

NLN NEX Verbal

Section: NLN NEX Verbal Ability Exams • **Total Questions:** 10 • **Format:** Verified Q&A

1. Which sentence from the passage expresses its main idea?

1. In 2010, author Rebecca Skloot published *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, the story of a Black woman who died of cervical cancer in 1951. The book, an immediate bestseller, examines the roles of race, class, gender, and ethics in medical research and considers the implications, both positive and negative, of Henrietta Lacks's remarkable but inadvertent role in some of the most significant medical advances of the twentieth century.
2. In 1951, Lacks, a 30-year-old wife and mother of five, went to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore for treatment of cervical cancer. She was unable to pay for treatment and stayed in a segregated ward. During a procedure to place radium on her tumor, Lacks's doctor cut a sliver from the tumor, placed it in a petri dish, and handed it off to the lab assistant of George Gey, a Johns Hopkins cancer researcher. Sadly, cervical cancer is a particularly pernicious disease, and Henrietta succumbed in October 1951 after a brief but terribly painful struggle, leaving behind her young children.
3. George Gey had been trying unsuccessfully to grow human cells in culture - until Henrietta's cells arrived. Labeled HeLa, Henrietta's cancer cells doubled in culture within 24 hours - and they never stopped. HeLa cells multiplied so rapidly and persistently, Gey eventually began giving them away to other researchers. According to Skloot, HeLa became the "workhorse" of research labs everywhere. They were used to test the polio vaccine and in the development of HIV medications and cancer treatments. HeLa cells were central to the development of the HPV vaccine and were some of the first human cells sent into space to determine how zero gravity affected human cellular activity.
4. While Gey never profited from HeLa cells, eventually others did. HeLa "factories" soon sprang up, and researchers and labs could order vials of HeLa cells through catalogues. The production and sale of HeLa cells became a multi-million-dollar industry. Lacks's surviving children, however, continued to live in poverty in Baltimore, unaware of their mother's contributions to science.
5. Media coverage and scientific interest eventually made its way to the Lacks family. Scientists sought the children's DNA to better map Henrietta's genome, and the media sought to learn more about the woman behind the cells. One journalist easily obtained Henrietta's medical records and published large portions of them without the family's knowledge or consent. Thousands profited from HeLa cells and their story, but the Lacks family never saw a penny.
6. Today, laws protect patients' privacy and require consent for all invasive medical procedures. However, the debate about who owns human tissue once it has left its owner's body is still unsettled. The legal and scientific communities must balance the rights of human subjects with the benefits to science that human cells can provide. The rare occasions when human cells provide the kind of scientific - and economic value that HeLa did, who should benefit? While there is no doubt that the Lacks family was first dismissed and later exploited, this bioethical debate is far from settled.

- (A) The book, an immediate bestseller, examines the roles of race, class, gender, and ethics in medical research and considers the implications, both positive and negative, of Henrietta Lacks's remarkable but inadvertent role in some of the most significant medical advances of the twentieth century.
- (B) While there is no doubt that the Lacks family was first dismissed and later exploited, this bioethical debate is far from settled.
- (C) Sadly, cervical cancer is a particularly pernicious disease, and Henrietta succumbed in October 1951 after a brief but terribly painful struggle, leaving behind her young children.
- (D) The production and sale of HeLa cells became a multi-million-dollar industry.

2. The company interviewed twelve..... candidates for the new management position.

- (A) prospective
 - (B) perceptive
 - (C) perspective
 - (D) accepted
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3. Choose the pair of words that represent antonyms.

- (A) pacify-provoke
 - (B) punitive-incentive
 - (C) retaliate-sabotage
 - (D) squander-dissipate
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4. Court decisions focusing on student free speech in the 1980s largely

1. The 1960s and 1970s are often distinguished as hallmark decades for free speech and free expression in American history- the civil rights movement, feminist movement, and free speech movement all have their roots in the tumultuous Sixties and Seventies. As stated in Welner, Kim, and Biegel (2017), "In the 1960s and 1970s, free speech issues were at the forefront of education-related debates, with students asserting themselves in ways they never had before" (p. 33). The late 1960s and early 1970s were ripe with protest, specifically in response to the violent atrocities associated with the Vietnam War. Inevitably, this democratic fervor seeped into the systems and structures of K-12 public schooling. Thus, it is not surprising that this era gave birth to many of the modern constitutional debates regarding students and their First Amendment rights in public schools. In particular, this era gave birth to the landmark Supreme Court case known as *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969).
2. *Tinker v. Des Moines* emerged from the countercultural milieu of the late Sixties: "In December 1965, a group of adults and students in Des Moines, Iowa held a meeting. The group determined to publicize their objections to the hostilities in Vietnam and their support for a truce by wearing black armbands during the holiday season and by fasting on December 16 and New Year's Eve" (p. 43). Three students attending that meeting were John Tinker, 15 years old, Mary Beth Tinker, 13 years old, and Christopher Eckhardt, 16 years old. Fueled by the images they witnessed on television broadcasts, Tinker and her classmates decided to wear black armbands as a symbol of youthful resistance and patriotism. The administrators of the Des Moines Independent Community School District caught word of the upcoming protest and hastily adopted a school policy that promised to suspend any students who wore black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War. On December 16 and 17, the administration attempted to squash the public display of solidarity, all three students were suspended from school indefinitely "until they would come back without their armbands" (p. 43).
3. The students' parents fought back, suing the school for violating the children's right to free speech. After a U.S. district court - and later a U.S. court of appeals - ruled against the children and their families, citing that their protest was a disruption and breeched local school standards, the case made its way all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. The resulting decision of *Tinker v. Des Moines* set in motion a historical tidal wave of praise and criticism. Promising that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate," the Supreme Court justices decreed a 7-2 ruling in favor of the protestors. They claimed that the students' silent and symbolic expression was protected under the U.S. Constitution, citing that all political speech in public schools remains guarded by the First Amendment so long as it does not "substantially disrupt the learning environment." In a bold move for the times, the decision claimed that "In order for [a school] to justify prohibition of a particular expression of opinion, it must be able to show that its action was caused by something more than a mere desire to avoid the discomfort and unpleasantness that always accompany an unpopular viewpoint."
4. *Tinker V. Des Moines* became one of the key democratic victories of the mid-late twentieth century. The decades that followed, however, created clashing currents of belief that were captured by some of the major court cases that reinterpreted the *Tinker* decision. For the most part, these court cases not only stood as lasting symbols of the political beliefs of the judicial majorities involved, but also as emblems of the socio-historical climate from which they resonated. Less than 20 years after *Tinker V. Des Moines*, the constitutional precedents made by the landmark decision quickly dissipated, receding into a new sea of social censorship for students. Constitutional reinterpretations of *Tinker* in the

- (A) diverged from the *Tinker* ruling.
- (B) ignored the *Tinker* ruling.
- (C) supported the *Tinker* ruling.
- (D) forgot about the *Tinker* decision.

5. When at a family event, we may call it a gathering of our

- (A) kindred.
 - (B) acquaintances.
 - (C) neighbors.
 - (D) friends.
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6. Based on the passage, it can be concluded that

1. Forty years ago, a person diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (T1D) would have found their life altered considerably. T1D frequently begins to manifest in childhood but can be diagnosed at any age. However, thanks to recent advances, managing this chronic condition now comes with conveniences that allow for less worry and fewer challenges for people who live with T1D.

2. People with T1D must be attentive to their food intake, carefully monitor their blood glucose levels, and take regular doses of insulin - tasks that often make people feel alienated from their friends who are able to eat what they want without worry. If someone with T1D takes too much insulin for their food, they can experience hypoglycemia, a sudden drop in blood sugar, leading to debilitating symptoms such as headache, sweating, shakiness, and even fainting. But if they don't take enough insulin, they will experience hyperglycemia which causes symptoms such as excessive thirst, frequent urination, lethargy, headaches, and blurred vision.

3. Recently, however, advances in blood glucose monitoring and insulin delivery have simplified disease management for many people with diabetes. Roughly 64% of current patients with T1D in the US use an insulin pump for consistent accurate delivery of insulin rather than relying on daily insulin injections (Smith & Harris, 2018). Insulin pumps generally contain an insulin reservoir and a computer chip that monitor insulin delivery through a cannula inserted under the patient's skin, usually on the lower part of the stomach. While the cannula site must be changed every few days, the pump frees the individual from needing frequent injections and delivers insulin more consistently than injections.

4. Additionally, patients can now also use a continuous glucose monitor (CGM) to promote better regulation of blood sugar. CGMs use a sensor inserted under the skin to transmit blood glucose information to a smartphone app or even directly to an insulin pump. Patients can then use an app to monitor their insulin intake and blood sugar at any given time. Furthermore, the app can alert the patient to changes in blood sugar that could lead to dangerous reactions. Patients and their caregivers can use the information stored on the app to adjust diet and insulin delivery to promote better overall health (Wong, 2023).

5. Perhaps the most exciting recent development in diabetes management is that of the hybrid, dosed-loop system, or artificial pancreas. In 2016, the FDA approved the first of these devices, which combine glucose monitoring and insulin delivery in one automated system (Smith & Harris, 2018). These systems, now commercially available, allow patients with T1D a level of ease of management that enables them to go about daily tasks without the need to carry kits containing syringes, vials, finger prick devices, and test strips.

6. While a cure for T1D remains a goal of researchers, consistent improvements in patient care and management have vastly improved life for many patients living with T1D. While patients wait for a cure, modern medical technology now offers them a vastly improved quality of life.

- (A) advances in technology, such as the hybrid, closed loop system, don't replace the need for a cure.
 - (B) patients with T1D who use hybrid closed-loop systems will have the same lifespan as those without T1D.
 - (C) hybrid closed-loop systems will not be widely used in the future.
 - (D) new technology allows people with T1D to no longer have to monitor their condition.
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7. Which pair of words below represents antonyms?

- (A) unfettered -loosened
 - (B) ambivalent -decisive
 - (C) ambitious - determined
 - (D) lucrative-profitable
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8. Based on the information in the passage, a parent should seek medical intervention for a child's picky eating if the child:

1. "They won't starve; if they're hungry enough, they'll eat." Parents of "picky" eaters hear this statement from well-meaning friends and fellow parents all the time. However, for parents of children with Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder or ARFID, the statement is untrue.
2. According to the National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA), between 0.5% and 5% of the general population may have ARFID. The disorder often affects young children and can be distinguished from simple pickiness; individuals with ARFID restrict their diet so severely, they suffer poor health as a result. In very severe cases, malnutrition and failure to thrive can occur.
3. ARFID is considered an eating disorder and a psychological condition; however, unlike other eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia, people with ARFID do not restrict their food intake out of concern for their appearance or weight. Sufferers of ARFID limit their diet due to a lack of interest in food or out of a sense of extreme anxiety or fear around food and the process of eating (Eddy, n.d.).
4. While the causes of ARFID aren't yet well understood, traumatic events involving eating, such as a choking incident, a severe allergic reaction, or painful responses to food (cramping, diarrhea, or vomiting), can lead to worsening restrictive behavior. However, not all cases can be traced to such an incident. Children with ARFID may also suffer from sensory challenges that cause them to avoid certain food textures and flavors. Common comorbidities include ADHD, autism spectrum disorder, depression, and anxiety (Eddy, n.d.).
5. Attempting to pressure a child with ARFID to eat something they are uncomfortable with can heighten their anxiety around food and mealtimes. Instead, families of children with ARFID should seek treatment. Cognitive behavior therapy is the recommended treatment, though some patients may also need medication for anxiety or underlying physiological feeding issues. NEDA also notes that family-based therapy may be helpful for children with ARFID. Left untreated, ARFID can lead to serious physical health conditions in patients.
6. Multiple resources designed to help parents with children diagnosed with ARFID are available. NEDA lists a number of resources on its website. Additionally, numerous social media support groups have formed. One of the most notable resources is the Instagram feed of 8-year-old Hannah. Recently featured on ABC News, Hannah's Instagram, titled "My ARFID Life," shares videos of her experiences with foods. In a technique known as exposure therapy, Hannah is gradually introduced to new foods, exploring their texture, smell, and other features before eventually tasting them and sharing her reaction with her followers.
7. Like other mental health conditions, ARFID poses immense challenges to those who suffer from the disorder and to their families. The risks to physical and overall mental health can be scary, as well. Fortunately, as new information comes to light regarding this recently identified disorder, resources and professional knowledge have begun to increase. With proper care and support, patients with ARFID can drastically improve their quality of life.

- (A) refuses to try something the parent knows they like.
- (B) is suffering physical effects from overly restrictive eating.
- (C) insists on having food presented in a certain way.
- (D) throws a tantrum at mealtime.

9. The administration of government through departments and subdivisions is called

- (A) bureaucracy.
 - (B) diplomacy.
 - (C) democracy.
 - (D) autocracy.
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10. Journaling, exercising, and crafting are examples of Which word should go in the blank?

- (A) impregnable
- (B) ambivalent
- (C) despondent
- (D) cathartic