

ACCUPLACER Reading Next Generation

Section: ACCUPLACER Next Generation Reading Exams • Total Questions: 10 • Format: Verified Q&A

1. The description of the sunrise in the sixth paragraph (sentences 18-21) mainly serves to

(1) There came a light knocking at Helga's door. (2) 'Come in,' invited Helga unenthusiastically. (3) The door opened to admit Margaret Creighton, another teacher in the English department and to Helga the most congenial member of the whole Naxos faculty. (4) Margaret, she felt, appreciated her. (5) Seeing Helga still in night robe seated on the bedside in a mass of cushions, idly dangling a mule [a shoe] across bare toes like one with all the time in the world before her, she exclaimed in dismay: 'Helga Crane, do you know what time it is? Why, it's long after half past seven.' (6) The students-' (7) 'Yes, I know,' said Helga defiantly, 'the students are coming out from breakfast.' (8) Well, let them. (9) I, for one, wish that there was some way that they could forever stay out from the poisonous stuff thrown at them, literally thrown at them, Margaret Creighton, for food. (10) Poor things.' (11) Margaret laughed. (12) 'That's just ridiculous sentiment, Helga, and you know it. (13) But you haven't had any breakfast, yourself. (14) Jim Vayle asked if you were sick. (15) Of course nobody knew. (16) You never tell anybody anything about yourself. (17) I said I'd look in on you.' (18) 'Thanks awfully,' Helga responded, indifferently. (19) She was watching the sunlight dissolve from thick orange into pale yellow. (20) Slowly it crept across the room, wiping out in its path the morning shadows. (21) She wasn't interested in what the other was saying. (22) 'If you don't hurry, you'll be late to your first class. (23) Can I help you?' Margaret offered uncertainly. (24) She was a little afraid of Helga. (25) Nearly everyone was. (26) 'No. Thanks all the same.' (27) Then quickly in another, warmer tone: 'I do mean it. (28) Thanks, a thousand times, Margaret. (29) I'm really awfully grateful, but-you see, it's like this, I'm not going to be there at all.' (30) The visiting girl, standing in relief, like old walnut against the buff-colored wall, darted a quick glance at Helga. (31) Plainly she was curious. (32) But she only said formally: 'Oh, then you are sick.' (33) For something there was about Helga which discouraged questionings. (34) No, Helga wasn't sick. (35) Not physically. (36) She was merely disgusted. (37) Fed up with Naxos. (38) If that could be called sickness. (39) The truth was that she had made up her mind to leave. (40) That very day.

- (A) emphasize Helga's love of the outdoors
- (B) illustrate Helga's inattentiveness to her visitor
- (C) underscore Margaret's concern for Helga's well-being
- (D) suggest Margaret's astonishment at Helga's behavior

2. In context, which choice best replaces the underlined portion in sentence 14 (reproduced below)?
Being able to meet others who speak Spanish has definitely helped me

(1) When I moved to New York City ten months ago to go to college, it was mainly my lack of self-confidence that made it hard to adjust to my new surroundings. (2) I'm a country kid from rural Texas. (3) I grew up on a ranch on the prairie. (4) I was used to wide-open spaces and peace and quiet, and most of my friends were of Mexican descent like me. (5) Fortunately, I've come to enjoy living in the city, but for a long time I felt overwhelmed and out of place.

(6) Early on for example my anxiety about getting lost was so bad that I was even scared to go for a walk or to take a bus or the subway. (7) I feared that I might have to ask a stranger for directions and that that person might not speak one of the languages I do. (8) My irrational fears went on and on.

(9) That's why I was relieved when, after many hours of reflection, I finally realized that it was my attitude and not the city that were making me miserable. (10) I adopted a new outlook and began to develop friendships and explore the city with my new companions (11) Together we've attended many of the local festivals that are held from time to time to celebrate a holiday, a historic event, or a culture. (12) I've enjoyed the diversity here, and wanting to learn as much as I can about the different sorts of people who live here. (13) It has also been great to meet so many other people who are bilingual in Spanish and English.

(14) Being able to meet others who speak Spanish has definitely helped me. (15) Actually, there's not much about living here that intimidates me anymore, and I've even gotten used to the noise. (16) The city never sleeps, as they say, and day or night there are always hundreds of people out and about on the streets. (17) Now I wonder whether I'll be able to fall asleep when I go back to Texas, where the only noise I'll hear at night is lowing of the cattle.

- (A) made the city feel more like home
- (B) given me the chance to practice.
- (C) made the city sort of tolerable.
- (D) been a nice surprise.

3. What change needs to be made to sentence 11 to make the sentence grammatically correct? Most New Yorkers have gotten used to the idea: a recent poll of New York City residents show that two-thirds of them support the bike lanes.

(1) New York City has a long history with bicycle lanes, which are either painted on a street or constructed alongside a street and are used by bicycles rather than cars. (2) Its first bike lane - and the country's first - was built in 1894, along Brooklyn's Ocean Parkway. (3) Interest in bicycle lanes reappeared in the 1970s, and by 1980, Mayor Ed Koch saw to the construction of them on Sixth and Seventh Avenues in Midtown. (4) However, those lanes faced such fierce opposition that they were immediately removed. (5) Things have recently changed: since 2006, the city has taken bike lanes to a whole new level. (6) It installed more than 250 miles around the city's five boroughs. (7) Many New Yorkers complained the new bike lanes slowed car traffic and reduced the number of parking spaces. (8) Others complained bicyclists were not following traffic rules in the lanes. (9) In Williamsburg, Brooklyn, religious leaders convinced the city to remove a new strip of freshly painted bike lane in their neighborhood. (10) Elected officials and perturbed residents of Staten Island also pressured the city into removing its own 2.35-mile dedicated lane. (11) Most New Yorkers have gotten used to the idea: a recent poll of New York City residents shows that two-thirds of them support the bike lanes. (12) They cite environmental reasons for their support, as well as the health and safety benefits the lanes provide bike riders. (13) Ultimately, the city can be happy knowing that statistics have shown its new bike lanes have already made the streets of New York safer for bikers and pedestrians.

- (A) Change 'gotten' to 'got'
- (B) Change 'show' to 'shows'
- (C) Change 'support' to 'supported'
- (D) Change 'lanes' to 'lane'

4. The narrator primarily portrays the woman she is observing as someone who is

(1) Looking at her makes me remember. (2) I can almost feel the heat rising, riding the backs of broken cobblestones, gray and scraped smooth by a ceaseless parade of tired, black, sandaled feet. (3) But that was far away and long ago. (4) Here, this woman peers almost timidly around the curving, splintered wood of the brownstone door, blinking furiously now as the wind and rain whip her face. (5) I stare, and a sudden longing whistles through my mind, dancing around me on each restless gust of cold, wet wind that slams into my chest as I walk down 132nd Street in Harlem. (6) Harlem. (7) So far from my home. (8) So far from the endless Kenyan plains that I still dream about each night (9) The rain pelts my face, and I shiver as it shimmies down my neck and creeps underneath the thick, scratchy collar of my coat. (10) I cannot stop staring into this woman's face, this African mother draped from brow to ankle in gold and wind-crushed linen. (11) As she descends the stairs, the rain seems to disappear around her. (12) Now that she has committed herself, she does not blink or fatter. (13) If anything, the rain has become a tightly woven fruit basket bearing down on the crown of her head, under which her pride demands that she stand erect. (14) The only concession she gives is to pull her head wrap up out of the folds of her long, dark cloak and clutch it tightly underneath her chin. (15) The scarf is a replica of the same gilded hijab my mother wore as a child, long before she became my mother. (16) I know this because it is the outfit that she chooses when she comes to me at night in my dreams (17) This woman looks nothing like my mother, yet somehow my heart tells me that they are almost exactly the same. (18) She tucks her curling braids underneath the edges of the wrap, attempting to cover the wildness embroidered in her hair. (19) I don't understand why, modesty is no kin to women like her. (20) She cannot help but walk like a mountain's peak through the raunchy streets of Harlem, wearing her continent on the high bridge of her nose, with the valleys curving round like clattering rings into her nostrils. (21) Her exposed heels are lined with the deep furrows of an elephant's trunk (22) She wears sandals in the November cold, in the hard, trash-swilling rain because the thirsty leather straps remind her of deserts and home (at least that's why I do so).

From Kuwana Hautbury, *The Red Moon* ©2001 by Kuwana Haubey

- (A) modest and self-effacing
- (B) imposing and dignified
- (C) youthful and energetic
- (D) angry and impatient

5. According to researchers, what might some modern sleep disorders actually result from?

People have long been told by health experts that they should get eight hours of unbroken sleep each night. Nevertheless, many struggle on a nightly basis to fall asleep and stay asleep. Some scientists have begun to reconsider this issue and have concluded that the health experts have not been giving very good advice. In a study conducted in 2015, subjects were kept in darkness for 14 hours each night, this being an attempt to create conditions similar to natural wintertime conditions. Deprived of artificial light, most subjects' nightly sleep time eventually expanded and divided into two roughly equal shifts with 1 to 3 hours of wakefulness between. The results of this study suggest that human sleep is not naturally concentrated in one block. In fact, having two 'sleeps' a night may be the natural human condition. Historical data also support these findings. Historians have uncovered documents dating back to ancient times that refer to a 'first sleep' and 'second sleep.' Rather than view waking in the middle of the night as a nuisance, people appear to have welcomed it as natural, useful, and even enjoyable. By the end of the 1700s, street lighting in cities became more common, people stayed up later, and writers mentioning first and second sleep less and less. Most people seem to have adapted to consolidated sleep, even if they do not get a full eight hours each night. However, researchers argue that some modern sleep disorders such as insomnia may be the result of enforcing an unnatural sleep rhythm. In other words, waking in the middle of the night may not indicate an inability to sleep, but rather an attempt by the brain to sleep 'naturally.'

- (A) The enforcement of unnatural consolidated sleep patterns
- (B) The popularity of coffeehouses
- (C) The invention of the alarm clock
- (D) The stress of modern work

6. According to the passage about New Spain, why was painting not highly valued in the 1600s?

Read the passage(s) below and answer the question based on what is stated or implied in the passage(s) and in any introductory material that may be provided.

Passage

Because of the rooted Spanish aristocratic prejudice against commerce and manual labor, the work of painters in the colonies of New Spain was not highly valued in the 1600s. Painting was considered an artisan activity, more physical than intellectual, much like that of tailors or blacksmiths. The persistence of guilds (trade associations), also inherited from Spain and maintaining their vitality overseas, contributed decisively to keeping such feudal beliefs about painting in force. However, the guilds and the workshop system they fostered also set the stage for the development of distinctive works of art determined by local rather than European conditions and specific to the various communities of the Hispanic American world.

Adapted from Denver Art Museum, Painting a New World Mexican Art and Life, 1521-1821 02004 by Denver Art Museum

- (A) Because it was seen as manual labor similar to tailoring or blacksmithing
- (B) Because the quality of colonial painters was poor
- (C) Because religious authorities discouraged painting
- (D) Because artists lacked access to materials

7. The primary purpose of the passage is to:

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- (A) Trace the history of guilds in New Spain
- (B) Criticize the Spanish beliefs about manual labor
- (C) Describe some particular works of art created in New Spain in the 1600s
- (D) Describe the influence of Spanish attitudes and practices on the painting of New Spain

8. In the first two sentences , scientists are presented as all of the following EXCEPT

Read the passage(s) below and answer the question on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passage(s) and in any introductory material that may be provided.

Passage

During the early development of a new idea, scientists behave rather like artists, driven by temperament. We start off with a hunch, a feeling, even a desire that the world be one way, and then we proceed from that presentiment, often sticking with it long after the data suggest we may be leading ourselves and others down a blind alley. What saves us is that experiment acts as the ultimate referee, settling all disputes. No matter how strong our hunch is, at some point we will have to prove it with facts. Otherwise our hunch, no matter how strongly held, will remain just that.

Adapted from Donald Goldsmith and Marcia Bartusiak, E Einstein. His Life, His Thought, and His Influence on Our Culture ©2006 by The Reference Works, Inc

- (A) predisposed
- (B) determined
- (C) inherently logical
- (D) overly zealous

9. In context, which of the following is the best way to revise and combine sentences 13 and 14: 'Democratic rule was established in the 1990s. Then more steps were taken to strengthen Guarani'?

To this day, Paraguay remains the only country in the Americas where a majority of the population speaks one indigenous language: Guarani. It is taught in every school. And, in the streets: it is a source of national pride. Paraguay differs significantly even from other multilingual Latin American nations like neighboring Bolivia. In Paraguay, indigenous peoples account for less than 5 percent of the population. Yet Guarani is spoken by an estimated 90 percent of Paraguayans. Unlike Bolivia, which has many official languages, Paraguay has only two. Linguists and historians say the complex reasons for the broad use of the indigenous language here date to the earliest days of Spain's colonization in the sixteenth century. The colonial system that forced indigenous people to work for Europeans did not penetrate big parts of the territory that eventually became Paraguay. This helped sustain Guarani. Under General Alfredo Stroessner, who ruled from 1954 to 1989, Guarani thrived. General Stroessner, the son of a Bavarian immigrant father and Guarani-speaking mother, made it an official language and rewarded rural Guarani speakers with land for their loyalty. Democratic rule was established in the 1990s. Then more steps were taken to strengthen Guarani. But not everyone is optimistic about Guarani's prospects, pointing to factors like the increasing migration of peasants from the rural interior, where Guarani is often the dominant language, to cities, where Spanish holds more sway. Whether Guarani can continue to thrive, even survive, in a more urban society and an increasingly connected world remains to be seen.

- (A) Democratic rule was established in the 1990s, more steps were taken, and Guarani was strengthened
- (B) Democratic rule was established in the 1990s, and they took more steps to strengthen Guarani
- (C) In the 1990s, more steps were taken to strengthen Guarani because democratic rule was established
- (D) After democratic rule was established in the 1990s, more steps were taken to strengthen Guarani

10. In context, which is the best way to revise the 'it' in sentence 8: 'A 2010 report by the Office of the State Comptroller of New York found that it can lessen the need for increased property taxes.'

- (A) a community
- (B) conserving open lands
- (C) the state of New York
- (D) the Comptroller's report