

GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATIONS®

Practice General Test # 1

Large Print (18 point) Edition

Section 2—Verbal Reasoning Section 3—Verbal Reasoning



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The Graduate Record Examinations Practice General Test #1

Instructions for the Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning Sections

For your convenience, these instructions are included both in the test book for Sections 2 and 3, and in the test book for Sections 4 and 5. The instructions are the same in both locations.

As a reminder, standard timing for each section of the test is shown in the following table:

Section Order	Section Name	Standard Time
1	Analytical Writing	30 minutes
2	Verbal Reasoning	21 minutes
3	Verbal Reasoning	28 minutes
4	Quantitative Reasoning	24 minutes
5	Quantitative Reasoning	32 minutes



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Important Notes

In the actual test, your scores for these sections will be determined by the number of questions you answer correctly. Nothing is subtracted from a score if you answer a question incorrectly. Therefore, to maximize your scores it is better for you to guess at an answer than not to respond at all. Work as rapidly as you can without losing accuracy. Do not spend too much time on questions that are too difficult for you. Go on to the other questions and come back to the difficult ones later.

Some or all of the passages in this test have been adapted from published material to provide the examinee with significant problems for analysis and evaluation. To make the passages suitable for testing purposes, the style, content, or point of view of the original may have been altered. The ideas contained in the passages do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Graduate Record Examinations Board or Educational Testing Service.

You may use a calculator in the Quantitative Reasoning sections only. You will be provided with a basic calculator and cannot use any other calculator, except as an approved accommodation.

Marking Your Answers

In the actual test, all answers must be marked in the test book. The following instructions describe how answers must be filled in.

Your answers will be hand-scored, so **make sure your marks are clear and unambiguous**. Examples of acceptable and unacceptable marks will be given with the sample questions.

Question Formats

This practice test may include questions that would not be used in an actual test administered in an alternate format because they have been determined to be less suitable for presentation in such formats.

The questions in these sections have several different formats. A brief description of these formats and instructions for entering your answer choices are given as follows.

Multiple-Choice Questions—Select One Answer Choice

These standard multiple-choice questions require you to select just one answer choice from a list of options. You will receive credit only if you mark the **single** correct answer choice and no other.

Example:

What city is the capital of France?

A Rome

🖒 Paris



D Cairo

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Acceptable Marks



Unacceptable Marks



If you change an answer, be sure that all previous marks are erased completely. Stray marks and incomplete erasures may be read as intended answers. Blank areas of the test book may be used for working out answers, but do not work out answers near the answer-entry areas. Scratch paper will not be provided, except as an approved accommodation.

Multiple-Choice Questions—Select One or More Answer Choices

Some of these questions specify how many answer choices you must select; others require you to select all that apply. In either case, to receive credit <u>all</u> of the correct answer choices must be marked. These questions are distinguished by the use of a square box to be marked to select an answer choice.

Example:

Select <u>all</u> that apply.

Which of the following countries are in Africa?



Acceptable Marks



Unacceptable Marks



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Column Format Questions

This question type presents the answer choices in columns. You must pick one answer choice from each column. You will receive credit only if you mark the correct answer choice **in each column**.

Example:

Complete the following sentence.

(i) _____ is the capital of (ii) _____.

Blank (i)

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			 /

🛞 Paris	D Canada
B Rome	🗶 France
C Cairo	F China



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Numeric Entry Questions

These questions require a number to be entered by circling entries in a grid. If you are not entering in your own answers, your scribe should be familiar with these instructions.

- 1. Your answer may be an integer, a decimal, or a fraction, and it may be negative.
- Equivalent forms of the correct answer, such as 2.5 and 2.50, are all correct. Fractions do <u>not</u> need to be reduced to lowest terms, though you may need to reduce your fraction to fit in the grid.
- 3. Enter the exact answer unless the question asks you to round your answer.
- If a question asks for a fraction, the grid will have a built-in division slash (/). Otherwise, the grid will have a decimal point.

- Start your answer in any column, space permitting.
 Circle no more than one entry in any column of the grid. Columns not needed should be left blank.
- 6. Write your answer in the boxes at the top of the grid and circle the corresponding entries.
 You will receive credit only if your grid entries are clearly marked, regardless of the number written in the boxes at the top.

Examples of acceptable ways to use the grid:

Integer answer: 502 (either position shown on page 18 or page 19 is correct)

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Decimal Answer: -4.13

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Fraction Answer: $-\frac{4}{1}$

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	6	6	6		6	6	6
	7	7	7		7	7	7
	8	8	8		8	8	8
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Section 2 follows. Tell the supervisor when you have finished reading these directions and are ready to begin Section 2. Test timing will resume when you turn the page and begin Section 2.

Section 2 Verbal Reasoning 15 questions

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the following passage.

Music critics have consistently defined James P. Johnson as a great early jazz pianist, originator of the 1920s Harlem "stride" style, and *Line* an important blues and jazz composer. In addition, 5 however, Johnson was an innovator in classical music, composing symphonic music that incorporated American, and especially African American, traditions.

Such a blend of musical elements was not entirely new: by 1924 both Milhaud and Gershwin had composed classical works that incorporated elements of jazz. Johnson, a serious musician more experienced than most classical composers with jazz, blues, spirituals, and popular music, was

15 particularly suited to expand Milhaud's and

Gershwin's experiments. In 1927 he completed his first large-scale work, the blues- and jazz-inspired <u>Yamekraw</u>, which included borrowings from spirituals and Johnson's own popular songs.

- 20 <u>Yamekraw</u>, premiered successfully in Carnegie Hall, was a major achievement for Johnson, becoming his most frequently performed extended work. It demonstrated vividly the possibility of assimilating contemporary popular music into the symphonic
- 25 tradition.
 - 1. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

The passage states that Johnson composed all of the following **EXCEPT**

- (A) jazz works
- B popular songs
- C symphonic music
- D spirituals
- E blues pieces

2. For the following question, consider each of the choices separately and select <u>all</u> that apply.

The author suggests which of the following about most classical composers of the early 1920s?

- A They were strongly influenced by the musical experiments of Milhaud and Gershwin.
- B They had little working familiarity with such forms of American music as jazz, blues, and popular songs.
- C They made few attempts to introduce innovations into the classical symphonic tradition.



3. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

Which of the following best describes the organization of the passage?

- A historical overview is presented, and a particular phenomenon is noted and analyzed.
- B A popular belief is challenged, and a rival interpretation is presented and supported.
- C A common viewpoint is presented and modified, and the modification is supported.
- D An observation is made and rejected, and evidence for that rejection is presented.
- E A common claim is investigated, and an alternative outlook is analyzed and criticized.

Directions for questions 4 and 5:

Each of the following questions includes a short text with a blank, indicating that something has been omitted. Select the **one** entry that best completes the text.

- 4. In the 1950s, the country's inhabitants were
 _____: most of them knew very little about foreign countries.
 - (A) partisan
 - B erudite
 - C insular
 - D cosmopolitan
 - (E) imperturbable



5. It is his dubious distinction to have proved what nobody would think of denying, that Romero at the age of sixty-four writes with all the characteristics

of _____.

A maturity

B fiction

C inventiveness

- D art
- E brilliance



Directions for questions 6 to 8:

Each of the following questions includes a short text with two or three blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Select **one** entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

6. The narratives that vanquished peoples have created of their defeat have, according to Schivelbusch, fallen into several identifiable types. In one of these, the vanquished manage to (i) ______ the victor's triumph as the result of some spurious advantage, the victors being truly inferior where it counts. Often the winners (ii) _____ this interpretation, worrying about the cultural or moral costs of their triumph and so giving some credence to the losers' story.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A construe	D take issue with
B anoint	(E) disregard
C acknowledge	F collude in

7. I've long anticipated this retrospective of the artist's work, hoping that it would make (i) ______ judgments about him possible, but greater familiarity with his paintings highlights their inherent (ii) ______ and actually makes one's

assessment (iii) _____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A modish	D gloom	G similarly equivocal
B settled	(E) ambiguity	(H) less sanguine
C detached	F delicacy	① more cynical



8. Scientists are not the only persons who examine the world about them by the use of rational processes, although they sometimes (i) ______ this impression by extending the definition of "scientist" to include anyone who is (ii) ______ in his or her investigational practices.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A conceal	D intuitive
B create	E haphazard
C undermine	F logical





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Questions 9 and 10 are based on the following passage.

(A part of one sentence is shown in boldface for reference in answering question 9, and a word is shown in boldface for reference in answering question 10.)

The most plausible justification for higher taxes on automobile fuel is that fuel consumption harms the environment and thus adds to the costs of traffic line congestion. But the fact that burning fuel creates 5 these "negative externalities" does not imply that no tax on fuel could ever be too high. Economics is precise about the tax that should, in principle, be levied to deal with negative externalities: the tax on a liter of fuel should be equal to the harm 10 caused by using a liter of fuel. If the tax is more than that, its costs (including the inconvenience to those who would rather have used their cars) will exceed its benefits (including any reduction in congestion and pollution).

9. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

Which of the following best characterizes the function of the boldfaced partial sentence in lines 8-10 of the passage?

- \bigcirc It restates a point made earlier in the passage.
- B It provides the evidence on which a theory is based.
- C It presents a specific application of a general principle.
- D It summarizes a justification with which the author disagrees.
- E It suggests that the benefits of a particular strategy have been overestimated.



10. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

The word "exceed" appears boldfaced in line 13 of the passage. In the context in which it appears, "exceed" most nearly means



- B magnify
- C delimit
- D offset
- E supplant





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Questions 11 and 12 are based on the following passage.

(A two-word phrase is shown in boldface for reference in answering question 12.)

Objectively, of course, the various ecosystems that sustain life on the planet proceed independently of human agency, just as they

Line operated before the hectic ascendancy of

- 5 Homo sapiens. But it is also true that it is difficult to think of a single such system that has not, for better or worse, been substantially modified by human culture. Nor is this simply the work of the industrial centuries. It has been happening since
- 10 the days of **ancient Mesopotamia**. It is coeval with the origins of writing, and has occurred throughout our social existence. And it is this irreversibly modified world, from the polar caps to the equatorial forests, that is all the nature
- 15 we have.
2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

11. For the following question, consider each of the choices separately and select <u>all</u> that apply.

It can be inferred from the passage that the author would agree with which of the following statements?

- A Over time, the impact of human culture on the natural world has been largely benign.
- B It is a mistake to think that the natural world contains many areas of pristine wilderness.
- C The only substantial effects that human agency has had on ecosystems have been inadvertent.



2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

12. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices:

The phrase "ancient Mesopotamia" appears in boldface in line 10 of the passage. The author mentions "ancient Mesopotamia" primarily in order to

- A provide some geographical and historical context for an earlier claim about the ascendancy of *Homo sapiens*
- B support the idea that the impact of human culture on nature was roughly the same in the ancient world as in later times
- C identify a place where the relationship between culture and nature was largely positive
- D emphasize the extent to which the modification of nature by human culture preceded the industrial period
 - E make a connection between the origins of writing and other aspects of human cultural development



NO TEST MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE. -39-

2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

Directions for questions 13 to 15:

Each of the following questions includes a sentence with a blank indicating that something has been omitted. Following the sentence will be a list of <u>six</u> words or phrases, each of which could be used to complete the sentence. Select the <u>two</u> answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole <u>and</u> produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

- Dreams are ______ in and of themselves, but, when combined with other data, they can tell us much about the dreamer.
 - A astonishing
 - B disordered
 - C harmless
 - D inscrutable
 - E revealing
 - F uninformative

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- 14. The macromolecule RNA is common to all living beings, and DNA, which is found in all organisms except some bacteria, is almost as _____.
 - A comprehensive
 - B fundamental
 - C inclusive
 - D universal
 - E significant
 - F ubiquitous
- 15. Early critics of Emily Dickinson's poetry mistook for simplemindedness the surface of artlessness that in fact she constructed with such _____.
 - A astonishment
 - B craft
 - C cunning
 - D innocence



- naïveté
- F vexation

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STOP

This is the end of Section 2. In an actual test, once you complete a section you may not return to it.

NO TEST MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE

Section 3 Verbal Reasoning 20 questions

Directions for questions 1 to 4:

Each of the following questions includes a sentence with a blank indicating that something has been omitted. Following the sentence will be a list of <u>six</u> words or phrases, each of which could be used to complete the sentence. Select the <u>two</u> answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole <u>and</u> produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

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- In the long run, high-technology communications cannot ______ more traditional face-to-face family togetherness, in Ms. Aspinall's view.
 - A ameliorate
 - B compromise
 - C supersede
 - D approximate
 - E enervate
 - F supplant
- Even in this business, where _____ is part of everyday life, a talent for lying is not something usually found on one's resume.
 - A aspiration
 - B mendacity
 - C prevarication
 - D insensitivity
 - E baseness
 - F avarice

- A restaurant's menu is generally reflected in its decor; however, despite this restaurant's
 _____ appearance it is pedestrian in the menu it offers.
 - A elegant
 - B tawdry
 - C modern
 - D traditional
 - E conventional
 - F chic



 International financial issues are typically
______ by the United States media because they are too technical to make snappy headlines and too inaccessible to people who lack a background in economics.





- C overrated
- D hidden
- E criticized
- F repudiated

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

Questions 5 and 6 are based on the following passage.

(A word is boldfaced for reference in answering question 6.)

Scholarship on political newspapers and their editors is dominated by the view that as the United States grew, the increasing influence of the press led, ultimately, to the neutral reporting from Line 5 which we benefit today. Pasley considers this view oversimplified, because neutrality was not a goal of early national newspaper editing, even when editors disingenuously stated that they aimed to tell all sides of a story. Rather, the intensely partisan ideologies represented in newspapers of the early 10 republic led to a clear demarcation between traditional and republican values. The editors responsible for the papers' content—especially those with republican agendas—began to see

15 themselves as central figures in the development of political consciousness in the United States.

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5. For the following question, consider each of the choices separately and select <u>all</u> that apply.

The passage suggests that Pasley would agree with which of the following statements about the political role of newspapers?

- A Newspapers today are in many cases much less neutral in their political reporting than is commonly held by scholars.
- B Newspapers in the early United States normally declared quite openly their refusal to tell all sides of most political stories.
- C The editorial policies of some early United States newspapers became a counterweight to proponents of traditional values.

6. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

The word "disingenuously" appears in boldface in line 8 of the passage. In the context in which it appears, "disingenuously" most nearly means

- (A) insincerely
- B guilelessly
- C obliquely
- D resolutely
- E pertinaciously



NO TEST MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

Directions for questions 7 and 8:

Each of the following questions includes a short text with two or three blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Select **one** entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

7. The (i) ______ nature of classical tragedy in Athens belies the modern image of tragedy: in the modern view tragedy is austere and stripped down, its representations of ideological and emotional conflicts so superbly compressed that there's nothing (ii) _____ for time to erode.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A unadorned	D inalienable
B harmonious	E exigent
C multifaceted	(F) extraneous



 Murray, whose show of recent paintings and drawings is her best in many years, has been eminent hereabouts for a quarter century, although often regarded with (i)_____, but the most (ii)_____ of these paintings (iii)_____ all doubts.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A partiality	D problematic	G exculpate
B credulity	E successful	(H) assuage
C ambivalence	F disparaged	① whet



Directions for questions 9 and 10:

Each of the following questions includes a short text with a blank, indicating that something has been omitted. Select the **one** entry that best completes the text.

- 9. Far from viewing Jefferson as a skeptical but enlightened intellectual, historians of the 1960s portrayed him as ______ thinker, eager to fill the young with his political orthodoxy while censoring ideas he did not like.
 - (A) an adventurous
 - B a doctrinaire
 - C an eclectic
 - D a judicious
 - E a cynical

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

3 3 • 3 • 3 • 3 • 3 3

- Dramatic literature often ______ the history of a culture in that it takes as its subject matter the important events that have shaped and guided the culture.
 - (A) confounds
 - B repudiates
 - C recapitulates
 - D anticipates
 - E polarizes



Questions 11 to 14 are based on the following passage.

(A sentence is boldfaced for reference in answering question 12.)

In A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry does not reject integration or the economic and moral promise of the American dream; rather, she Line remains loyal to this dream while looking, 5 realistically, at its incomplete realization. Once we recognize this dual vision, we can accept the play's ironic nuances as deliberate social commentaries by Hansberry rather than as the "unintentional" irony that Bigsby attributes to the work. **Indeed, a**

- 10 curiously persistent refusal to credit Hansberry with a capacity for intentional irony has led some critics to interpret the play's thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism. Isaacs, for
- 15 example, cannot easily reconcile Hansberry's intense concern for her race with her ideal of

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human reconciliation. But the play's complex view of Black self-esteem and human solidarity as compatible is no more "contradictory" than

20 Du Bois' famous, well-considered ideal of ethnic self-awareness coexisting with human unity, or Fanon's emphasis on an ideal internationalism that also accommodates national identities and roles.



11. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

The author's primary purpose in the passage is to

- A explain some critics' refusal to consider Raisin in the Sun a deliberately ironic play
- B suggest that ironic nuances ally *Raisin in the Sun* with Du Bois' and Fanon's writings
- C analyze the fundamental dramatic conflicts in *Raisin in the Sun*
- D emphasize the inclusion of contradictory elements in *Raisin in the Sun*
- E affirm the thematic coherence underlying *Raisin in the Sun*

12. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

The author of the passage would probably consider which of the following judgments to be most similar to the reasoning of the critics described in the boldfaced sentence (lines 9-14) ?

- A The world is certainly flat; therefore, the person proposing to sail around it is unquestionably foolhardy.
- B Radioactivity cannot be directly perceived; therefore, a scientist could not possibly control it in a laboratory.
- C The painter of this picture could not intend it to be funny; therefore, its humor must result from a lack of skill.
- D Traditional social mores are beneficial to culture; therefore, anyone who deviates from them acts destructively.
- E Filmmakers who produce documentaries deal exclusively with facts; therefore, a filmmaker who reinterprets particular events is misleading us.

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE. -59-

- 13. The five sentences in the passage are repeated below, in their original order, with each one assigned a letter. Select and indicate a sentence in the passage in which the author provides examples that reinforce an argument against a critical response cited earlier in the passage.
 - A In A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry does not reject integration or the economic and moral promise of the American dream; rather, she remains loyal to this dream while looking, realistically, at its incomplete realization.
 - B Once we recognize this dual vision, we can accept the play's ironic nuances as deliberate social commentaries by Hansberry rather than as the "unintentional" irony that Bigsby attributes to the work.
 - C Indeed, a curiously persistent refusal to credit Hansberry with a capacity for intentional irony has led some critics to interpret the play's thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism.

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE. -60-

- D Isaacs, for example, cannot easily reconcile Hansberry's intense concern for her race with her ideal of human reconciliation.
- E But the play's complex view of Black self-esteem and human solidarity as compatible is no more "contradictory" than Du Bois' famous, well-considered ideal of ethnic self-awareness coexisting with human unity, or Fanon's emphasis on an ideal internationalism that also accommodates national identities and roles.



14. For the following question, consider each of the choices separately and select <u>all</u> that apply.

It can be inferred from the passage that the author believes which of the following about Hansberry's use of irony in *Raisin in the Sun* ?

- A It reflects Hansberry's reservations about the extent to which the American dream has been realized.
- B It is justified by Hansberry's loyalty to a favorable depiction of American life.
- C It shows in the play's thematic conflicts.



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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

Question 15 is based on the following text.

As an example of the devastation wrought on music publishers by the photocopier, one executive noted that for a recent choral festival with 1,200 singers, the festival's organizing committee

5 purchased only 12 copies of the music published by her company that was performed as part of the festival.

Line



• 3 3 3 3 3

15. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the support the example lends to the executive's contention that music publishers have been devastated by the photocopier?

- (A) Only a third of the 1,200 singers were involved in performing the music published by the executive's company.
- Half of the singers at the festival had already **B**) heard the music they were to perform before they began to practice for the festival.
- C) Because of shortages in funding, the organizing committee of the choral festival required singers to purchase their own copies of the music performed at the festival.
- D) Each copy of music that was performed at the festival was shared by two singers.

 (E) As a result of publicity generated by its performance at the festival, the type of music performed at the festival became more widely known.

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE. -65-

Directions for questions 16 and 17:

Each of the following questions includes a short text with two or three blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Select **one** entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

16. New technologies often begin by (i)______ what has gone before, and they change the world later. Think how long it took power-using companies to recognize that with electricity they did not need to cluster their machinery around the power source, as in the days of steam. Instead, power could be (ii)_____ their processes. In that sense, many of today's computer networks are still in the steam age. Their full potential remains unrealized.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
(A) uprooting	D transmitted to
B dismissing	E consolidated around
© mimicking	F incorporated into

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17. Of course anyone who has ever perused an unmodernized text of Captain Clark's journals knows that the Captain was one of the most (i)______ spellers ever to write in English, but despite this (ii)______ orthographical rules, Clark is never unclear.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
(A) indefatigable	D disregard for
B fastidious	E partiality toward
C defiant	F unpretentiousness about



Question 18 is based on the following reading passage.

For the past two years at FasCorp, there has been a policy to advertise any job opening to current employees and to give no job to an applicant from *Line* outside the company if a FasCorp employee applies 5 who is qualified for the job. This policy has been strictly followed, yet even though numerous employees of FasCorp have been qualified for any given entry-level position, some entry-level jobs have been filled with people from outside the

10 company.

18. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

If the information provided is true, which of the following must on the basis of it also be true about FasCorp during the past two years?

- A There have been some open jobs for which no qualified FasCorp employee applied.
- B Some entry-level job openings have not been advertised to FasCorp employees.
- C The total number of employees has increased.
- D FasCorp has hired some people for jobs for which they were not qualified.
- E All the job openings have been for entry-level jobs.



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Questions 19 and 20 are based on the following passage.

A tall tree can transport a hundred gallons of water a day from its roots deep underground to the treetop. Is this movement propelled by pulling the Line water from above or pushing it from below? The pull mechanism has long been favored by most 5 scientists. First proposed in the late 1800s, the theory relies on a property of water not commonly associated with fluids: its tensile strength. Instead of making a clean break, water evaporating from treetops tugs on the remaining water molecules, 10 with that tug extending from molecule to molecule all the way down to the roots. The tree itself does not actually push or pull; all the energy for lifting water comes from the sun's evaporative power.

19. For the following question, consider each of the choices separately and select <u>all</u> that apply.

Which of the following statements is supported by the passage?

- A The pull theory is not universally accepted by scientists.
- B The pull theory depends on one of water's physical properties.
- C The pull theory originated earlier than did the push theory.



20. Select and indicate the best answer from among the five answer choices.

The passage provides information on each of the following **EXCEPT**

- (A) when the pull theory originated
- B the amount of water a tall tree can transport
- C the significance of water's tensile strength in the pull theory
- (D) the role of the sun in the pull theory
- E the mechanism underlying water's tensile strength



This is the end of Section 3. In an actual test, once you complete a section you may not return to it.

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