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SSAT Upper Level Practice Test March 2023

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WHAT'S INSIDE

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SECTION 1

1. SHAME
(A) grief
(B) anguish
(C) suffering
(D) remorse
(E) humiliation

2. TELL
(A) censure
(B) preclude
(C) dissuade
(D) divulge
(E) contrive

3. CONCISE
(A) clever
(B) brief
(C) small
(D) exclusive
(E) subdued

4. INQUIRY
(A) testimony
(B) subpoena
(C) investigation
(D) verification
(E) statement

5. ATTITUDE
(A) disposition
(B) dissension
(C) charisma
(D) exemption
(E) dispensation

6. TEDIOUSLY
(A) tremendously
(B) delicately
(C) relentlessly
(D) fearlessly
(E) tiresomely

7. DEPLETE
(A) deride
(B) reduce
(C) deprecate
(D) discredit
(E) elicit

8. CAUTIOUS
(A) discreet
(B) anxious
(C) startled
(D) seared
(E) stricken

9. SPARSE
(A) spatial
(B) thin
(C) spastic
(D) vivid
(E) lifeless

10. AVERSION
(A) model
(B) portrayal
(C) dislike
(D) history
(E) arrangement

11. BENEFACTOR
(A) composer
(B) contributor
(C) agent
(D) connoisseur
(E) demagogue

12. DORMANT
(A) inactive
(B) restful
(C) covert
(D) durable
(E) arbitrary

13. MALCONTENT
(A) sickly
(B) troublesome
(C) dissatisfied
(D) malicious
(E) foolhardy

14. SATISFY
(A) please
(B) appease
(C) consume
(D) imbibe
(E) dissipate

15. MERIT
(A) deserve
(B) require
(C) necessitate
(D) pardon
(E) base

16. PROMINENT
(A) excellent
(B) accomplished
(C) admirable
(D) extensive
(E) conspicuous

17. OBJECTIVE
(A) interest
(B) forbearance
(C) observation
(D) concern
(E) intention

18. BREACH
(A) admission
(B) representation
(C) felony
(D) violation
(E) security

19. LAMENT
(A) remark
(B) acknowledge
(C) regret
(D) explain
(E) declare

20. RECTIFY
(A) start
(B) give
(C) examine
(D) fix
(E) advance

21. SUBMERGE
(A) submit
(B) subscribe
(C) immerse
(D) subsist
(E) clarify

22. PERMANENT
(A) historical
(B) indelible
(C) delectable
(D) permissive
(E) conspicuous

23. ABYSS
(A) island
(B) chamber
(C) niche
(D) hole
(E) division

24. ORDER:
(A) imbroglio
(B) judgment
(C) decree
(D) appraisal
(E) verdict

25. SHREWD
(A) poignant
(B) astute
(C) copious
(D) specious
(E) tactile

26. CLANDESTINE
(A) secret
(B) criminal
(C) familiar
(D) apprehensive
(E) disgraceful

27. COERCE
(A) twist
(B) mislead
(C) perceive
(D) chastise
(E) compel

28. DILATE
(A) embellish
(B) impede
(C) deflate
(D) enlarge
(E) prevent

29. INANE
(A) ridiculous
(B) deficient
(C) practical
(D) cumbersome
(E) indulgent

30. PLETHORA
(A) quandary
(B) resonance
(C) excess
(D) separation
(E) veneer

31. Insult is to compliment as
(A) puzzle is to vex
(B) difficulty is to enjoy
(C) brood is to worry
(D) assure is to console
(E) please is to annoy

32. Wolf is to pack as
(A) lamb is to sheep
(B) kitten is to mother
(C) goose is to gaggle
(D) school is to fish
(E) cattle is to herd

33. Announce is to inform as
(A) dig is to hole
(B) fold is to box
(C) finger is to point
(D) wrap is to conceal
(E) water is to extinguish

34. Shovel is to dig as
(A) launch is to rocket
(B) blade is to cut
(C) sneeze is to cold
(D) eye is to blink
(E) bowling is to ball

35. Liter is to volume as
(A) gram is to mass
(B) ounce is to pound
(C) centimeter is to kilometer
(D) inches is to ruler
(E) radius is to diameter

36. Tourist is to sightseeing as analyst is to
(A) traveling
(B) curing
(C) ruins
(D) science
(E) examining

37. Whisper is to scream as
(A) holler is to yell
(B) calm is to water
(C) pester is to bother
(D) glance is to stare
(E) carry is to gather

38. Rock is to quarry as
(A) rust is to iron
(B) coal is to mine
(C) pan is to gold
(D) metal is to alloy
(E) water is to ice

39. Spider is to web as
(A) teller is to Sank
(B) bird is to nest
(C) horse is to track
(D) pasture is to cow
(E) school is to student

40. Seat is to steering wheel as handle bar is to
(A) hand
(B) steer
(C) rider
(D) bike
(E) brake

41. Drive is to street as
(A) walk is to path
(B) run is to school
(C) eat is to snack
(D) fly is to bird
(E) study is to book

42. Mile is to distance as minute is to
(A) rate
(B) quickness
(C) time
(D) hour
(E) speed

43. Kick is to foot as
(A) back is to float
(B) swim is to arms
(C) chew is to mouth
(D) grind is to mill
(E) content is to book

44. Feed is to nourish as
(A) trap is to bury
(B) giggle is to laugh
(C) travel is to skate
(D) water is to hydrate
(E) throw is to fetch

45. Plum is to prune as
(A) pear is to pineapple
(B) hen is to rooster
(C) cream is to milk
(D) corn is to pop
(E) grape is to raisin

46. Maple tree is to syrup as
(A) coffee is to bean
(B) orange is to juice
(C) seed is to grass
(D) chip is to chocolate
(E) wheat is to bread

47. Envious is to jealous as
(A) melancholic is to mournful
(B) distressed is to dismayed
(C) entertained is to amused
(D) happy is to joyful
(E) sorry is to regretful

48. Knitter is to needles as
(A) teacher is to test
(B) diver is to ocean
(C) chef is to apron t '
(D) singer is to recording
(E) boxer is to gloves

49. Claw is to cat as
(A) tail is to donkey
(B) shell is to turtle
(C) fang is to snake
(D) talon is to eagle
(E) hand is to clock

50. Surprise is to startle
(A) choose is to grab
(B) inflate is to breathe
(C) destroy is to ruin
(D) need is to want
(E) mix is to bake

51. Scene is to play as
(A) stage is to screen
(B) projector is to movie
(C) car is to engine
(D) chapter is to book
(E) award is to actor

52. Aquatic is to water as terrestrial is to
(A) outer space
(B) island
(C) rocket
(D) land
(E) planet

53. Passenger is to bus as
(A) cargo is to ship
(B) pilot is to plane
(C) bicycle is to motorist
(D) motor is to boat
(E) freight is to rail

54. Seed is to rind as
(A) socket is to plug
(B) bark is to branch
(C) spark is to light
(D) knob is to door
(E) propeller is to plane

55. Malign is to disparage as
(A) elate is to enjoy
(B) irritate is to bother
(C) emulate is to deprecate
(D) ask is to say
(E) ponder is to worry

56. Shoreline is to ocean as
(A) horizon is to sunrise
(B) wave is to water
(C) lake is to river
(D) current is to tide
(E) border is to country

57. Shark is to hammerhead as bear is to
(A) arctic
(B) cub
(C) moose
(D) polar
(E) paw

58. Sociologist is to behavior as
(A) ballerina is to slipper
(B) writer is to computer
(C) zoologist is to tree
(D) chef is to meal
(E) archaeologist is to artifact

59. Hold is to grip as
(A) jump is to bounce
(B) jog is to sprint
(C) drive is to fast
(D) speak is to tell
(E) talk is to speech

60. Player is to team as
(A) guide is to tour
(B) membership is to club
(C) actor is to cast
(D) herd is to pack
(E) principal is to school

SECTION 2

1. Louisa went to the grocery store and bought a package of hamburger patties for S6.16, a package of buns for $2.10, a container of mustard for $1.78, a jar of relish for $2.16, and a bag of charcoal for $5.35. What was her total bill?

(A) $12.64
(B) $14.74
(C) $16.15
(D) $17.55
(E) $19.65

2. A teacher has assigned 315 pages of reading. If Jessica starts reading on Monday and reads 65 pages each day, on what day will she complete the assignment?

(A) Wednesday
(B) Thursday
(C) Friday
(D) Saturday
(E) Sunday

3. Renee deposits $4,000 in a saving account that earns 2% simple interest per year. How much interest will she earn after 2 years?

(A) $100
(B) $160
(C) $165
(D) $180
(E) $195

4. Rachel flies 2,880 miles in 9 hours. What is the average speed of her airplane?

(A) 285 miles/hour
(B) 315 miles/hour
(C) 320 miles/hour
(D) 340 miles/hour
(E) 355 miles/hour

5. An acute angle is an angle that measures

(A) exactly 90°
(B) greater than 90°
(C) less than 90°
(D) exactly 120°
(E) more than 120°

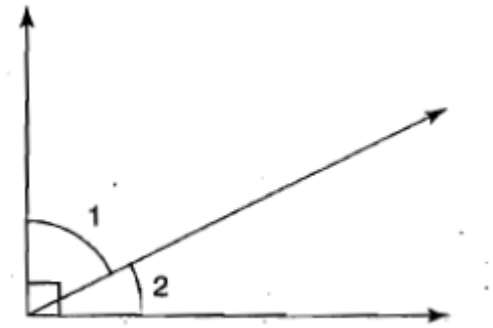
6. A1 has 3 times as much money as Bill. Bill has 2 times as much money as Charlie. If Charlie has $12.55, how much money does A1 have?

(A) $33.75
(B) $75.30
(C) $82.20
(D) $88.35
(E) $96.40

7. Alex's car gets an average of 26 miles per gallon of gas on the highway. If he drives 858 miles, how many gallons of gas will he use?

(A) 33 gallons
(B) 57 gallons
(C) 78 gallons
(D) 84 gallons
(E) 92 gallons

8. In the figure shown, the two outer rays form a right angle. If angle 1 measures 65°, what is the measure of angle 2?



(A) 120°
(B) 90°
(C) 60°
(D) 35°
(E) 25°

9. Will has $12,444.12 in his checking account. He writes checks for $8,204.94 and $890.99. How much is left in Will's account?

(A) S989.65
(B) $2,259.30
(C) $2,867.30
(D) $2,945.60
(E) $3,348.19

10. Paula is 3 years older than Lindsey, who is 2 years younger than Dave. If Paula is 17, how old is Dave?

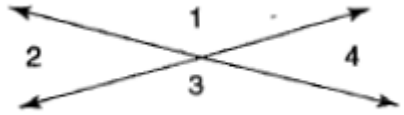
(A) 16
(B) 17
(C) 19
(D) 21
(E) 23

11. In a recent election. Rebecca received 14% of the votes. If 7,000 votes were cast, how many votes did Rebecca receive?

(A) 680
(B) 980
(C) 1,080
(D) 1,220

(E) 1,460

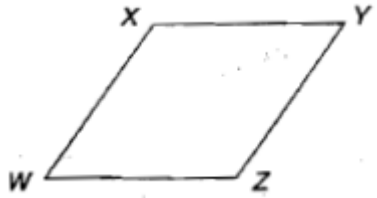
12. In the figure shown, if angle 2 measures 45°, what is the measure of angle 4?



(A) 135°
(B) 75°
(C) 45°
(D) 35°
(E) 25°

13. If $^1/_4$ of a number is 12, then $^1/_6$ of the same number is
(A) 16
(B) 15
(C) 12
(D) 9
(E) 8

14. Figure *WXYZ* is a parallelogram. Which of the following is NOT necessarily true?

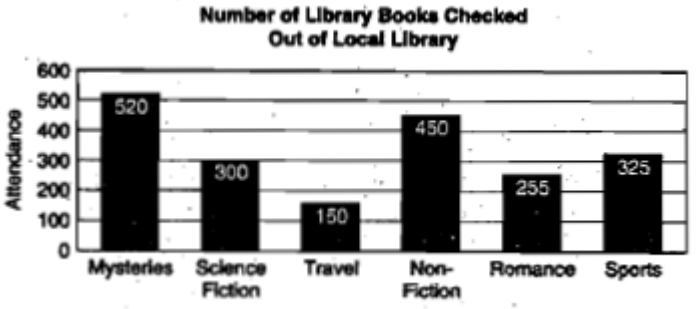


(A) Side *WX* is parallel to side *ZY*.
(B) Side *XY* is parallel to side *WZ*.
(C) $\angle W$ has the same measure as $\angle Y$.
(D) Side *WX* is the same length as side *XY*.
(E) $\angle X$ has the same measure as $\angle Z$.

15. Renee wants to carpet her living room. The rectangular room measures 15 feet × 18 feet. How many square yards of carpet must Renee purchase?
(A) 20yd^2
(B) 30yd^2
(C) 32yd^2
(D) 35yd^2
(E) 40yd^2

16. In an equilateral triangle, what is the measure of each angle?
(A) 30°
(B) 45°
(C) 60°
(D) 90°
(E) 110°

17. Last month, the librarian at a certain library kept track of all books checked out. The graph below shows the results by type of book. Which type of book was checked out least?



(A) Mysteries
(B) Science fiction
(C) Travel
(D) Nonfiction
(E) Sports

18. If 9 + 3 +_____= 8 + 6 + 4, then ___ =
(A) 2
(B) 3
(C) 4
(D) 5
(E) 6

19. 2 x 3 x 5 x 6 is equal to the product of 30 and
(A) 6
(B) 7
(C) 8
(D) 9
(E) 11

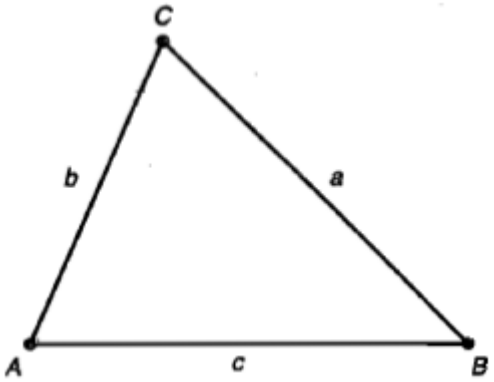
20. Which of the following is NOT equal to a whole number?
(A) $\frac{20}{5}$
(B) $5\times\frac{3}{4}$
(C) $6\div\frac{1}{6}$
(D) $\frac{3}{5}\times 10$
(E) 7 + 5

21. $4\ {}^{3}/_{10}\%$ =
(A) 43
(B) 4.3
(C) 0.43
(D) 0.043
(E) 0.0043

22. It costs *d* dollars to buy 6 chocolate bars. At the same rate, how many dollars will it cost to buy 15 chocolate bars?

(A) $2.5d$
(B) $25d$
(C) $\frac{2d}{5}$
(D) $\frac{5d}{2}$
(E) $250d$

23. In the triangle shown, $\angle ACB$ measures 55° and $\angle CAB$ measures 65°. What is the measure of $\angle CBA$?



(A) 50°
(B) 60°
(C) 80°
(D) 90°
(E) 110°

24. There are 15 black marbles and 10 white marbles in a bag. If you pick a marble from the bag without looking, what are your chances of picking a white marble?

(A) $\frac{1}{25}$
(B) $\frac{3}{25}$
(C) $\frac{2}{5}$
(D) $\frac{3}{5}$
(E) $\frac{4}{5}$

25. $^3/_4 - {}^5/_{12} =$

(A) $\frac{1}{12}$
(B) $\frac{3}{12}$
(C) $\frac{1}{3}$
(D) $\frac{2}{3}$
(E) $\frac{3}{4}$

SECTION 3

At the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the National Negro Business League in 1912, no women were included on the schedule of speakers. Madam C. J. Walker, a highly successful inventor and distributor of hair care products for African-American women, shocked the participants when she walked up and claimed the podium from moderator Booker T. Washington:

"Surely you are not going to shut the door in my face. I feel that I am in a business that is a credit to the womanhood of our race. I am a woman who started in business seven years ago with only $1. 50. This year (up to the 19th day of this month...) I had taken in $18,000. (Prolonged applause.) This makes a grand total of $63,049 made in my hair business in Indianapolis. (Applause.) I have been trying to get before you business people to tell you what I am doing. I am a woman that came from the cotton fields of the South; I was promoted from there to the wash-tub (laughter); then I was promoted to the cook kitchen, and from there I promoted myself into the business of manufacturing hair goods and preparations... I am not ashamed of my past; I am not ashamed of my humble beginning. Don't think that because you have to go down in the wash-tub that you are any less a lady! (Prolonged applause.)"

1. The purpose of Madam Walker's speech was to
(A) demonstrate her hair products to the league
(B) lash out at Booker T. Washington for ignoring her
(C) make the members of the league take notice of her business success
(D) influence the members of the league to admit more women
(E) encourage black women to go into business for themselves

2. As reflected in her speech. Madam Walker^ attitude is best described as
(A) envious
(B) proud
(C) reverent
(D) cautious
(E) fearful

3. The reaction of the members of the league to Madam Walker's speech can be described as
(A) indifferent
(B) angry
(C) sad
(D) favorable
(E) critical

4. The reference to her promotion from the cotton fields to the wash-tub to the cook kitchen is used to
(A) show how far she has come
(B) establish a connection with her audience
(C) suggest that hard work is not ladylike
(D) debunk a myth about African-American women
(E) make people feel sorry for her

5. What does Madam Walker means when she says, “Don't think that because you have to go down in the wash-tub that you are any less a lady” (lines 25-27)?
(A) Ladies should not have to scrub and cook.
(B) Getting down on your knees to scrub is hard work for a lady.
(C) It is not ladylike to work with your hands.
(D) Very few ladies get ahead in the business world.
(E) There is nothing demeaning about hard work.

On March 20,1980, a series of small earthquakes signaled the awakening of Mount St. Helens from a 123-year slumber. Over the next two months more than 10,000 earthquakes followed as magma moved into the volcano, wedging the volcano apart at a rate of five feet per day. Heat from a rising plume of volcanic ash melted glacial ice creating cement-like slurries of rock and ash called mudflows. 'Superheated avalanches of hot gas, magma caused a visible swelling of the volcano's north flank creating a feature that scientists called “the bulge.”

Many geologists weren't surprised by Mount St. Helens’ awakening. In the 1950s, geologists had begun an extensive study of the deposits around Mount St. Helens. In 1975, they published a report predicting that Mount St Helens was the volcano in the lower 48 states most likely to erupt by the end of the century.

On the morning of May 18,1980, a magnitude 5.1 earthquake triggered the collapse of the summit and north flank of Mount St. Helens and formed the largest landslide in recorded history. Gas-rich magma and super-heated groundwater trapped inside the volcano were suddenly released in a powerful lateral blast. In less than three minutes, 230 square miles of forest lay flattened. The hot gas and magma melted the snow and ice that covered the volcano. The resulting floodwater mixed with the rock and debris to create concrete-like mudflows that scoured river valleys, surrounding the mountain.

A plume of volcanic ash and pumice billowed out of the volcano reaching a height of 15 miles and transformed day into night across Eastern Washington. Avalanches of super-heated gas and pumice, called pyroclastic flows, swept down the flanks of the volcano. While the landslide and lateral blast were over within minutes, the eruption column, mudflows and pyroclastic flows continued throughout the day and following night. By the following morning major eruptive activity had ceased and the landscape appeared to be a gray wasteland.

6. The primary purpose of this passage is to
(A) offer general information about volcanoes
(B) describe a specific volcanic eruption
(C) offer specific advice about what to do when a volcano erupts
(D) provide historical background about volcanoes
(E) appeal for action to protect the environment

7. The first sentence implies that
(A) Mount St Helens had never before erupted
(B) Mount St. Helens erupts every. 123 years
(C) Mount St. Helens last erupted in 1857
(D) no records exist for eruptions that occurred more than 123 years ago
(E) no one suspected that Mount St. Helens could erupt

8. As used in line 7, “rising” most nearly means
(A) growing
(B) maturing
(C) approaching
(D) ascending
(E) advancing

9. The statement that “Many geologists weren’t surprised by Mount St. Helens’ awakening,’’ (lines 13-14) primarily suggests that
(A) geologists were able to predict when Mount St. Helens would erupt
(B) the assumptions geologists had made about Mount St. Helens were being proven
(C) the longer a volcano remains dormant, the more likely it is to become active
(D) nothing is surprising to geologists
(E) the heat rising from the volcanic ash had provided an important clue to the geologists

10. The author describes the events of May 18, 1980, mainly by means of
(A) scientific analysis
(B) detached and impartial observation
(C) vivid language and dramatic images
(D) presentation of facts in chronological order
(E) presentation of details in spatial order

11. By calling the landscape “a gray wasteland" (line 44), the author implies that
(A) the landscape was covered with a blanket of dirty snow
(B) the landscape was littered with garbage and other waste matter
(C) the trees were all covered with gray ash
(D) the sun could not penetrate the forest
(E) the landscape had been stripped bare and covered in volcanic ash

It was Paul's afternoon to appear before the faculty of the Pittsburgh High School to account for his various misdemeanors. He had been suspended a week ago, and his father had called the Principal's office and confessed his perplexity about his son. Paul entered the faculty room suave and smiling. His clothes were a trifle outgrown, and the tan velvet on the collar of his open overcoat was frayed and worn; but for all that there was something of the dandy about him, and he wore an opal pin in his neatly knotted black four-in-hand, and a red carnation in his buttonhole. This latter adornment the faculty somehow felt was not properly significant of the contrite spirit befitting a boy under the ban of suspension.

Paul was tall for his age and very thin, with high, cramped shoulders and a narrow chest. His eyes were remarkable for a certain hysterical brilliancy, and he continually used them in a conscious, theatrical sort of way, peculiarly offensive in a boy. The pupils were abnormally large, as though he-were addicted to belladonna, but there was a glassy glitter about them which that drug does not produce.

When questioned by the Principal as to why he was there Paul stated, politely enough, that he wanted to come back to school. This was a lie, but Paul was quite accustomed to lying; found it, indeed, indispensable for overcoming friction. His teachers were asked to state their respective charges against him, which they did with such a rancor and aggrieved ness as evinced that this was not a usual case! Disorder and impertinence were among the offenses named, yet each of his instructors felt that it was scarcely possible to put into words the real cause of the trouble, which lay in a sort of hysterically defiant manner of the boy's; in the contempt which they all knew he felt for them, and which he seemingly made not the least effort to conceal. Once, when he had been making a synopsis of a paragraph at the blackboard, his English teacher had stepped to his side and attempted to guide his hand. Paul had started back with a shudder and thrust his hands violently behind him. The astonished woman could scarcely have been more hurt and embarrassed had he

struck at her. The insult was so involuntary and definitely personal as to be unforgettable. In one way and another he had made all his teachers, men and women alike, conscious of the same feeling of physical aversion. In one class he habitually sat with his hand shading his eyes; in another he always looked out of the window during the recitation; in another he made a running commentary on the lecture, with humorous intention.

— Willa Cather from “Paul’s Case: A Study in Temperament”

12. This passage can best be characterized as
(A) an amusing story about a high school escapade
(B) a fond remembrance of the narrator's youth
(C) a penetrating examination of a young man's character
(D) a polite appeal for forgiveness
(E) an astute description of the relationship between a father and son

13. In line 10, the expression “there was something of the dandy about him” means that Paul
(A) was afraid of appearing before the faculty
(B) was in need of new clothes
(C) did not care how he looked
(D) paid great attention to his clothes
(E) was hard on his clothes

14. The red carnation in Paul’s buttonhole in lines 12-13 made the faculty feel that Paul
(A) did not take his suspension seriously enough
(B) did not really want to come back to school
(C) was trying to impress the principal
(D) thought he should be forgiven
(E) was sincere in his desire to improve his behavior

15. In the eyes of the faculty, Paul’s most serious offense was his
(A) insulting remarks made in class
(B) inability to control his temper
(C) failure to complete his assignments
(D) obvious contempt for his teachers
(E) lack of attention in class

16. Which adjective best describes Paul?
(A) contrite
(B) funny
(C) defiant
(D) violent
(E) embarrassed

17. As used in line 33, the word “rancor” means
(A) turmoil
(B) bitterness
(C) remorse
(D) resistance
(E) dismay

18. In lines 45-46, Paul shuddered and threw his hands behind him because
(A) his teacher had touched his hand
(B) he could not answer the teacher's question
(C) his teacher had hurt him
(D) he was afraid of the teacher

(E) he wanted to strike the teacher

The Homestead Act of 1862 has been called one the most important pieces of legislation in the history of the United States. Designed to spur Western migration, the Homestead Act culminated a twenty-year battle to distribute public lands to citizens willing to farm. Opposition to the Act came from Northern businessmen, who feared it would lower property values and reduce the supply of cheap labor, and from Southerners, who feared homesteaders would add to the voices calling for the abolition of slavery. With Southerners out of the picture in 1862, the legislation finally passed and was signed into law by Abraham Lincoln. Under this Act, 270 million acres, or 10% of the area of the United States, was claimed and settled.

A homesteader had only to be the head of a household and at least 21 years of age to claim a 160-acre parcel of land. Settlers from all walks of life, including newly arrived immigrants, farmers without land of their own from the East, single women and former slaves came to meet the challenge of “proving up” and keeping this “free land.” Homesteaders were required to live on the land, build a home, make improvements, and farm for 5 years before they were eligible to “prove up.” A total filing fee of $18 was the only money required, but settlers paid a big price in sacrifice and hard work.

People interested in Homesteading first had to file their intentions at the nearest Land Office where they paid a fee of $10 to claim the land temporarily, and a $2 commission to the land agent. The homesteader then returned to the land to begin the process of building a home and farming the land, both requirements for “proving up.” After five years of living on and working the land, the homesteader had to find two neighbors or friends willing to vouch for the truth of his or her statements about the land's improvements and sign the “proof’ document. With the successful completion of this final form and payment of a $6 fee, the homesteader received the patent (or deed) for the land, signed with the name of the current President of the United States.

19. The primary purpose of the passage is to
(A) discuss the reasons for westward expansion in the United States
(B) explain the provisions of the Homestead Act
(C) point out the difficulties of homesteading
(D) argue in favor of extending the Homestead Act
(E) explain the importance of “proving up”

20. In line 30, “file” most nearly means
(A) arrange in order
(B) classify
(C) sharpen
(D) record
(E) finish

21. In order to acquire land under the Homestead Act, claimants had to meet all of the following conditions EXCEPT:
(A) be a head of household
(B) be at least 21 years of age
(C) be a native-born U.& citizen
(D) farm the land for five years
(E) build a house on the land

22. How much U.S. land was transferred to individuals under the terms of the Homestead Act?
(A) 160 acres per person
(B) 320 acres per family
(C) 1.6 million acres
(D) 270 million acres
(E) 30% of all U.S. land

23. The author calls the Homestead Act one of the most important pieces of legislation in United States history because it
(A) helped settle the West
(B) provided cheap labor
(C) lowered land values
(D) helped to end slavery
(E) passed after a twenty year battle

Manatees and dugongs, also known as sea cows, belong to the scientific order Sirenia. In ancient mythology, “siren” was a term used for monsters or sea nymphs who lured sailors and their ships to treacherous rocks and shipwreck with mesmerizing songs. Throughout history, sailors sometimes thought they were seeing mermaids when they were probably seeing manatees or dugongs. With a little imagination, manatees have an uncanny resemblance to human form that could only increase after long months at sea. In fact, manatees and dugongs may have helped to perpetuate the myth of mermaids. Like the mythological creatures for which they were named, all sirenians living on earth today are vulnerable to extinction

Manatees and dugongs are the only completely aquatic mammals that are herbivores Unlike the other marine mammals (dolphins, whales, seals, sea lions, sea otters, walruses, and polar bears) sirenians eat only seagrasses and other aquatic vegetation. Unlike other marine mammals, sirenians have an extremely low metabolism and zero tolerance for cold water. Like dolphins and whales, manatees and dugongs are totally aquatic mammals that never leave the water—not even to give birth. The combination of these factors means that sirenians are restricted to warm shallow coastal waters, estuaries, and rivers, with healthy ecosystems that support large amounts of seagrass and other vegetation.

The average adult manatee is about three meters (9.8 feet) long and weighs between 362-544 kilograms (800-1,200 pounds). It is estimated that a manatee can eat about 10-15% of its body weight in vegetation daily. So, for example, a 453-kilogram (1,000-pound) manatee would probably cat between 45-68 kilograms (100-150 pounds) of sea grass and water hyacinths a day!

24.Paragraph 1 is primarily concerned with
(A) the origin of the scientific classification Sirenia
(B) the similarities between manatees and mermaids
(C) how manatees cause shipwrecks
(D) a comparison between manatees and dugongs
(E) the imagination of manatees

25.As used in line 6, “mesmerizing” most nearly means
(A) discordant
(B) mellifluous
(C) high pitched
(D) hypnotic
(E) mysterious

26. The passage supports which of the following conclusions?
(A) Manatees are like other marine mammals in their diet.
(B) All sirenians are endangered.
(C) Because of their low metabolism, manatees tolerate cold water well.
(D) Mermaids were classified as sirenians.
(E) Manatees leave the water only to give birth.

27. The author develops paragraph 2 by presenting
(A) two sides of an issue .
(B) a thesis followed by specific examples
(C) a description of similarities and differences
(D) an opinion and reasons why it is held
(E) a hypothesis and data to prove it

28.According to the passage, manatees prefer the shallow coastal waters of Florida because of which of the following?
I. availability of vegetation
II. favorable water temperatures
III. safety
(A) I only
(B) II only
(C) III only
(D) I and II only
(E) I, II, and III

29. Which of the following represents the number of pounds of food an average adult manatee consumes in a day?
(A) 10-15
(B) 100-150
(C) 352-544
(D) 800-1,000
(E) 1,000-1,200

Day had broken cold and gray, exceedingly cold and gray, when the man turned aside from the main Yukon trail and climbed the high earth-bank, where a dim and little-traveled trail led eastward through the fat spruce timberland. It was a steep bank, and he paused for breath at the top, excusing the act to himself by looking at his watch. It was nine o'clock. There was no sun nor hint of sun, though there was not a cloud in the sky. It was a clear day, and yet there seemed an intangible pall over the face of things, a subtle gloom that made the day dark, and that was due to the absence of sun. This fact did not worry the man.

As he turned to go on, he spat speculatively. There was a sharp, explosive crackle that startled him. He spat again. And again, in the air, before it could fall to the snow, the spittle crackled. He knew that at fifty below spittle crackled on the snow, but this spittle had crackled in the air. Undoubtedly it was colder than fifty below--how much colder he did not know. But the temperature did not matter. He was bound for the old claim on the left fork of Henderson Creek, where the boys were already. They had come over across the divide from the Indian Creek country, while he had come the roundabout way to take a look at the possibilities of getting out logs in the spring from the islands in the Yukon.

At the man’s heels trotted a dog, a big native husky, the proper wolf-dog, gray-coated and without any visible or temperamental difference from its brother, the wild wolf. The animal was depressed by the tremendous cold. It knew that it was no time for travelling. Its instinct told it a truer tale than was told to the man by the man's judgment. It experienced a vague but menacing apprehension that subdued it and made it siink along at the man’s heels, and that made it question eagerly every unwonted movement of the man as if expecting him to go into camp or to seek shelter somewhere and build a fire.

—Jack London from “To Build a Fire”

30. In the first paragraph the author establishes a mood of
(A) promise
(B) serenity
(C) hostility
(D) foreboding
(E) regret

31. As used in line 1, “broken” most nearly means .
(A) dawned
(B) separated
(C) shattered
(D) interrupted
(E) cracked

32- The statement that “It was a steep bank, and he paused for breath at the top, excusing the act to himself by looking at his watch,” (lines 6-8) suggests that the man
(A) was worried about running late
(B) was not accustomed to hiking in the Yukon
(C) was disoriented by the extreme cold
(D) had traveled farther than he thought
(E) expected to see the sun

33.The discussion of spitting into the air (lines 14-19) serves primarily to suggest
(A) the strangeness of the landscape
(B) the severity of the cold
(C) the courage of the man
(D) the frustration of the dog
(E) the gloom of the day

34.In lines 15-16, the author includes the detail that the sharp, explosive crackle “startled him” primarily to emphasize
(A) the man's fragile state of mind
(B) how eerily quiet it had become
(C) that the temperature was dropping
(D) the danger the man was in
(E) that it was colder than the man thought

35.Which word best describes how the author regards the man in the story?
(A) clever
(B) cautious
(C) foolish
(D) ambitious
(E) ruthless

36. With which of the following statements is the author most likely to agree?
(A) The man is right to press on.
(B) The dog is unfazed by the cold.

(C) The man is jealous of the dog.
(D) The dog is wiser than the man.
(E) The sun will make the day more bearable.

I was asked not long ago to tell something about the sports and pastimes that I engaged in during my youth. Until that question was asked it had never occurred to me that there was no period of my life that was devoted to play. From the time that I can remember anything, almost every day of my life has been occupied in some kind of labor; though I think I would now be a more useful man if I had had time for sports. During the period that I spent in slavery I was not large enough to be of much service, still I was occupied most of the time in cleaning the yards, carrying water to the men in the fields, or going to the mill, to which I used to take the corn, once a week, to be ground. The mill was about three miles from the plantation. This work I always dreaded. The heavy bag of corn would be thrown across the back of the horse, and the corn divided about evenly on each side; but in some way, almost without exception, on these trips, the corn would so shift as to become unbalanced and would fall off the horse, and often I would fall with it. As I was not strong enough to reload the corn upon the horse, I would have to wait, sometimes for many hours, till a chance passer-by came along who would help me out of my trouble. The hours while waiting for someone were usually spent in crying. The time consumed in this way made me late in reaching the mill, and by the time I got my corn ground and reached home it would be far into the night. The road was a lonely one, and often led through dense forests. I was always frightened. The woods were said to be full of soldiers who had deserted from the army, and I had been told that the first thing a deserter did to a Negro boy when he found him alone was to cut off his ears. Besides, when I was late in getting home I knew I would always get a severe scolding or a flogging.

--Booker T. Washington from Up from Slavery: An Autobiography

37. In line 2, “engaged” means most nearly
(A) pledged
(B) occupied
(C) meshed
(D) participated
(E) reserved

38. The author’s “trouble” in line 26 is
(A) not being able to have the corn ground at the mill
(B) having to travel alone in the dark
(C) not being able to reload the com that had fallen off the horse
(D) not knowing the way through the woods
(E) facing a flogging for being late

39. The author was always frightened on his way home from the mill for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:
(A) There were few people on the road at night.
(B) The wood were full of soldiers.
(C) He feared having his ears cut off.
(D) He knew he would be flogged for being late.
(E) He thought he might be kidnapped.

40. The author's attitude toward his youth is best described as
(A) affectionate nostalgia
(B) analytical detachment
(C) open hostility
(D) deep sorrow
(E) righteous indignation

SECTION 4

1. If 16 ÷ 4 x __ = 5 x 8 - 16, then __ =

(A) 2
(B) 3
(C) 4
(D) 5
(E) 6

2. 42 ÷ 7 x 8 x 5 is equal to the product of 12 and

(A) 16
(B) 20
(C) 24
(D) 28
(E) 32

3. Which of the following is NOT equal to a whole number?

(A) $\frac{50}{3}$
(B) $4 \times \frac{12}{16}$
(C) $16 \div \frac{1}{16}$
(D) $\frac{5}{9} \times 8$
(E) 10.2 + 12.8

4. $46\ ^{3}/_{4}\%$ =

(A) 467.5
(B) 46.75
(C) 4.675
(D) 0.4675
(E) 0.04675

5. It costs *m* dollars to buy 48 notepads. At the same rate, how many dollars will it cost to buy 30 notepads?

(A) $\frac{m}{8}$
(B) $\frac{5m}{8}$
(C) $5m$
(D) $\frac{8m}{5}$
(E) $10m$

6. If $^{3}/_{7}$ of a number is 18, then $^{1}/_{2}$ of the same number is

(A) 32
(B) 30
(C) 28
(D) 24
(E) 21

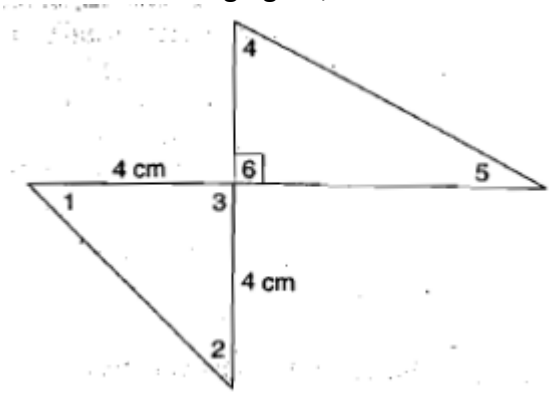
7. 60 is approximately what percent of 90?

(A) 30%
(B) 33%
(C) 45%
(D) 67%
(E) 70%

8. $\sqrt[3]{216}$ =

(A) 3
(B) 5
(C) 6
(D) 11
(E) 12

9. In the following figure, if $\angle 6$ measures 90°, what is the measure of $\angle 1$?



(A) 25°
(B) 35°
(C) 45°
(D) 55°
(E) 58°

10. Each edge of a cube measures 8 cm. What is the volume?

(A) 64 cm^3
(B) 176 cm^3
(C) 384 cm^3
(D) 420 cm^3
(E) 512 cm^3

11. -10-(-5-4) =

(A) -4
(B) -3
(C) -1
(D) 1
(E) 3

12. $^3/_4 + {}^1/_2 + {}^2/_3 - {}^5/_6$ =

(A) $1\frac{1}{12}$

(B) $1\frac{1}{3}$

(C) $1\frac{5}{6}$

(D) $2\frac{1}{6}$

(E) $2\frac{1}{4}$

13. Karen is driving to a town 175 miles away. If she drives at a steady speed of 50 miles per hour, how long will the trip take?

(A) 2 hours 50 minutes
(B) 3 hours
(C) 3 hours 10 minutes
(D) 3 hours 30 minutes
(E) 3 hours 50 minutes

14. The number of students who won awards at the science fair this year was 2 more than 3 times as many as last year. If 20 students won awards this year, how many won awards last year?

(A) 18
(B) 15
(C) 12
(D) 8
(E) 6

15. If $3.4a + 8.7a = 38.72$, $a =$

(A) 2.9
(B) 3.2
(C) 3.5
(D) 3.9
(E) 4.6

16. 18 is what percent of 144?

(A) 8%
(B) 12.5%
(C) 14%
(D) 16.75%
(E) 22%

17. A clock is showing 3:00. How many degrees is the angle formed between the minute and hour hands?

(A) 30°
(B) 60°
(C) 90°
(D) 120°
(E) 180°

18. The area of a carpet is 216 square feet. What is the area in square yards?

(A) $18yd^2$
(B) $24yd^2$
(C) $28\ yd^2$
(D) $34yd^2$
(E) $36yd^2$

19. A truck travels 126 miles in 3 hours. At that speed, in how many hours will the truck reach its destination, 924 miles away?

(A) 22 hours
(B) 24 hours
(C) 25.5 hours
(D) 28 hours
(E) 30.5 hours

20. What is 3.2×10^3?

(A) 32
(B) 320 -
(C) 3,200
(D) 32,000
(E) 320,000

21. In a dresser drawer there are 3 pairs of white socks, 5 pairs of black socks, and 4 pairs of blue socks. If you pick a pair without looking, what are the chances that you will pick a blue pair?

(A) $\frac{1}{12}$
(B) $\frac{1}{6}$
(C) $\frac{1}{4}$
(D) $\frac{1}{3}$
(E) $\frac{7}{12}$

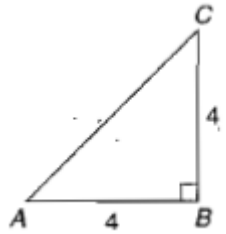
22. What is the least common multiple of 3, 4, and 18?

(A) 18
(B) 24
(C) 36
(D) 54
(E) 72

23. What is the greatest common factor of 16, 24, 96, and 120?

(A) 2
(B) 4
(C) 8
(D) 12
(E) 36

14. What is the length line segment *AC* in triangle *ABC*?



(A) 4
(B) $4\sqrt{2}$
(C) $4\sqrt{3}$
(D) 8
(E) $8\sqrt{2}$

25. What is the next term in this sequence?
2,3,5,9,…
(A) 7
(B) 11
(C) 13
(D) 15
(E) 17

SECTION 5

Topic: Every cloud has a silver lining.

Assignment: Do you agree or disagree with the topic statement? Support your position with examples from your own experience, the experience of others, current events, history, or literature.