

Praxis 5154

Section: 5152 Pennsylvania Grades 4 to 8 Core Assessment Exams • Total Questions: 10 • Format: Verified Q&A

1. Which statement best explains the impact of the author's decision to use the word “vicious” in the passage?

*Papa had promised to meet her in the garden and he never disappointed her. She bent over to pick a red bloom, fully opened, and pricked her finger on a vicious thorn. Big pearls of blood pulsed from the tip of her thumb and she automatically thought, “bad luck.” She quickly wrapped her hand in the corner of her apron and dismissed the premonition. Then she cautiously clipped the blown rose that had wounded her. Looking toward the horizon, she saw the last of the sun disappear behind the Sierra Madre. Darkness would settle quickly and a feeling of uneasiness and worry nagged at her. - Pam Munoz Ryan, from *Esperanza Rising**

- (A) It contributes to the ominous tone.
- (B) It provides a vivid visual description.
- (C) It establishes the conflict with nature.
- (D) It conveys a sense of the supernatural.

2. The passages are similar in that both

*(1) The first domestication of the horse, one of the greatest achievements of man in the animal kingdom, was not the work of a day; but like all other great accomplishments, was brought about by a gradual process of discoveries and experiments. (2) Man, in all his inventions and discoveries, has almost invariably commenced with some simple principle, and gradually developed it from one degree of perfection to another. (3) The first hint that we have of the use of electricity was Franklin's drawing it from the clouds with his kite. (4) Now it is the instrument of conveying thought from mind to mind, with a rapidity that surpasses time. (5) The great propelling power that drives the wheel of the engine over our land, and ploughs the ocean with our steamers, was first discovered escaping from a tea-kettle. (6) And so the powers of the horse, second only to the powers of steam, became known to man only as experiments, and investigation revealed them. - P. R. Kincaid, from *The Archian Art of Taming and Training Wild & Victims Horses**

- (A) focus on the beauty of new growth in spring
- (B) describe the cold of winter giving way to the warmth of spring
- (C) depict a landscape that is cold and barren
- (D) characterize winter as being more peaceful than spring

3. Which of the following is an assumption made by the author?

Gertrude, queen of Denmark, becoming a widow by the sudden death of King Hamlet, in less than two months after his death married his brother Claudius, which was noted by all people at the time for a strange act of indiscretion, or unfeelingness, or worse; for this Claudius did no way resemble her late husband in the qualities of his person or his mind, but was as contemptible in outward appearance as he was base and unworthy in disposition.

- (A) The same scientific principles that apply to harnessing natural forces also apply to training horses.
 - (B) The discovery of electricity had a greater impact on society than the invention of steam engines had.
 - (C) The study of horses as transportation contributed to the development of steam-powered transportation.
 - (D) Franklin's experiments with electricity represented a new approach to scientific inquiry.
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4. Which of the following is the best antonym for 'hyperkinetic'?

Elizabeth related to Jane, the next day, what had passed between Mr. Wickham and herself. Jane listened with astonishment and concern: she knew not how to believe that Mr. Darcy could be so unworthy of Mr. Bingley's regard; and yet it was not in her nature to question the veracity of a young man of such amiable appearance as Wickham. The possibility of his having really endured such unkindness was enough to interest all her tender feelings; and nothing therefore remained to be done but to think well of them both, to defend the conduct of each, and throw into the account of accident or mistake whatever could not be otherwise explained. - Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

- (A) Unsatisfying
 - (B) Boring
 - (C) Disappointing
 - (D) Calming
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5. Which **TWO**** of the following are typical characteristics of the poetry genre?**

- (A) Scripts meant to be performed aloud
 - (B) Frequent rhythmic and figurative language
 - (C) Supernatural elements and clearly defined morals
 - (D) Elements designed to evoke strong emotions
 - (E) Ideas conveyed in sequential order driven by plot
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6. Which of the following sentences from the paragraph is the thesis statement?

The real estate ad described the cottage as 'cozy,' with 'rustic features' and 'lots of character'; a 'handyman's dream come true' situated on a 'private lot.' In reality, the house was tiny, in the middle of nowhere, and in need of major renovations and repairs.

- (A) Katie, the oldest sister in a family of five, is the protagonist in the story.'
- (B) She is often seen doting upon her siblings.'
- (C) However, her considerate nature extends into the classroom as she helps her peers and even her teacher.'
- (D) Katie is an admirable character due to her caring, considerate, and empathetic nature.'

7. What is Washington's message in this excerpt?

- (A) Political factions pose a threat to the development of the nation.
- (B) Political factions help ensure that the will of the nation is observed.
- (C) Political factions should be outlawed in the new nation.
- (D) Political factions have the greatest power in the nation.

8. When revising the sentence, which of the following issues should be targeted?

In the United States many people do not have enough fiber in their diets. This is unfortunate because fiber is important for cardiovascular and digestive health. According to Lemmon and Oates (2005) fiber can 'reduce the risk of heart attack or stroke by 3 times.' Given this fact it is imperative that our government take action. Before it is too late we must make fiber a higher priority ingredient in school lunches.

- (A) Passive voice
- (B) Awkward sentence structure
- (C) Repetitive wording
- (D) Clichés

9. A student is studying the life and work of the poet Phillis Wheatley, who lived during the American Revolution. Which of the following is an example of a secondary source that might be consulted for the study?

(1) 'Hurry up, George! (2) You're going to be late!' I yelled to my brother as he was finishing his breakfast. (3) I'm pretty sure he'd miss the bus every day if it wasn't for my help. (4) It was important that he wasn't late that day though, George had a big test first thing in the morning! (5) He put his cereal bowl in the sink, grabbed his backpack from its hook in the hallway, gave me his usual grateful smile, and sprinted out the door just in time to get on the bus.

- (A) A diary kept by a close friend of Wheatley's
- (B) The United States Declaration of Independence
- (C) A poem Wheatley wrote about George Washington
- (D) A biography of Wheatley written in the nineteenth century

10. The author's approach to the subject matter is primarily that of

From the stories that center on the proper training of dogs and horses, young readers gain a background for the training of their own pets. There is, of course, a great deal of overlap between such stories and informational books. Much of the fiction gives accurate information, and many informational books about animals have a narrative framework; indeed, it is at times difficult to decide in which class a book belongs.

- (A) analysis
- (B) synthesis
- (C) detailed reportage
- (D) descriptive narration