, connecting the Oregon mushroom pickers at one end to the Japanese consumers at the other.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the matsutake commodity chain, it focuses only on its origins; it does not provide an overview. *Choice B* is incorrect. The sentence provides a general definition of commodity chains, not an overview of the matsutake chain. *Choice D* is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the matsutake commodity chain, it focuses only on one end of the chain (the consumers); it does not provide an overview.