# How to Pass the Next Generation ACCUPLACER Reading

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

**1. Which is the best version of the underlined portion of sentence 5: 'Compounding the problem is that food distribution system's currently require a lot of energy'?**

> *Between a quarter and a third of the food produced in the United States gets wasted. A lot of the waste happens during farming and processing, before the food even gets to consumers. Later, buyers often reject produce because of minor blemishes, or they throw away food when they bought too much or allowed it to rot. An average family spends hundreds of dollars each year on food that does not get eaten. Compounding the problem is that food distribution system's currently require a lot of energy. An item of food on an American plate has typically made a trip of over 2,400 kilometers. Then once the food arrives at a market there is energy consumed by unloading and stocking it. All told, around 15 percent of all the energy used in the United States is devoted to producing and distributing food. They say we could save a great deal of energy by addressing the problem of food waste. The 'sell by' dates on foods are typically very conservative and result in people throwing away perfectly edible items. Shoppers could be better informed about the true shelf life of the products they purchase. This would help them plan meals more efficiently and end up with less spoiled food. It might result in fewer trips to the store, which could keep fuel and cut down on pollution.*

**(A)** (as it is now)
**(B)** systems'
**(C)** system's
**(D)** systems

**2. Which point do both of the passages make?**

> *Passage 1: I have always been wary of cats, and now, walking alongside a 500-pound African black-maned lion, I know why. They remind me there is something higher than I am on the food chain. Josef, the lion beside me, is trained- 'the best lion in the business,' his owner says, beaming. Josef has starred in movies and posed for film animators. Josef is a big-time Hollywood cat. But Josef is not tame. No big cat ever is- a difficult fact to ignore as we climb the hills near the ranch Josef calls home. He strides with the fluidity of unfurling silk, deliberately- not an ounce of tentativeness in each footfall. 'Cats don't rent; they own,' it is said. Lions own everything in sight. Passage 2: From Cathy Newman, 'Nature's Masterwork: CATS.' ©1997 by National Geographic Society. While packs of cave bears and saber-toothed tigers may once have terrorized early humanity, most regions of our planet have since been stripped of their descendants. And due to a variety of factors, many other 'man-eating' species now face the possibility of extinction. Their disappearance from Earth is a sobering prospect, not least because of the role they play in keeping us humble. The possibility of being prey, rather than agents of planetary dominion, keeps us acutely aware of our membership within the natural world. The emotions inspired by such possibilities remind us that the world is a dangerous, yet beautiful, place.*

**(A)** That human beings can be prey

**(B)** That human beings have a duty to protect large predatory animals

**(C)** That large predatory animals are vanishing from the planet

**(D)** That big cats can never be tamed

**3. In sentence 13, the narrator most likely uses the image of 'a tightly woven fruit basket' to suggest that the rain 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) 1 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)** a physical challenge that must be endured

**(B)** falling so heavily that she can barely see through it

**(C)** a reminder of the weather in harvest season

**(D)** important because it allows crops to survive

**4. In context, which is the best way to revise and combine sentences 14 and 15: 'My grumpiness dissolved. I saw how truly fascinated Danny was with what I was doing'?**

> *I'm a professional chef, but frankly, I've always had a preference for cooking at home. There are two reasons for this. First, restaurant cooking can be very restrictive, whereas cooking at home allows me freedom to experiment. The more important reason, therefore, is that at home I can cook alone. While I'm on the job, I have no time to myself. I'm managing a hectic, crowded kitchen and supervising more than a dozen people. It's only when I'm in my own home kitchen that I can relax and take real pleasure in the culinary arts. But last Monday night I underwent an attitude shift. My husband and I have invited a neighboring family to dinner. While the others entertained themselves in the family room, I was alone in the kitchen, blissfully trying out a new recipe for pasta sauce. Looking up from the onions I was chopping, I saw our neighbors' son, Danny, poking his head through the doorway. 'Do you mind if I watch?' he asked. Actually, I did mind but grudgingly allowed him entrance into my sanctuary. My grumpiness dissolved. I saw how truly fascinated Danny was with what I was doing. I asked if he wanted to help, and we spent the next 40 minutes sharing the joy of cooking. I so thoroughly enjoyed the experience that I was forced to reassess my view of cooking as an ideally solitary activity. In fact, the next time we invite his family to dinner, I think I'll ask Danny if he'd like to be my assistant again.*

**(A)** My grumpiness dissolved, and I

**(B)** My grumpiness dissolved, though, when I

**(C)** Although my grumpiness had dissolved, I

**(D)** When my grumpiness dissolved, I still

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**5. Because these speeding particles' compositions were quite different from those of other low-energy cosmic rays, scientists dubbed them ___ cosmic rays.**

**(A)** intermittent

**(B)** transitory

**(C)** resilient

**(D)** anomalous

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**6. In the passage, the author refers to the photography technique of double exposure primarily to:**

> *In photography,' the scholar and curator Josh Kun writes, in his powerful introductory essay, 'double exposure typically refers to the photograph, not the photographer.' It occurs when the film is bared to light twice during a single shot, resulting in two exposures in a single image. The effect can be surreal, like a haunting. Taken as a whole, George Rodriguez's work offers a different kind of double exposure. In dividing his attention between two worlds that overlap but rarely intersect, he created one of the truest chronicles of Los Angeles there is.*

**(A)** Explain that Rodriguez frequently uses that technique to create eerie and distorted representations of city life

**(B)** Illustrate how Rodriguez's innovative use of double exposure inspired other photographers to do so as well

**(C)** Provide an example of how Rodriguez explored the tension between his identity as a photographer and as a scholar

**(D)** Set up a metaphor comparing that technique to the way Rodriguez's work depicts the duality of Los Angeles

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**7. Which choice best characterizes the way the author presents the relationship between the arts and political and social issues?**

> *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*
> *Performance is a genre in which art is presented "live," usually by the artist but sometimes with collaborators or performers. It has had a role in avant-garde art throughout the twentieth century, playing an important part in movements such as Futurism. Indeed, whenever artists have become discontented with conventional forms of art, such as painting and traditional modes of sculpture, they have often turned to performance as a means to rejuvenate their work. The most significant flourishing of performance art took place following the decline of modernism and Abstract Expressionism in the 1960s, and it found exponents across the world. Performance art of this period was particularly focused on the body, and is often referred to as Body art. This reflects the period's so-called "dematerialization of the art object, and the flight from traditional media. It also reflects the political ferment of the time: the rise of feminism, which encouraged thought about the division between the personal and political and anti-war activism, which supplied models for politicized art "actions."*
> *Adapted from "Performance Art ©2018 by The Art Story Foundation*

**(A)** The arts are a key driver of political and social change

**(B)** The arts are a way to distract people from political and social problems

**(C)** The arts reflect changes in the political and social landscape

**(D)** The arts are stifled during × of political and social upheaval

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**8. Which is the best version of the underlined portion of sentence 2? 'Vital to a neighborhood, clean water, unspoiled open lands, and diverse species of plants and wildlife are essential for a thriving community.'**

**(A)** [as it is now]

**(B)** Mandatory for residents, clean

**(C)** clean

**(D)** Clean

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**9. In context, which of the following sentences would best be inserted between sentences 9 and 10: 'They say we could save a great deal of energy by addressing the problem of food waste. The 'sell by' dates on foods are typically very conservative and result in people throwing away perfectly edible items'?**

> *Between a quarter and a third of the food produced in the United States gets wasted. A lot of the waste happens during farming and processing, before the food even gets to consumers. Later, buyers often reject produce because of minor blemishes, or they throw away food when they bought too much or allowed it to rot. An average family spends hundreds of dollars each year on food that does not get eaten. Compounding the problem is that food distribution system's currently require a lot of energy. An item of food on an American plate has typically made a trip of over 2,400 kilometers. Then once the food arrives at a market there is energy consumed by unloading and stocking it. All told, around 15 percent of all the energy used in the United States is devoted to producing and distributing food. They say we could save a great deal of energy by addressing the problem of food waste. The 'sell by' dates on foods are typically very conservative and result in people throwing away perfectly edible items. Shoppers could be better informed about the true shelf life of the products they purchase. This would help them plan meals more efficiently and end up with less spoiled food. It might result in fewer trips to the store, which could keep fuel and cut down on pollution.*

**(A)** Better labeling might help.

**(B)** Many people regularly buy more food than they need.

**(C)** Certain types of produce spoil more quickly than others.

**(D)** Canned foods last much longer than fresh items.

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**10. In context, which of the following words or phrases would most appropriately be inserted immediately before 'in my own home kitchen' in sentence 7: 'It's only when I'm in my own home kitchen that I can relax and take real pleasure in the culinary arts'?**

> *I'm a professional chef, but frankly, I've always had a preference for cooking at home. There are two reasons for this. First, restaurant cooking can be very restrictive, whereas cooking at home allows me freedom to experiment. The more important reason, therefore, is that at home I can cook alone. While I'm on the job, I have no time to myself. I'm managing a hectic, crowded kitchen and supervising more than a dozen people. It's only when I'm in my own home kitchen that I can relax and take real pleasure in the culinary arts. But last Monday night I underwent an attitude shift. My husband and I have invited a neighboring family to dinner. While the others entertained themselves in the family room, I was alone in the kitchen, blissfully trying out a new recipe for pasta sauce. Looking up from the onions I was chopping, I saw our neighbors' son, Danny, poking his head through the doorway. 'Do you mind if I watch?' he asked. Actually, I did mind but grudgingly allowed him entrance into my sanctuary. My grumpiness dissolved. I saw how truly fascinated Danny was with what I was doing. I asked if he wanted to help, and we spent the next 40 minutes sharing the joy of cooking. I so thoroughly enjoyed the experience that I was forced to reassess my view of cooking as an ideally solitary activity. In fact, the next time we invite his family to dinner, I think I'll ask Danny if he'd like to be my assistant again.*

**(A)** here

**(B)** helping out

**(C)** surrounded by family

**(D)** by myself

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