

## Problem Explanations – Book Test – Passage Based Reading

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6. At the start of the paragraph, the author mentions that while Tin Pan Alley is a real place and that a plaque commemorates its place in American History, the actual place is not the most important. The author continues by stating that Tin Pan Alley's role as the "cultural seed" of American popular music is what is truly important.

- (A) **Correct** – "Incubator" means a place or organization that promotes the growth and development of something. So Tin Pan Alley was the incubator of the modern music industry.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author states that the physical place is not the most important thing about Tin Pan Alley, so the architectural landmark was not the most notable thing about it.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author says nothing about overlooked investment opportunities.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author discusses evolution of the music industry, but not evolution of society.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author never mentions urban gardening.

7. In the first paragraph the author states that while many people may believe that mass marketing of music began with Elvis Presley and Frank Sinatra, when in actuality it predated them.

- (A) **Wrong** – The author mentions nothing about musical fraud.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author is not discussing Tin Pan Alley's effect of future singers.
- (C) **Wrong** – While the author states that many people were unaware of the fact that Charles K. Harris' album enjoyed mass production long before Frank Sinatra or Elvis did, this wasn't a "hidden mystery," nor is this part of the paragraph about the inception of Tin Pan Alley music as much as it is about marketing the music.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author does not claim that pop music is superior to Tin Pan Alley music.
- (E) **Correct** – The author is providing the reader with a historical perspective on Tin Pan Alley.

8. In Lines 21-30, the author is discussing how the advances in printing technology just before the Tin Pan Alley era made mass production of sheet music economically "viable", which means economically practical or feasible.

- (A) **Correct** – Mass produced music did not precede Tin Pan Alley, that is, it did not come before it as the advances in printing technology happened just before the Tin Pan Alley era.

- (B) **Wrong** – The author does not mention how economic factors influence artistic development, rather how mass production made the marketing of music more economically feasible.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author never mentions how sheet music prevented musical recording.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author never mentions how industrial success cannot be predicted.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author never states that music production was stifled.

9. In the second paragraph the author talks about how in order for an industry to thrive there must be production, distribution and consumption, and notes that the mass production abilities of printing technologies made production of sheet music “economically viable” and able to be transported. The author goes on to state that the “confluence of market and technological factors created, for the first time a climate capable of sustaining an industry centered on the large-scale creation, production, and sale of music.”

- (A) **Wrong** – The author did not discuss how the printing press predated the invention of written music for a mass audience in this section.
- (B) **Correct** – The author notes that the music industry requires production, distribution, and consumption. The mass production capabilities of the printing press aided in mass production and distribution, two of the requirements for success.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author does not mention that the printing press removes the need for people to create most types of music.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author implies nothing about the printing press remaining the focal point of people on Tin Pan Alley.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author does not imply that the printing press improved the productivity of musicians.

10. When the author discusses the “stars of the day”, it is in the context of marketing music. In line 45, the author writes: “Many attempts were made to influence the song choices of the songs of the day to boost sales.” The author then discusses how the executives conducted market research to get a sense of what the public liked.

- (A) **Wrong** – The author says nothing about the public’s misconception of Tin Pan Alley celebrities.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author does not mention how music can improve the lives of singers and songwriters.
- (C) **Correct** – The author is discussing marketing and how the music executives tried influence customers.

- (D) **Wrong** – The author discusses evolution of the music industry, but not evolution of society.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author never mentions conflicts faced by Tin Pan Alley salesmen.

11. In lines 35-58, the author is discussing the marketing and business aspects of Tin Pan Alley, while in lines 59-81, the author discusses the creative freedom that Tin Pan Alley gave to musical artists. The author writes: “It was not that Tin Pan Alley abandoned artistry for industry, or subjugated the music to the market.”

- (A) **Wrong** – Nowhere does the author mention symbolic markets or living conditions of the artists.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author does not discuss the “human consequences to the media impression,” whatever that means.
- (C) **Correct** – The author begins by talking about the conscious efforts of music executive to market the music, and then transitions to the creative and artistic value of the music itself.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author mentions neither corporate naiveté nor classical roots.
- (E) **Wrong** – These passages do not discuss private persona or private revelations.

12. The lines just before and just after line 63 discuss how a reporter termed the street “Tin Pan Alley” due to the cacophony of music that sounded like a bunch of people banging tin pans. This suggests a lot of loud, harsh noise.

- (A) **Correct** – Clamoring means making a loud sustained noise.
- (B) **Wrong** – Synthesize means to combine, or to combine to form something more complex.
- (C) **Wrong** – Fracturing means breaking or rupturing.
- (D) **Wrong** – Harmony means a pleasing combination of elements, or a combination of sounds that is friendly to the ear. Sounds that evoke the banging on tin pans would not sound very pleasing.
- (E) **Wrong** – Antipathy means a feeling of aversion or repugnance, which makes no sense in the sentence in question.

13. Remember that throughout the passage, the author discusses both the business and creative aspects of Tin Pan Alley, and how Tin Pan Alley presented opportunities that many musicians would not otherwise have. The passage also mentions the music executives approach to marketing the music.

- (A) **Wrong** – The executives did produce a product, but to state that they provided the world with an essential product is taking it a bit far.
- (B) **Wrong** – The passage says nothing about improving the real estate market in

New York.

- (C) **Wrong** – The music executives did not ignore the artists’ needs or fail to consider them.
- (D) **Correct** – In addition to running the music industry as a business, the music executives gave the musician opportunities to thrive.
- (E) **Wrong** – The passage does not discuss whether or not there were strangely few impediments to their success.

14. The passage discusses the history of Tin Pan Alley, its influence on the music world, and its roots in mass production of music.

- (A) **Correct** – The passage is introducing a cultural phenomenon.
- (B) **Wrong** – The passage does not teach an economic theory.
- (C) **Wrong** – The passage does not highlight a social injustice.
- (D) **Wrong** – The passage does not suggest a fundamental change.
- (E) **Wrong** – The passage does not explain a particular artistic style.

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15. At the start of the paragraph, the author mentions his impressions of Krakow when he left the city as a boy and states that to him Krakow was “like Istanbul or Seville: a city with a past but no future.”

- (A) **Wrong** – The author is not refuting a claim, he is describing his personal experience.
- (B) **Correct** – The author is depicting his impression of Krakow.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author is not explaining a revelation, just offering his opinion.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author is not arguing a hypothesis.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author is not presenting a fact, but rather, his impressions.

16. In lines 8-10 the author notes that progress comes in waves, rather than beginnings and ending. In line 6, the author gives the reason for not returning as rooted in the belief that Krakow, like Istanbul or Seville “had no future.” In lines 8-10, he is acknowledging his mistaken thinking.

- (A) **Wrong** – The discussion of progress does not clarify the author’s intentions.
- (B) **Wrong** – The discussion of progress does not detail the author’s development.
- (C) **Wrong** – The discussion does not rectify the author’s transgression. A “transgression” means a violation of law or something morally objectionable.

- (D) **Correct** – The discussion of progress is explaining the author’s mistake, since he had previously believed that progress came in beginnings and endings.
- (E) **Wrong** – The discussion of progress does not obscure the author’s intentions.

17. The sentence that begins on line 11 reads: “I returned in 1991, after the fall of the Soviet Union, to relive what had been ghost-like—even unreal—in my mind.” Ghost-like would seem to refer to something dead or forgotten, something with less substance than reality.

- (A) **Wrong** – The use of “ghost-like” does not refer to a superstitious belief.
- (B) **Wrong** – The use of this phrase does not refer to a compelling experience.
- (C) **Correct** – The author is referring to his forgotten past.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author is not referring to political change.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author is not referring to incomprehensible adaption. That phrase does not even make sense.

18. In the second paragraph, the author is discussing his return to Krakow and how he is impressed with the beauty and how the smell of different foods brings up memories. He writes: “After two World Wars, even following the slow deterioration inflicted by the cold war, the quiet mystery of the city consumed me.”

- (A) **Wrong** –The author does seem to be contemplative, but his tone is not guilty.
- (B) **Correct** – The author is impressed with the city and also nostalgic for his childhood.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author’s tone is neither festive nor erratic in this passage.
- (D) **Wrong** – While the author may be reflecting on his childhood, he is certainly not combative.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author’s tone is neither dumbstruck nor repelled.

19. In lines 29-32, the author is revisiting places he frequented as a child, only to find they have been replaced by other structures and used for other purposes. In the lines immediately before, he is mentioning family members who had died. There is a nostalgic tone to this portion of the passage.

- (A) **Wrong** – A neighbor adding a second story to their home is not exactly the equivalent of revisiting your childhood home and noticing the changes.
- (B) **Wrong** – Watching a local dancer become an international star is not similar to the author’s experience.

- (C) **Wrong** – A bridge one drove over being upgraded for traffic is not similar to the author’s experience. There is likely less emotional attachment to a bridge.
- (D) **Wrong** – A song being covered by new band may create feelings of nostalgia, but it is still not a close enough comparison to what the author is experiencing.
- (E) **Correct** – A meadow one played in being turned into a shopping mall is the most similar to what the author describes. One would likely remember the way it used to be and feel a bit sad.

20. When the author mentions “inopportune moments,” he is speaking of being overcome by memories and not always being in control of when this happens. Even though the author had grown up and changed, his memories live on and he is reliving sensations from his youth.

- (A) **Wrong** – The author makes no mention of his displeasure with some changes.
- (B) **Correct** – The author is explaining the root of his nostalgia, by insisting that even though he has changed, the memories and feelings remain.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author makes no mention of his desire to leave.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author is not discuss the advantages of returning to Krakow, he is speaking of the past and the difficult nature of confronting the past once someone has been away for a long time.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author does not indicate that he is confused.

21. When the author’s wife comes to visit he describes himself as “an elegant, if slightly disheveled man of great ambition and hope.” He goes on to state that even though his wife tries to calm him down with stories from home in the US, “The problem was that I was already engulfed in a vision of my younger self and she was, unfortunately, a woman apart from that world.”

- (A) **Correct** – The wife’s visit highlights the depth of the author’s transformation and how his return to Krakow had affected him.
- (B) **Wrong** – The wife’s visit does not highlight her fascination with the mundane aspects of life. She brought up “small funny stories” in an effort to calm the author.
- (C) **Wrong** – The wife’s visit does not highlight the familiarity between husband and wife, rather it highlights the difference between them at that moment.
- (D) **Wrong** – The wife’s visit does not highlight the anxiety one feels when traveling alone.
- (E) **Wrong** – The wife’s visit does not highlight the difference between the author’s impressions and reality. Although his impressions of Krakow are different from his wife’s it does not mean that he is out of touch with reality.

22. In line 46, the author is very excited, so he is “frenetically motioning” to the buildings to point out historical details. The word “frenetic” means characterized by feverish activity, confusion and hurry, so the author was gesturing in a hurried excited manner.

- (A) **Wrong** – The author is not too embarrassed to connect with his wife.
- (B) **Correct** – The author is eager, but unable to express his feelings.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author does not indicate that he is hesitant to share his discoveries. In fact, he is very excited and is pointing everything out to his wife.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author definitely notices his changed surroundings, but he is not confused by them.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author does not mention that he is unprepared to interact with a foreigner. Besides, she is his wife, so she would likely not be foreign to him.

23. The author’s last sentence reads: “I remembered that people were still strong, and I was still young, but time just wasn’t on our side.” There is a note of melancholy in this sentence, as though through the his memories he has come to realize certain things about his past.

- (A) **Wrong** – The tone of the last sentence is not one of aggressing rebellion.
- (B) **Wrong** – The tone of the last sentence is not one of abject denial.
- (C) **Correct** – The tone of the last sentence is of bittersweet acceptance. The author has accepted the past is over, even as he longs for it and enjoys his memories.
- (D) **Wrong** – The tone of the last sentence is not hopeless desperation.
- (E) **Wrong** – The tone of the last sentence is not uncontrollable grief.

24. The author discusses the emotional experience of returning to Krakow and how revisiting places from his childhood triggers memories and causes nostalgia.

- (A) **Correct** – The author would agree that the journey is often more emotional than it is physical.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author would not agree that precautions should be taken to avoid getting lost in major cities. This does not come up at all in the passage.
- (C) **Wrong** – While the author does point out various things about Krakow to his wife, the main idea in the passage is not that one should share evidence of beauty with loved ones.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author never infers that trips should only be taken to unfamiliar destinations.

- (E) **Wrong** – Nowhere in the passage does the author indicate that most people return to visit relatives, not to see sights.

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9. Based on the passage, the friendship between the two men seems unlikely, considering one of them was in an insane asylum and his identity and whereabouts were a mystery.

- (A) **Correct** – The friendship can best be described as improbable and impeded.  
“Improbable” means unlikely, and to “impede” means to block or to hinder something from happening—the fact that Minor was locked away and mysterious, would have impeded a friendship from developing.
- (B) **Wrong** – The friendship between the two men would not be best described as understanding and persistent, since Murray did not know much about Minor and therefore did not understand him.
- (C) **Wrong** – “Reserved” and “reticent” both mean restrained and unwilling to communicate. Since both men were corresponding for decades, they obviously were willing to communicate.
- (D) **Wrong** – The friendship between the two men would not be described as shallow and vain.
- (E) **Wrong** – The friendship between the men would not be described as opportunistic and greedy. Minor was willing and happy to contribute without seeking monetary gain, and Murray was not seeking to gain anything from Minor.

10. “Brilliant” means very smart and “elusive” means hard to pin down, or difficult to find or catch.

- (A) **Correct** – The reference on line 13 best refers to the multifaceted nature of Minor’s persona. “Multifaceted” means versatile or complex, and since Minor was brilliant and elusive and mysterious, his persona was versatile.
- (B) **Wrong** – There is not mention of the negative effects the hospital had on Minor.
- (C) The reference has nothing to do with the longevity of the friendship between the two men.
- (D) **Wrong** – The reference has nothing to do with Minor’s contributions, only with the fact that Murray was “mystified” by him.



(E) **Wrong** – There is no mention of the standard of care Minor received in the hospital.

11. The passage described how Dolores Huerta’s contributions to farm worker’s rights were largely ignored, while Cesar Chavez was given most of the credit.

(A) **Wrong** – The purpose of the passage is not to explain a heroic adventure.

(B) **Wrong** – The purpose of the passage is not to defend a complex proposition.

(C) **Correct** – The purpose of the passage is to elevate a historical figure. Dolores Huerta’s contribution was overlooked.

(D) **Wrong** – The purpose of the passage is not to praise a growing trend. In fact, there is no mention of trends at all.

(E) **Wrong** – Although the farm workers were vulnerable at times, the passage is not about this. It is about Dolores Huerta’s contributions to worker’s rights.

12. Lines 6-13 describe Dolores Huerta’s contributions. The passage continues by stating that the celebrity of Cesar Chavez inadvertently demeaned the legacy of Dolores Huerta, “relegating her story to a paragraph in his biography.”

(A) **Wrong** – Lines 6-13 do not indicate that the workers were considered disloyal.

(B) **Wrong** – Lines 6-13 do not indicate that Cesar Chavez disapproved of Dolores Huerta’s contributions.

(C) **Wrong** – Lines 6-13 do not reveal that the grape pickers recognized the futility of their efforts to earn minimum wage.

(D) **Correct** – Lines 6-13 indicate that Dolores Huerta was often overshadowed by Cesar Chavez.

(E) **Wrong** – Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta did work together.

13. When looking at line 2 of Passage 1, keep in mind that the word “ubiquitous” means ever-present and to “wax” means to grow or increase.

(A) **Wrong** – The ubiquity of blogs does not mean the author likes to read them.

(B) **Wrong** – The word ubiquity does not imply that blogs are becoming redundant, although this answer is closer to a correct answer.

(C) **Correct** – Since ubiquity means ever-present, or everywhere, the line means that there are too many blogs.

(D) **Wrong** – The line does not mention whether bloggers are becoming more organized.

(E) **Wrong** – The line does not indicate that the author understands the blogging craze.

14. The word “castigate” means to scold or to criticize, so in lines 6-8 of Passage 1, the author is stating “criticizing blogs for what is the result of a lot of other changes...” The author continues by saying that to blame blogs for the demise of journalism would be “a juvenile attempt to blame a single entity for the existence of change.”

- (A) **Correct** – The author is implying that blogging is not the sole culprit undermining journalism.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author is not insinuating the disadvantages of the blog.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author is not demonstrating the bloggers’ effect.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author is not ridiculing bloggers’ immaturity, the author is stating that blaming blogs for journalism’s demise would be immature.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author is not implicating a malicious operative’s motivation. This would be getting into James Bond territory!

15. In paragraph 2 of passage 1, the statistic reads: “In 2005, it was estimated that some 19.2 billion web pages were an existence, clearly an unmanageable quantity, which surely grows exponentially. Who can sift through all this information?”

- (A) **Wrong** – While the statistic definitely gives the reader a sense of how massive the web has gotten, it says nothing of the importance of blogs.
- (B) **Wrong** – It does not provide a benchmark by which the reader can compare values.
- (C) **Correct** – It demonstrates the need for the professional journalist. Because there is so much information, a profession journalist is needed to sift through it and find the truth.
- (D) **Wrong** – It does not oversimplify the facts presented to the reader.
- (E) **Wrong** – The statistic does not characterize a typical overstatement by bloggers. It is a statement of fact.

16. The author refers to citizen journalists on line 36 and follows by stating that they are not journalists.

- (A) **Wrong** – The author is not referring to bloggers being patriotic.
- (B) **Correct** – The author is implying that bloggers tend to be untrained.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author is not referring to the countries that have the greatest number of bloggers; this isn’t mentioned at all.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author emphasizes the importance of professionally trained journalists, but it is in the context of how bloggers are untrained and unequipped to work as real journalists.

(E) **Wrong** – The author is not making a distinction between foreign and domestic bloggers.

17. In Passage 2, the author defends blogs and discusses the value of bloggers.

(A) **Wrong** – The author feels positively about blogs, but to say he feels “joy and reference” would be an exaggeration.

(B) **Correct** – The author’s tone is one of satisfaction and optimism.

(C) **Wrong** – The author’s tone is far from denial and pessimism.

(D) **Wrong** – The author’s tone does not indicate either frustration or determination.

(E) **Wrong** – The author’s tone is not one of anxiety and fear.

18. The term “bemoan” means to complain or mourn over something.

(A) **Wrong** – Bemoan does not mean “to flinch from.”

(B) **Wrong** – Bemoan does not mean “to appreciate.”

(C) **Wrong** – Bemoan does not mean “to interfere with.”

(D) **Correct** – Bemoan means to lament over, to complain or to mourn over.

(E) **Wrong** – Bemoan does not mean to assist with.

19. The author of Passage 2 asks whether “we need gossip delivered to us by a journalist with years of schooling behind her?” after an analogy about a waitress who serves celebrities and blogs about the experience later.

(A) **Wrong** – The author mentions nothing about bloggers and journalists needing to be better trained at what they do.

(B) **Wrong** – The author never mentions how people in media treat celebrities with far too little courtesy.

(C) **Wrong** – The author does not point out that bloggers tend to write in a more casual friendly manner.

(D) **Wrong** – The author never mentions that people who report on Hollywood crave attention.

(E) **Correct** – The author is pointing out that not all reporters need to be professionally trained journalists. A waitress, according to the author, who has spent a lot of time around celebrities, could be just as effective a gossip reporter as a trained journalist.

20. The statement “Professional journalists are invaluable” in lines 44-45 is followed by how the author believes that they should not monopolize all written information.

(A) **Wrong** – It may seem like the author is validating an opposing view, but what follows serves to further reinforce his point.

- (B) **Wrong** – The author is not trying to begin a tangential argument. “Tangential” means with only slight reference to the related subject.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author never mentions promoting a shared vision.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author is not trying to eliminate a lingering doubt.
- (E) **Correct** – The author is trying to clarify a central idea. He is not saying that journalists are unnecessary, only that bloggers have their place in the communication of ideas as well.

21. Passages 1 and 2 differ in that only Passage 1:

- (A) **Wrong** – Both passages ask a rhetorical question.
- (B) **Wrong** – Neither passage quotes a reliable expert.
- (C) **Correct** – Only Passage 1 cites a relevant statistic.
- (D) **Wrong** – Neither passage makes appealing statements.
- (E) **Wrong** – Both passages give explanatory examples.

22. The author of Passage 1 would agree with the following EXCEPT:

- (A) **Correct** – The author never mentions or insinuates that some places are too dangerous to write or to blog. The author is more concerned that the information coming out is factually correct and free from bias.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author would definitely agree that there are too many bloggers. The author makes this inference in line 10 of Passage 1.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author would agree that it would be impossible to know the biases of the citizens and the soldiers.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author would agree that only a reporter would have the training to know what is really happening. The author makes several references to the importance of trained journalists throughout Passage 1.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author would agree that we expect professional journalists to get all of that done, and they do.

23. Both authors would agree with which of the following statements? (See Practice Test)

- (A) **Correct** – Both authors point out that many factors are contributing to diminish professional journalism.
- (B) **Wrong** – Neither author implies that many reporters have been poorly trained.
- (C) **Wrong** – Only the author of Passage 2 might agree that the least likely source of information is sometimes the best.
- (D) **Wrong** – Neither author would agree that most bloggers mimic the work of most reporters.

(E) **Wrong** – The author of Passage 1, does feel that blogging threatens journalism, but neither author would seem to believe that one day blogging will take over journalism altogether.

24. In terms of the purpose of the passages,

- (A) **Wrong** – Passage 2 is not trying to promote something as superior.
- (B) **Correct** – Passage 1 is trying to promote journalists as superior to bloggers in terms of dispensing information fairly and accurately.
- (C) **Wrong** – Only Passage 1 is trying to promote something as superior.
- (D) **Wrong** – Passage 1 is trying to promote something as superior.
- (E) **Wrong** – The purpose of both passages is not to promote the opposite idea. Both passages do agree on the necessity of professional journalists.

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7. Passage 1 implies what about the nature of Las Vegas?

- (A) **Correct** – Like third world countries, Las Vegas is sustained by visitors who come and spend money.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author never states that Las Vegas is similar to third-world countries due to its population and customs.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author never states that most tourists from third-world come to Las Vegas because of their familiarity with the city.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author does not indicate that the glamour of Las Vegas is often overshadowed by its comparison to third-world countries.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author does not state that Las Vegas is unflinchingly representative of American ideals.

8. In Passage 1, the statement “This parallels...countries” (lines 6-8) is discussing the similarities in the economic model of Las Vegas to that of third-world cities, which depend on tourists dollars to thrive.

- (A) **Wrong** – The author is not stating that the tourist-based economy is strikingly dissimilar to that of Asian and African countries; he is in fact, saying the opposite.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author is saying that money comes from tourists, not from local businesses.
- (C) **Correct** – The author is saying that like third-world countries, Las Vegas has a tourist-based economy.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author says nothing about the tourists who visit Las Vegas being just as likely to visit Asia and Africa.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author states nothing about the how the economic advantages outweigh the economic disadvantages of living in Las Vegas. If anything, he implies that tourism limits the opportunities available for Vegas residents.

9. The passages differ in their examination of Las Vegas in that only Passage 2 does which of the following?

- (A) **Wrong** – Both passages examine contrasting elements.
- (B) **Wrong** – Only Passage 1 discusses the importance of tourism in Las Vegas.
- (C) **Wrong** – Neither passage discusses Las Vegas as part of its surroundings.
- (D) **Wrong** – Neither passage suggests alternatives to the gaming industry of Las Vegas.
- (E) **Correct** – Only Passage 2 considers the origins of Las Vegas.

10. The two authors would most likely agree on which point?

- (A) **Wrong** – Although the author of Passage 1 makes a comparison between the economic model of Las Vegas with those of cities in Asia and Africa, he never implies that Las Vegas is nearly irrelevant. The author of passage 2 makes no reference to this at all.
- (B) **Wrong** – Neither author discusses Las Vegas as a model of urban growth.
- (C) **Wrong** – Only the author of Passage 2 would agree that both Mormonism and American Indian culture contributed to the rapid growth of Las Vegas.
- (D) **Wrong** – Neither author indicated that casinos and other aspects of the gaming industry might destroy Las Vegas.
- (E) **Correct** – Both authors would agree that it is difficult to understand Las Vegas unless it is viewed in context.

11. The passage on medicine shows (see Practice Test) serves to

- (A) **Correct** – The passage corrects a misconception about medicine shows.
- (B) **Wrong** – The passage does not serve to moderate an argument.
- (C) **Wrong** – The passage does not serve to castigate a constituency.
- (D) **Wrong** – The passage does not serve to explain a distinction.
- (E) **Wrong** – The passage does not serve to honor a figure.

12. The author opens the passage “The medicine show...money” (lines 1-7), which indicates how the medicine show is viewed by most people. The author continues by stating, “It is unfortunate that the American medicine show can no longer be seen from the perspective of the citizenry who frequented and sustained them in the 1800s.”

- (A) **Wrong** – While the statement does indicate that the medicine show is viewed in a harsh light, it does not explain the cause of a prejudice.
- (B) **Wrong** – While the opening of the passage explains that people saw the medicine show as a swindle, it is not illuminating the dangers of a con.

- (C) **Correct** – The opening of the passage serves to justify the severity of a reaction.
- (D) **Wrong** – The opening of the passage does not serve to mythologize the roots of a tradition.
- (E) **Wrong** – The opening of the passage does not serve to protest a purloining. “Purloining” means stealing something; the passage is not protesting something being stolen.

13. Folklore refers to myths, legends and traditions, so “folkloric” likely has something to do with those words.

- (A) **Wrong** – Although folklore refers to legends and myths, the reference in line 19 does not mean fictional in nature.
- (B) **Wrong** – The word folklore has nothing to do with health promotion.
- (C) **Correct** – Folkloric means based on tradition.
- (D) **Wrong** – Folkloric does not mean comically presented.
- (E) **Wrong** – Folkloric does not mean designed to satiate.

14. The author references the “doctor” in line 28 as a modern day doctor hawking vitamins to patients and goes on to explain why it would be off-putting.

- (A) **Correct** – The reference to a modern-day doctor hawking vitamins is used to present a modern equivalent to the medicine show.
- (B) **Wrong** – The author does not reference a modern-day doctor to extol the virtues of modern healthcare.
- (C) **Wrong** – The author does not reference a modern-day doctor to provide a humorous interpretation of medical ethics.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author does not reference a modern-day doctor to compare the work of physicians and musicians.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author does not reference the modern-day doctor to pinpoint the superiority of the modern patient.

15. The sentence that includes the simile about “desert animals” reads, “When wandering sparsely populated nineteenth century rural America, a medicine show band had to attract every possible customer in order to sustain itself, just as desert animals must find every source of water.” The sentence implies all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) **Wrong** – The reference to desert animals does imply the rationale for the medicine show’s multifaceted nature, since the medicine show had to attract  
attract  
diverse customers.
- (B) **Correct** – The simile involving desert animals has nothing to do with the biological ramifications of medicine shows.
- (C) **Wrong** – The simile involving desert animals does reference the cause of the audience’s varied desires, as different people desire different things.

- (D) **Wrong** – The reference to desert animals does indicate the environment in which the medicine show operated, in this case “sparsely populated rural America.”
- (E) **Wrong** – The reference to desert animals does imply the difference between nineteenth-century America and rural America.

16. In lines 38-43, “Without the systems...to the modern observer” the author notes that the attendees of the medicine show would “seem to be one of deprivation to the modern observer.” The author then goes on to discuss that the people who attended medicine shows needed to “gain whatever possible for each limited number of encounters they had.” So basically, whether people were seeking remedies, supplies or just entertainment, the medicine show had to fulfill the diverse needs of different people. Given this information, what were lines 38-43 trying to tell the reader about the audiences of the medicine show?

- (A) **Wrong** – The author does not mention which seasons of the year people were most likely to attend medicine shows
- (B) **Wrong** – The author does not discuss the length of time most audience members were willing to spend at a given medicine show.
- (C) **Correct** – Because different attendees wanted different things out of the show, they demanded the medicine show not act like traditional healthcare professionals.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author never mentions methods used to cope with brutally difficult environmental factors.
- (E) **Wrong** – This section of the passage does not mention the rationale behind the public’s unwavering faith in the elixirs sold by the medicine show.

17. The opening two sentences of paragraph 2 on lines 23-28 discuss the reason behind the idea that medicine shows were fraudulent. The author notes that one reason people believe medicine shows to be fraudulent, is that they did not “focus strictly on healthcare.” The opening two sentences on paragraph 2 serve mainly to

- (A) **Wrong** – The opening of paragraph 2 does not serve to rectify the effects of a mistake.
- (B) **Wrong** – The opening of paragraph 2 does explain why people thought medicine shows were fraudulent, but believing something to be fraudulent is different than mistrusting something.
- (C) **Correct** – The opening of paragraph 2 serves to explain a misconception, that is, why people perceived the shows to be fraudulent.
- (D) **Wrong** – The opening of paragraph 2 does not present the facts for a future argument.
- (E) **Wrong** – The opening of paragraph 2 does not mollify the victims of a misdeed. To “mollify” means to calm or appease.



18. In lines 66-70, the author states “This absence meant...endorsements.” Immediately before these lines, the author notes the lack of health education at the time of the medicine show. After line 70, the author goes on to mention how medicine shows may not have been able to resell manufactured medicine. Lines 66-70 then demonstrate which of the following about medicine shows?

- (A) **Wrong** – Medicine shows did not take advantage of people’s ignorance about healthcare. They were trying to appeal to as broad a number of people as possible, many of whom were asking for home remedies.
- (B) **Wrong** – The lines do not indicate that medicine shows sought to improve health education through entertainment. However, entertainment was often a part of a medicine show, as noted in other paragraphs.
- (C) **Wrong** – The medicine show did not alleviate the federal government’s burden of educating rural America.
- (D) **Wrong** – The medicine show did not leave much of the healthcare work to federal agencies.
- (E) **Correct** – This section of the paragraph explains how medicine shows were forced to take actions that now make them appear corrupt.

19. Which statement, if true, would most support the main purpose of the final paragraph? The last paragraph discusses the end of the medicine show and why medicine shows died out.

- (A) **Wrong** – The main purpose of the last paragraph is not to state that broad reaching health codes did not take effect until the 1940s.
- (B) **Wrong** – The medicine show was not successful in urban environments, only in rural environments.
- (C) **Correct** – While the government began to regulate false claims, medicine shows were not convicted of false advertising or fraud.
- (D) **Wrong** – The author never states that most audience members never purchased anything from the show.
- (E) **Wrong** – The author never states that healthcare education was strongest in rural environments.