

## **Reading and Writing Department Practice**

### **Module 2 pages 16-27**

#### **English Department**

##### **Module 2**

Any question labeled **Humanities** (2, 7, 15, 29, 31) and all **Standard English** questions (19-27).

#### **Social Studies Department**

##### **Module 2**

Any question labeled **Social Studies** (1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13, 18, 33)

#### **Science Department**

##### **Module 2**

Any question labeled **Science** (3, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 28, 30, 32)

# Reading and Writing

## 33 QUESTIONS

### DIRECTIONS

The questions in this section address a number of important reading and writing skills. Each question includes one or more passages, which may include a table or graph. Read each passage and question carefully, and then choose the best answer to the question based on the passage(s).

All questions in this section are multiple-choice with four answer choices. Each question has a single best answer.

## Social Studies

1

Archaeologists studying an ancient amphitheater in Switzerland believe that it dates back to the fourth century CE. Their discoveries of a coin made between 337 and 341 CE and era-appropriate building materials \_\_\_\_\_ evidence for this theory.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) dismiss
- B) provide
- C) regulate
- D) refuse

## Humanities

2

The following text is adapted from Lewis Carroll's 1865 novel *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

“The second thing is to find my way into that lovely garden. I think that will be the best plan.” It sounded like an excellent plan, no doubt, and very neatly and simply arranged; the only difficulty was, that Alice had not the smallest idea how to set about it.

As used in the text, what does the word “simply” most nearly mean?

- A) Faintly
- B) Hastily
- C) Easily
- D) Foolishly

## Science

3

Cucurbits, a group of plants that includes squash and melons, relied on mastodons to spread their seeds in the Ice Age. When these animals died out, cucurbits faced extinction in turn, having lost their means of seed dispersal. Around this time, however, the ancestors of Indigenous peoples in North America began raising cucurbits as crops, thus \_\_\_\_\_ the plants' survival.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) verifying
- B) multiplying
- C) comforting
- D) ensuring

## Social Studies

4

The recent discovery of a carved wooden figure dating to around 2,000 years ago in a ditch in England was truly surprising. Wooden objects \_\_\_\_\_ survive for so long due to their high susceptibility to rot, but archaeologists suspect layers of sediment in the ditch preserved the figure by creating an oxygen-free environment.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) sturdily
- B) carelessly
- C) rarely
- D) simply

## Social Studies

5

Bicycle sharing systems allow users to rent a bicycle at one location within a city and return it to any other designated location in that city, which can cause serious problems of bicycle supply and user demand within the city's system. Tohru Ikeguchi uses open-source data and statistical modeling to identify when a high number of users making one-way trips is likely to leave some locations within the system \_\_\_\_\_ bicycles and other areas with insufficient supply.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) susceptible to
- B) contingent on
- C) saturated with
- D) depleted of

## Science

6

When ancient oak planks were unearthed during subway construction in Rome, Mauro Bernabei and his team examined the growth rings in the wood to determine where these planks came from. By comparing the growth rings on the planks to records of similar rings in oaks from Europe, the team could trace the wood to the Jura region of France, hundreds of kilometers from Rome. Because timber could only have been transported from distant Jura to Rome by boat, the team's findings suggest the complexity of Roman trade routes.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A) It presents a conclusion about Roman trade routes based on the team's findings.
- B) It questions how the team was able to conclude that the planks were used to build a boat.
- C) It explains why the planks were made from oak rather than a different kind of wood.
- D) It describes common methods used in Roman subway construction.

## Humanities

7

For his 1986 album *Keyboard Fantasies*, Beverly Glenn-Copeland wrote songs grounded in traditional soul and folk music, then accompanied them with futuristic synthesizer arrangements featuring ambient sounds and complex rhythms. The result was so strange, so unprecedented, that the album attracted little attention when first released. In recent years, however, a younger generation of musicians has embraced the stylistic experimentation of *Keyboard Fantasies*. Alternative R&B musicians Blood Orange and Moses Sumney, among other contemporary recording artists, cite the album as an influence.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A) It urges contemporary musicians to adopt the unique sound of *Keyboard Fantasies*.
- B) It responds to criticism of *Keyboard Fantasies* by some younger musicians.
- C) It offers examples of younger musicians whose work has been impacted by *Keyboard Fantasies*.
- D) It contrasts *Keyboard Fantasies* with the recordings of two younger musicians.

## Social Studies

8

A number of Indigenous politicians have been elected to the United States Congress since 2000 as members of the country's two established political parties. In Canada and several Latin American countries, on the other hand, Indigenous people have formed their own political parties to advance candidates who will advocate for the interests of their communities. This movement has been particularly successful in Ecuador, where Guadalupe Llori, a member of the Indigenous party known as Pachakutik, was elected president of the National Assembly in 2021.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A) To trace the history of an Indigenous political movement and speculate about its future development
- B) To argue that Indigenous politicians in the United States should form their own political party
- C) To highlight two approaches to achieving political representation for Indigenous people
- D) To consider how Indigenous politicians in the United States have influenced Indigenous politicians in Canada and Latin America

## Social Studies

9

### Text 1

In a study of the benefits of having free time, Marissa Sharif found that the reported sense of life satisfaction tended to plateau when participants had two hours of free time per day and actually began to fall when they had five hours of free time per day. After further research, Sharif concluded that this dip in life satisfaction mainly occurred when individuals spent all their free time unproductively, such as by watching TV or playing games.

### Text 2

Psychologist James Maddux cautions against suggesting an ideal amount of free time. The human desire for both free time and productivity is universal, but Maddux asserts that individuals have unique needs for life satisfaction. Furthermore, he points out that there is no objective definition for what constitutes productivity; reading a book might be considered a productive activity by some, but idleness by others.

Based on the texts, how would Maddux (Text 2) most likely respond to the conclusion Sharif (Text 1) reached after her further research?

- A) By acknowledging that free time is more likely to enhance life satisfaction when it is spent productively than when it is spent unproductively
- B) By challenging the reasoning in Text 1, as it has not been proved that productivity commonly contributes to individuals' life satisfaction
- C) By warning against making an overly broad assumption, as there is no clear consensus in distinguishing between productive and unproductive activities
- D) By claiming that the specific activities named in Text 1 are actually examples of productive activities rather than unproductive ones

## Science

10

Xin Wang and colleagues have discovered the earliest known example of a flower bud in a 164-million-year-old plant fossil in China. The researchers have named the new species *Florigerminis jurassica*. They believe that the discovery pushes the emergence of flowering plants, or angiosperms, back to the Jurassic period, which occurred between 145 million and 201 million years ago.

According to the text, how old was the fossil that Wang and colleagues discovered?

- A) 150 million years old
- B) 145 million years old
- C) 164 million years old
- D) 201 million years old

## Science

11

Modern dog breeds are largely the result of 160 years of owners crossbreeding certain dogs in order to select for particular physical appearances. Owners often say that some breeds are also more likely than others to have particular personality traits—basset hounds are affectionate; boxers are easy to train—but Kathleen Morrill and colleagues found through a combination of owner surveys and DNA sequencing of 2,000 dogs that while physical traits are predictably heritable among purebred dogs, behavior varies widely among dogs of the same breed.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Dog breeds would not exist without many years of human intervention in dogs' reproduction.
- B) Research fails to confirm a commonly held belief about dog breeds and behavior.
- C) The dog breeds most popular among owners have often changed over the past 160 years.
- D) A study of dog breeds is notable for its usage of both opinion surveys and DNA sequencing.

## Science

12

Paleontologist Lucas E. Fiorelli and colleagues have reported the discovery at a mine in Brazil of several egg clutches, partially preserved single eggs, and egg shells from the Late Cretaceous period. The researchers have concluded that the area was once a nesting and breeding site for titanosaurs, a group of sauropod dinosaurs. The finding is significant given the previous lack of known nesting sites in northern regions of South America, which led many paleontologists to assume that titanosaurs migrated south to lay eggs.

What does the text most strongly suggest about the site discovered by the researchers?

- A) It is the earliest known example of a titanosaur nesting and breeding site.
- B) It was very difficult to excavate given that it was discovered in a mine.
- C) It may have been occupied by other sauropods in addition to titanosaurs.
- D) It is farther north than any other nesting site discovered in South America.

## Social Studies

13

Attendance and Cost of Hosting  
for Past Four US World's Fairs

World's fairs held in the US	Cost (in US dollars)	Number of visitors
Century 21 Exposition (1962)	\$47 million	9.60 million
HemisFair '68	\$156 million	6.40 million
1984 World's Fair	\$350 million	7.35 million
Expo '74	\$78 million	5.60 million

Huge international exhibitions known as world's fairs have been held since 1851, but the United States hasn't hosted one since 1984. Architecture expert Mina Chow argues that this is because some people think the events are too expensive and not popular enough. For example, the 1984 World's Fair cost \$350 million and had only \_\_\_\_\_

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the example?

- A) 7.35 million visitors.
- B) 9.60 million visitors.
- C) 6.40 million visitors.
- D) 5.60 million visitors.

## Science

14

Sample of Food Items from Gemini Mission Menus

Food item	Day	Meal
Sugar cookie cubes	1	B
Chicken and vegetables	2	B
Shrimp cocktail	4	C
Hot cocoa	3	A

To make sure they got the nutrition they needed while in space, the astronauts of NASA's Gemini missions were given menus for three meals a day (meals A, B, and C) on a four-day rotating schedule. Looking at the sample of food items from these menus, a student notes that on day 1, the menu included \_\_\_\_\_

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the statement?

- A) shrimp cocktail for meal B.
- B) hot cocoa for meal C.
- C) sugar cookie cubes for meal B.
- D) chicken and vegetables for meal A.

## Humanities

15

*An Ideal Husband* is an 1895 play by Oscar Wilde. In the play, which is a satire, Wilde suggests that a character named Lady Gertrude Chiltern is perceived as both extremely virtuous and unforgiving, as is evident when another character says \_\_\_\_\_

Which quotation from *An Ideal Husband* most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) "Lady Chiltern is a woman of the very highest principles, I am glad to say. I am a little too old now, myself, to trouble about setting a good example, but I always admire people who do."
- B) "Do you know, [Lady Chiltern], I don't mind your talking morality a bit. Morality is simply the attitude we adopt towards people whom we personally dislike."
- C) "[Lady Chiltern] does not know what weakness or temptation is. I am of clay like other men. She stands apart as good women do—pitiless in her perfection—cold and stern and without mercy."
- D) "Lady Chiltern, you are a sensible woman, the most sensible woman in London, the most sensible woman I know."

## Science

16

Percentage of Available Eggs Eaten by Cane Toad Tadpoles

Amphibian species (common name)	Percentage of eggs eaten	Native to Australia	Produces bufadienolide
Little red tree frog	1%	yes	no
Cane toad	90%	no	yes
Short-footed frog	7%	yes	no
Striped burrowing frog	10%	yes	no
Dainty green tree frog	1%	yes	no

Native to Latin America, the cane toad was introduced to Australia in the 1930s. In recent decades, tadpoles in the Australian population have been shown to consume eggs of their own species. A 2022 study showed that when presented with cane toad eggs as well as eggs of native Australian amphibians, cane toad tadpoles disproportionately consumed eggs of their own species. This behavior results from their attraction to bufadienolide, a chemical produced by the eggs of cane toads but not by the eggs of native amphibians. However, using data from this study, a student wishes to argue that the presence of bufadienolide doesn't entirely explain the cane toad tadpoles' preference for certain eggs over others.

Which choice best describes data from the table that support the student's argument?

- A) The tadpoles consumed a higher percentage of the striped burrowing frog eggs than they did of the eggs of the dainty green tree frog.
- B) The tadpoles left a certain percentage of the eggs of each of the five species unharmed, thus ultimately allowing them to hatch.
- C) The tadpoles consumed a lower percentage of the short-footed frog eggs than they did of the eggs of their own species.
- D) The tadpoles consumed the same percentage of the dainty green tree frog eggs as they did of the little red tree frog eggs.



## Science

17

The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), a band of clouds that encircles Earth in the tropics and is a major rainfall source, shifts position in response to temperature variations across Earth's hemispheres. Data from Huagapo Cave in Peru suggest the ITCZ shifted south during the Little Ice Age (circa 1300–1850), but a shift as far into South America as Huagapo should have led to dry conditions in Central America, which is inconsistent with climate models. To resolve the issue, geologist Yemane Asmerom and colleagues collected data from Yok Balum Cave in Central America and compared them with the Huagapo data. They concluded that during the Little Ice Age, the ITCZ may have expanded northward and southward rather than simply shifted.

Which finding from Asmerom and colleagues' study, if true, would most directly support their conclusion?

- A) Neither the Yok Balum data nor the Huagapo data show significant local variations in temperature during the Little Ice Age.
- B) Both the Yok Balum data and the Huagapo data show increased temperatures and prolonged dry conditions during the Little Ice Age.
- C) The Yok Balum data show prolonged dry conditions during the same portions of the Little Ice Age in which the Huagapo data show heightened levels of rainfall.
- D) The Yok Balum data and the Huagapo data show strongly correlated patterns of high rainfall during the Little Ice Age.

## Social Studies

18

Some businesses believe that when employees are interrupted while doing their work, they experience a decrease in energy and productivity. However, a team led by Harshad Puranik, who studies management, has found that interruptions by colleagues can have a social component that increases employees' sense of belonging, resulting in greater job satisfaction that benefits employees and employers. Therefore, businesses should recognize that \_\_\_\_\_

Which choice most logically completes the text?

- A) the interpersonal benefits of some interruptions in the workplace may offset the perceived negative effects.
- B) in order to maximize productivity, employers should be willing to interrupt employees frequently throughout the day.
- C) most employees avoid interrupting colleagues because they don't appreciate being interrupted themselves.
- D) in order to cultivate an ideal workplace environment, interruptions of work should be discouraged.

## Standard English

19

The US Geological Survey wants to map every human-made structure in the United States, and it is asking volunteers to help. Cassie Tammy Wang and Ashish D'Souza are just two of the many volunteer map editors who \_\_\_\_\_ to the project since it began in 2012.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) contribute
- B) will contribute
- C) have contributed
- D) will be contributing

## Standard English

20

Smaller than poppy seeds, tardigrades are tiny, but they are tough. These minuscule animals can survive for thirty years without food or water, and \_\_\_\_\_ can withstand extreme temperatures as low as minus 328 degrees and as high as 304 degrees Fahrenheit.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) that
- B) it
- C) they
- D) he

## Standard English

21

Emperor penguins don't waddle out of the ocean. They launch themselves at such a high speed that they travel up to two meters before landing. How \_\_\_\_\_ A layer of microbubbles on their plumage reduces friction as the penguins speed to the surface.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) they are able to move so fast!
- B) are they able to move so fast.
- C) they are able to move so fast.
- D) are they able to move so fast?

## Standard English

22

Before the Erie Canal was completed in 1825, transporting goods by wagon between New York City and the Midwest took up to forty-five days and cost one hundred dollars per ton. By linking the Hudson River to Lake \_\_\_\_\_ canal reduced transport time to nine days and cut costs to six dollars per ton.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) Erie; the
- B) Erie (the
- C) Erie, the
- D) Erie: the

## Standard English

23

Generations of mystery and horror \_\_\_\_\_ have been influenced by the dark, gothic stories of celebrated American author Edgar Allan Poe (1809–1849).

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) writers
- B) writers,
- C) writers—
- D) writers;

## Standard English

24

Midway through her 1968 jazz album *A Monastic Trio*, Alice Coltrane switches instruments, swapping the piano for the harp. With the same fluid style that Coltrane was famous for on piano, she \_\_\_\_\_ her fingers across the harp strings and creates a radiant sound.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) sweep
- B) are sweeping
- C) were sweeping
- D) sweeps

## Standard English

25

Mathematician and meteorologist Edward Lorenz used the metaphor of the “butterfly effect” to explain how seemingly minor events can have major impacts on future weather. According to Lorenz’s metaphor, the wind from a butterfly flapping \_\_\_\_\_ in Brazil might eventually grow into a storm elsewhere across the globe.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) its wings
- B) its wings’
- C) it’s wing’s
- D) it’s wings’

## Standard English

26

On sunny days, dark rooftops absorb solar energy and convert it to unwanted heat, raising the surrounding air \_\_\_\_\_ a light-colored covering to an existing dark roof, either by attaching prefabricated reflective sheets or spraying on a paint-like coating, helps combat this effect.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) temperature; by adding
- B) temperature, adding
- C) temperature. Adding
- D) temperature by adding

## Standard English

27

The haiku-like poems of Tomas Tranströmer, which present nature- and dream-influenced images in crisp, spare language, have earned the Swedish poet praise from leading contemporary \_\_\_\_\_ them Nigerian American essayist and novelist Teju Cole, who has written that Tranströmer’s works “contain a luminous simplicity.”

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) writers. Among
- B) writers among
- C) writers; among
- D) writers, among

## Science

28

In studying whether jellyfish sleep, researchers Michael Abrams, Claire Bedbrook, and Ravi Nath attempted to answer three questions. \_\_\_\_\_ is there a period each day when the pulse rates of jellyfish decline? Second, do jellyfish respond more slowly to stimuli during that period? Finally, if prevented from sleeping, are jellyfish adversely affected?

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) As a result,
- B) First,
- C) Additionally,
- D) However,

## Humanities

29

With her room-sized installation *The Interstitium*, Iranian American artist Laleh Mehran succeeded in creating a space that felt, as intended, both “familiar and distant.” \_\_\_\_\_ with a video screen placed at the far end of the coal slag-encrusted room, her installation was reminiscent of a typical movie theater—albeit one found in a subterranean coal mine.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) Next,
- B) Nevertheless,
- C) Indeed,
- D) Instead,

## Science

30

In response to adverse environmental conditions, many plants produce abscisic acid (ABA), a stress hormone. ABA triggers a slowdown in the biological processes of most plants. \_\_\_\_\_ when the mustard plant *Schrenkiella parvula* produces ABA in response to an environmental stressor, the hormone triggers accelerated growth.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) Moreover,
- B) In contrast,
- C) For example,
- D) Thus,

## Humanities

31

Historically, most conductors of major orchestras and opera companies have been European men, but a new, more diverse generation of artists is stepping up to the podium. Mexico’s Alondra de la Parra took over as conductor for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in 2017, \_\_\_\_\_ and Colombia’s Lina Gonzalez-Granados did the same for the Los Angeles Opera in 2022.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) in addition,
- B) lastly,
- C) granted,
- D) for instance,

## Science

32

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Planetary scientists classify asteroids based on their composition.
- C-type asteroids are composed primarily of carbon.
- They account for roughly 75 percent of known asteroids.
- S-type asteroids are primarily made up of silicate minerals.
- They account for roughly 17 percent of known asteroids.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between C-type and S-type asteroids. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- Planetary scientists classify asteroids into types, two of which are the C-type and the S-type.
- Planetary scientists consider an asteroid's composition (such as whether the asteroid is composed mainly of silicate minerals or carbon) when classifying it.
- Roughly 17 percent of known asteroids are classified as S-type asteroids; another percentage is classified as C-type asteroids.
- C-type asteroids are mainly composed of carbon, whereas S-type asteroids are primarily made up of silicate minerals.

## Social Studies

33

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- A commodity chain is the series of links connecting the production and purchase of a commodity on the world market.
- Chinese American anthropologist Anna Tsing studies the contemporary commodity chain of matsutake mushrooms.
- At one end of the matsutake chain are mushroom pickers in Oregon.
- At the other end are wealthy consumers who buy the costly matsutake in Japan.
- According to Tsing, “Japanese traders began importing matsutake in the 1980s, when the scarcity of matsutake in Japan first became clear.”

The student wants to provide an overview of the matsutake commodity chain. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- The contemporary matsutake commodity chain has its origins in the 1980s when, according to Tsing, “the scarcity of matsutake in Japan first became clear.”
- Commodity chains include the linked production and purchase of commodities, such as the matsutake mushroom, on the world market.
- Decades after the Japanese import of matsutake began, a commodity chain now links matsutake pickers in Oregon with wealthy consumers of the costly mushrooms in Japan.
- Wealthy consumers who buy the costly mushrooms in Japan are at one end of the matsutake commodity chain.

# STOP

**If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this module only.  
Do not turn to any other module in the test.**