

DUMPS ARENA

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test: Math, Reading

Test Prep PSAT-Test

Version Demo

Total Demo Questions: 20

Total Premium Questions: 1261

Buy Premium PDF

<https://dumpsarena.co>

sales@dumpsarena.co

sales@dumpsarena.co
dumpsarena.co

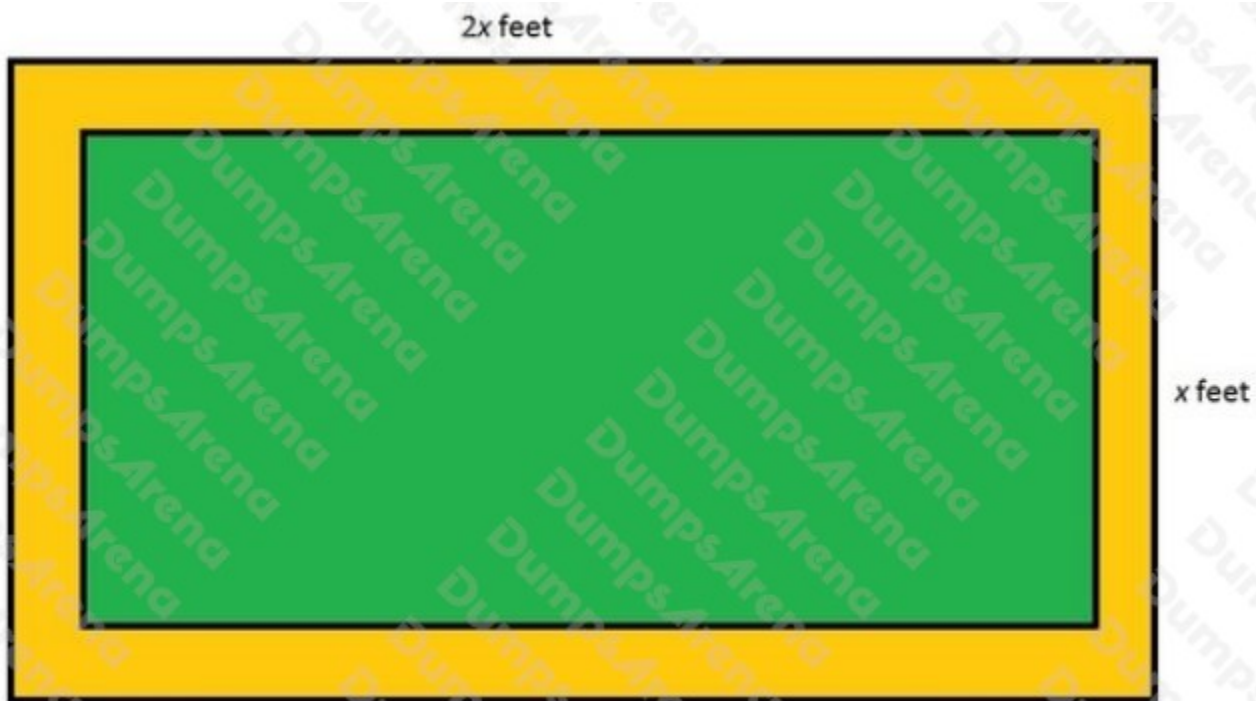
Topic Break Down

Topic	No. of Questions
Topic 1, Math	631
Topic 2, Reading	630
Total	1261

QUESTION NO: 1

You need $\frac{4}{5}$ cups of water for a recipe. You accidentally put $\frac{1}{3}$ cups into the mixing bowl with the dry ingredients. How much more water in cups do you need to add?

- A. $\frac{1}{3}$ cups
- B. $\frac{2}{3}$ cups
- C. $\frac{1}{15}$ cups
- D. $\frac{7}{15}$ cups
- E. $\frac{7}{16}$ cups

ANSWER: D**QUESTION NO: 2**

Refer to the above figure, which shows a rectangular garden (in green) surrounded by a dirt path (in orange). The dirt path is seven feet wide throughout. Which of the following polynomials gives the area of the dirt path in square feet?

- A. $21x$

- B. $42x$
- C. $21x - 49$
- D. $42x - 196$
- E. $42x - 98$

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

The area of the dirt path is the difference between the areas of the outer and inner rectangles.

The outer rectangle has area

$$A = 2x \times x = 2x^2$$

The area of the inner rectangle can be found as follows:

The length of the garden is $2 \times 7 = 14$ feet less than that of the entire lot, or

$$L = 2x - 14;$$

The width of the garden is $2 \times 7 = 14$ less than that of the entire lot, or

$$W = x - 14;$$

The area of the garden is their product:

$$A = LW = (2x - 14)(x - 14)$$

$$= 2x \times x - 2x \times 14 - 14 \times x + 14 \times 14$$

$$= 2x^2 - 28x - 14x + 196 = 2x^2 - 42x + 196$$

Now, subtract the areas:

$$2x^2 - (2x^2 - 42x + 196) = 2x^2 - 2x^2 + 42x - 196 = 42x - 196$$

QUESTION NO: 3

Solve for x:

$$2x^2 - 4 = 3 + 5$$

- A. 12
- B. $\pm\sqrt{6}$
- C. 6
- D. $\pm\sqrt{12}$

E. $\sqrt{6}$ **ANSWER: B****Explanation:**

$$2x^2 - 4 = 3 + 5$$

First, add 4 to both sides:

$$2x^2 = 12$$

Divide both sides by 2:

$$x^2 = 6 \quad x = \pm\sqrt{6}$$

QUESTION NO: 4

Farmer Dave has a rectangular field that is 50 yards wide and 40 yards long. He wants to enclose the field with a wire fence. How much wire does Farmer Dave need?

- A. 210 yards
- B. 170 yards
- C. 200 yards
- D. 160 yards
- E. 180 yards

ANSWER: E**Explanation:**

To solve this problem, find the perimeter of the rectangle. There are two sides that each measure 50 yards and two sides that each measure 40 yards. Together these four sides measure 180 yards.

QUESTION NO: 5

You are given triangles $\triangle MNO$ and $\triangle PQR$, with angle N and angle Q both right angles, and $MN = PQ$. Which of these statements, along with what you are given, is not enough to prove that $\triangle MNO \cong \triangle PQR$??

I) $MO = PR$ II) $\angle O \cong \angle R$ III) $\triangle MNO$ and $\triangle PQR$ have the same area.

A. None of the three statements is enough to prove congruence.

- B. Statement I only
- C. Any of the three statements is enough to prove congruence.
- D. Statement II only
- E. Statement III only

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

MN = PQ, and the right angles are angle N and angle Q, so we have two right triangles with congruent legs.

If we also know that MO = PR, then the hypotenuses of the right triangles are also congruent, and this sets up the conditions of the Hypotenuse-Leg Theorem.

If we also know that *angle O ≅ angle R*, then, along with the fact that *angle N ≅ angle Q* (both being right angles) and nonincluded sides MN = PQ, the conditions of the Angle-Angle-Side Theorem are set up.

If we also know ΔMNO and ΔPQR have the same area, we can demonstrate that the other legs are congruent. The area of a right triangle is half the product of its legs, and since we have the same areas,

$$\frac{1}{2}(MN)(NO) = \frac{1}{2}(PQ)(QR)$$

$$2 \times \frac{1}{2}(MN)(NO) = 2 \times \frac{1}{2}(PQ)(QR)$$

$$(MN)(NO) = (PQ)(QR)$$

Since MN = PQ,

$$\frac{(MN)(NO)}{MN} = \frac{(PQ)(QR)}{PQ}$$

$$NO = QR$$

The legs and the included angles (the right angles) are congruent, thus setting up the conditions for the Angle-Side-Angle Postulate. In all three cases, congruence follows, so the correct response is "Any of the three statements is enough to prove congruence."

QUESTION NO: 6

A rectangle has a width of 2x. If the length is five more than 150% of the width, what is the perimeter of the rectangle?

- A. 10(x + 1)
- B. 5x + 10
- C. 6x2 + 10x

D. $5x + 5$

E. $6x^2 + 5$

ANSWER: A**Explanation:**

Given that $w = 2x$ and $l = 1.5w + 5$, a substitution will show that $l = 1.5(2x) + 5 = 3x + 5$.

$$P = 2w + 2l = 2(2x) + 2(3x + 5) = 4x + 6x + 10 = 10x + 10 = 10(x + 1)$$

QUESTION NO: 7

(1) On my nineteenth birthday, I began my trip to Mali, West Africa. (2) Some 24 hours later I arrived in Bamako, the capital of Mali. (3) The sun had set and the night was starless. (4) One of the officials from the literacy program I was working was there to meet me. (5) After the melee in the baggage claim, we proceeded to his car. (6) Actually, it was a truck. (7) I was soon to learn that most people in Mali that had automobiles actually had trucks or SUVs. (8) Apparently, there not just a convenience but a necessity when you live on the edge of the Sahara. (9) I threw my bags into the bed of the truck, and hopped in to the back of the cab. (10) Riding to my welcome dinner, I stared out the windows of the truck and took in the city. (11) It was truly a foreign land to me, and I knew that I was an alien there. (12) "What am I doing here?" I thought.

(13) It is hard to believe but seven months later I returned to the same airport along the same road that I had traveled on that first night in Bamako, and my perspective on the things that I saw had completely changed. (14) The landscape that had once seemed so desolate and lifeless now was the homeland of people that I had come to love. (15) When I looked back at the capital, Bamako, fast receding on the horizon, I did not see a city foreboding and wild in its foreignness. (16) I saw the city which held so many dear friends. (17) I saw teadrinking sessions going late into the night.

(18) I saw the hospitality and open-heartedness of the people of Mali. (19) The second time, everything looked completely different, and I knew that it was I who had changed and not it.

If you were to combine sentences 16 – 18 (reproduced below) into one sentence, which of the following would be the best choice? I saw the city which held so many dear friends. I saw teadrinking sessions going late into the night. I saw the hospitality and open-heartedness of the people of Mali.

A. I saw the city which held so many dear friends; I saw tea-drinking sessions going late into the night; I saw the hospitality and openheartedness of the people of Mali.

B. I saw the city which held so many dear friends, drinking tea into late in the night, and the hospitality and open-heartedness of the people of Mali.

C. I saw the city which held so many dear friends, I saw tea-drinking sessions going late into the night, I saw the hospitality and openheartedness of the people of Mali.

D. I saw the city which held so many dear friends, tea-drinking sessions going late into the night, the hospitality and open-heartedness of the people of Mali.

E. I saw the city which held so many dear friends: tea-drinking sessions going late into the night, the hospitality and open-heartedness of the people of Mali.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

This is a little tricky because the repetition here does serve a purpose; it isn't just extra wordage that got in the author's way. Basically, the sentences are a list. When you have clauses that form a list (or other things requiring lots of words and/or punctuation), you separate them with semicolons rather than commas. (A) looks good. All of the other answers, except (D), change the sense of the original ever so slightly. (D) could be possible if it had and before the last clause, but (A) is still better.

QUESTION NO: 8

In a college, some courses contribute more towards an overall GPA than other courses. For example, a science class is worth 4 points; mathematics is worth 3 points; history is worth 2 points; and English is worth 3 points. The values of the grade letters are as follows, A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0. What is the GPA of a student who made a "C" in Trigonometry, a "B" in American History, an "A" in Botany, and a "B" in Microbiology?

- A. 2.59
- B. 2.86
- C. 3.08
- D. 3.33
- E. 3.67

ANSWER: C**QUESTION NO: 9**

Many people did not realize the _____ nature of the naval victory, for at the time most citizens were merely glad to have a single success, paying little heed to the future ramifications of such an outcome.

- A. recognized
- B. joyous
- C. gravity
- D. momentous
- E. importance

ANSWER: D**Explanation:**

Although several options, like "importance" and perhaps even "gravity" are tempting here, the best option is "momentous." A "momentous" event is one that is important, especially in having implications for the future. Because of the last subordinate clause, this is the best option.

QUESTION NO: 10

A nurse has to record her temperatures in Celsius but her thermometer reads Fahrenheit. A patient's temperature is 100.7°

F. What is the temperature in °C?

- A. 32° C
- B. 36.5° C
- C. 38.2° C
- D. 213.3° C
- E. 223.7° C

F. What is the temperature in °C?

ANSWER: C**QUESTION NO: 11**

Richard III was without any doubt whatsoever the most evil man to have worn the crown of England. Attached to his name are so many crimes, and crimes so heinous and unnatural, that it is scarcely credible that such a monster could exist. He not only committed murder on a number of occasions, but many of those he murdered he had either sworn to protect or should have been expected to defend with his last ounce of strength if he had anything approaching human feelings. First on the list of crimes was the death of his sovereign, Henry VI. Granted that Henry had been deposed by Richard's brother, and hence could not easily claim Richard's loyalty

The author calls Richard a "monster" because

- A. Richard murdered people
- B. Richard did not allow honor or family feeling to hold him back
- C. Richard was overly ambitious
- D. all early English kings were ruthless
- E. Richard supported Henry VI against his own brother

ANSWER: B**Explanation:**

You can infer this answer because Richard murdered many people, even those he should have protected – such as king Henry VI.

QUESTION NO: 12

Zachary had an extremely _____ attitude, always using small words with his friend because he believed them to be too stupid to understand his natural way of speaking.

- A. judgmental
- B. arrogant
- C. critical
- D. nasty
- E. condescending

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

The key thing to note here is that Zachary treats his friends in a way that judges them to be less intellectually able than him and that implies this judgment in his very way of speaking. It could be said that he acts in a manner so as to “step down to their level.” When someone is “condescending,” he or she does just that, always with the implication that it is accompanied by the feeling of superiority in comparison with the others.

QUESTION NO: 13

In compliance with the request of a friend of mine, who wrote me from the East, I called on good-natured, garrulous old Simon Wheeler, and inquired after my friend’s friend, Leonidas W. Smiley, as requested to do, and I hereunto append the result. I have a lurking suspicion that Leonidas W. Smiley is a myth; that my friend never knew such a personage; and that he only conjectured that, if I asked old Wheeler about him, it would remind him of his infamous Jim Smiley, and he would go to work and bore me nearly to death with some infernal reminiscence of him as long and tedious as it should be useless to me. If that was the design, it certainly succeeded.

I found Simon Wheeler dozing comfortably by the barroom stove of the old, dilapidated tavern in the ancient mining camp of Angel’s, and I noticed that he was fat and bald-headed, and had an expression of winning gentleness and simplicity upon his tranquil countenance. He roused up and gave me good-day. I told him a friend of mine had commissioned me to make some inquiries about a cherished companion of his boyhood named Leonidas W.

Smiley – Rev. Leonidas W. Smiley – a young minister of the Gospel, who he had heard was at one time a resident of Angel’s Camp. I added that, if Mr. Wheeler could tell me anything about this Rev. Leonidas W. Smiley, I would feel under many obligations to him.

What can we infer about what the author thinks of his friend from the East by the statement, “I have a lurking suspicion that Leonidas W. Smiley is a myth” 1st paragraph?

- A. His friend is mistaken about the existence of Smiley.
- B. His friend may be playing a practical joke on him.
- C. He believes his friend wants revenge for some earlier misgivings.
- D. His friend knows that Smiley and he will strike a friendship.
- E. Smiley will, as a result of his friend referring him, will show him a rousing good time.

ANSWER: B**Explanation:**

It appears from the language that our narrator has a fair amount of disbelief about what he is being told by his friend from the East. In fact, as he doubts the existence of the individual in question, it is reasonable to infer he believes his friend from the East is playing a practical joke on him.

QUESTION NO: 14

If 45 is 120% of a number, what is 80% of the same number?

- A. 30
- B. 32
- C. 36
- D. 38
- E. 41

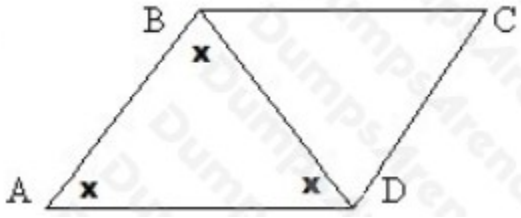
ANSWER: A**QUESTION NO: 15**

Sabrina's boss states that she will increase Sabrina's salary from \$12,000 to \$14,000 per year if she enrolls in business courses at a local community college. What percent increase in salary will result from Sabrina taking the business courses?

- A. 15%
- B. 16.7%
- C. 17.2%
- D. 85%
- E. 117%

ANSWER: B**QUESTION NO: 16**

ABCD is a parallelogram. $BD = 5$. The angles of triangle ABD are all equal. What is the perimeter of the parallelogram?



- A. 15
- B. 20
- C. $15\sqrt{3}$
- D. $10\sqrt{3}$
- E. $11\sqrt{2}$

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

If all of the angles in triangle ABD are equal and line BD divides the parallelogram, then all angles in triangle BDC must be equal as well. We now have two equilateral triangles, so all sides of the triangles will be equal.

All sides therefore equal 5.

$$5 + 5 + 5 + 5 = 20$$

QUESTION NO: 17

The main purpose of this story is to appeal to the reader's interest in a subject which has been the theme of some of the greatest writers, living and dead – but which has never been, and can never be, exhausted, because it is a subject eternally interesting to all mankind. Here is one more book that depicts the struggle of a human creature, under those opposing influences of Good and Evil, which we have all felt, which we have all known.

It has been my aim to make the character of "Magdalen," which personifies this struggle, a pathetic character even in its perversity and its error; and I have tried hard to attain this result by the least obtrusive and the least artificial of all means – by a resolute adherence throughout to the truth as it is in Nature. This design was no easy one to accomplish; and it has been a great encouragement to me (during the publication of my story in its periodical form) to know, on the authority of many readers, that the object which I had proposed to myself, I might, in some degree, consider as an object achieved.

Round the central figure in the narrative other characters will be found grouped, in sharp contrast – contrast, for the most part, in which I have endeavored to make the element of humor mainly predominant. I have sought to impart this relief to the more serious passages in the book, not only because I believe myself to be justified in doing so by the laws of Art – but because experience has taught me (what the experience of my readers will doubtless confirm) that there is no such moral phenomenon as unmixed tragedy to be found in the world around us. Look where we may, the dark threads and the light cross each other perpetually in the texture of human life.

Why does the author believe he is justified in using humor in the work being referenced?

- A. only because it is his artistic freedom to do so

- B. because this art must represent life and life is humorous
- C. because there are no pure lines between Good and Evil or humor and tragedy
- D. because the human characteristics of Magdalen have to show both sides of humanity to be truly representative and accepted as realistic by the reader
- E. just to show that he can master both the serious and humorous aspects of writing and to do so in a singular work is commendable

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The author tells us that he believes that “there is no such moral phenomenon as unmixed tragedy to be found in the world around us” meaning that there are no pure lines between Good and Evil or humor and tragedy.

QUESTION NO: 18

This passage discusses the work of Abe Kobo, a Japanese novelist of the twentieth century.

Abe Kobo is one of the great writers of postwar Japan. His literature is richer, less predictable, and wider-ranging than that of his famed contemporaries, Mishima Yukio and Nobel laureate Oe Kenzaburo. It is infused with the passion and strangeness of his experiences in Manchuria, which was a Japanese colony on mainland China before World War II.

Abe spent his childhood and much of his youth in Manchuria, and, as a result, the orbit of his work would be far less controlled by the oppressive gravitational pull of the themes of furusato (hometown) and the emperor than his contemporaries’.

Abe, like most of the sons of Japanese families living in Manchuria, did return to Japan for schooling. He entered medical school in Tokyo in 1944 – just in time to forge himself a medical certificate claiming ill health; this allowed him to avoid fighting in the war that Japan was already losing and return to Manchuria. When Japan lost the war, however, it also lost its Manchurian colony. The Japanese living there were attacked by the Soviet Army and various guerrilla bands. They suddenly found themselves refugees, desperate for food. Many unfit men were abandoned in the Manchurian desert. At this apocalyptic time, Abe lost his father to cholera.

He returned to mainland Japan once more, where the young were turning to Marxism as a rejection of the militarism of the war. After a brief, unsuccessful stint at medical school, he became part of a Marxist group of avant-garde artists. His work at this time was passionate and outspoken on political matters, adopting black humor as its mode of critique.

During this time, Abe worked in the genres of theater, music, and photography. Eventually, he mimeographed fifty copies of his first “published” literary work, entitled Anonymous Poems, in 1947. It was a politically charged set of poems dedicated to the memory of his father and friends who had died in Manchuria. Shortly thereafter, he published his first novel, For a Signpost at the End of a Road, which imagined another life for his best friend who had died in the Manchurian desert. Abe was also active in the Communist Party, organizing literary groups for workingmen.

Unfortunately, most of this radical early work is unknown outside Japan and underappreciated even in Japan. In early 1962, Abe was dismissed from the Japanese Liberalist Party. Four months later, he published the work that would blind us to his earlier oeuvre, *Woman in the Dunes*. It was director Teshigahara Hiroshi’s film adaptation of *Woman in the Dunes* that brought Abe’s work to the international stage. The movie’s fame has wrongly led readers to view the novel as Abe’s masterpiece. It would be more accurate to say that the novel simply marked a turning point in his career, when Abe turned away from the experimental and heavily political work of his earlier career. Fortunately, he did not then turn to furusato and the emperor after all, but rather began a somewhat more realistic exploration of his continuing obsession with homelessness

and alienation. Not completely a stranger to his earlier commitment to Marxism, Abe turned his attention, beginning in the sixties, to the effects on the individual of Japan's rapidly urbanizing, growthdriven, increasingly corporate society.

Which of the following does the passage present as a fact?

- A. Abe was a better playwright than novelist.
- B. Abe's early work was of greater quality than his later work.
- C. The group of avant-garde artists of which Abe was a part were influenced by Marxism.
- D. The themes of furusato and the emperor have precluded Japanese literature from playing a major role in world literature.
- E. Abe's work is richer than his contemporaries' because he included autobiographical elements.

all contain evaluative opinions, so eliminate them. The author expresses strong opinions about the themes furusato and the emperor, but never presents any facts about their influence on Japanese literature in the world. The best answer is (C). The author presents it as a known fact that young Japanese artists after World War II were interested in Marxism.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

This question basically asks you to distinguish between the author's opinion and the basic facts of Abe's career. Choices A, B, and

E. all contain evaluative opinions, so eliminate them. The author expresses strong opinions about the themes furusato and the emperor, but never presents any facts about their influence on Japanese literature in the world. The best answer is (C). The author presents it as a known fact that young Japanese artists after World War II were interested in Marxism.

QUESTION NO: 19

Adapted from "Darwin's Predecessors" by J. Arthur Thomson in *Evolution in Modern Thought* (1917 ed.)

In seeking to discover Darwin's relation to his predecessors, it is useful to distinguish the various services which he rendered to the theory of organic evolution.

As everyone knows, the general idea of the doctrine of descent is that the plants and animals of the present day are the lineal descendants of ancestors on the whole somewhat simpler, that these again are descended from yet simpler forms, and so on backwards towards the literal "Protozoa" and "Protophyta" about which we unfortunately know nothing. Now no one supposes that Darwin originated this idea, which in rudiment at least is as old as Aristotle. What Darwin did was to make it current intellectual coin. He gave it a form that commended itself to the scientific and public intelligence of the day, and he won widespread conviction by showing with consummate skill that it was an effective formula to work with, a key which no lock refused. In a scholarly, critical, and preeminently fair-minded way, admitting difficulties and removing them, foreseeing objections and forestalling them, he showed that the doctrine of descent supplied a modal interpretation of how our present-day fauna and flora have come to be.

In the second place, Darwin applied the evolution-idea to particular problems, such as the descent of man, and showed what a powerful tool it is, introducing order into masses of uncorrelated facts, interpreting enigmas both of structure and function, both bodily and mental, and, best of all, stimulating and guiding further investigation. But here again it cannot be claimed that Darwin was original. The problem of the descent or ascent of man, and other particular cases of evolution, had attracted not a few naturalists before Darwin's day, though no one [except Herbert Spencer in the psychological domain (1855)] had come near him in precision and thoroughness of inquiry.

In the third place, Darwin contributed largely to a knowledge of the factors in the evolution-process, especially by his analysis of what occurs in the case of domestic animals and cultivated plants, and by his elaboration of the theory of natural selection, which Alfred Russel Wallace independently stated at the same time, and of which there had been a few previous suggestions of a more or less vague description. It was here that Darwin's originality was greatest, for he revealed to naturalists the many different forms – often very subtle – which natural selection takes, and with the insight of a disciplined scientific imagination he realized what a mighty engine of progress it has been and is.

Which of the following sentences might we presume could have been in Darwin's work?

- A. The lunatic former position can now be set aside as a ghost from our past history.
- B. The ignorance of those basing their arguments upon prejudices has occluded their ability to reason at all.
- C. The collected data, though at odds with what was formerly held, provide a thorough basis for questioning certain details of the previous theories.
- D. With only one or two samples, we can overturn the former positions with ease.
- E. Without considering a single detail, it is possible to see that the opposing view is untenable.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The key sentence for this question is: "In a scholarly, critical, and preeminently fair-minded way, admitting difficulties and removing them, foreseeing objections and forestalling them, he showed that the doctrine of descent supplied a modal interpretation of how our present-day fauna and flora have come to be."

All of the incorrect answers are either rude to the other parties or barely claim any facts for the position. According to the author of this passage at least, Darwin was critical but fair-minded. This is best represented by the prudently stated sentence, "The collected data, though at odds with what was formerly held, provide a thorough basis for questioning certain details of the previous theories."

QUESTION NO: 20

Adapted from "Humming-Birds: As Illustrating the Luxuriance of Tropical Nature" in *Tropical Nature, and Other Essays* by Alfred Russel Wallace (1878)

The food of hummingbirds has been a matter of much controversy. All the early writers down to Buffon believed that they lived solely on the nectar of flowers, but since that time, every close observer of their habits maintains that they feed largely, and in some cases wholly, on insects. Azara observed them on the La Plata in winter taking insects out of the webs of spiders at a time and place where there were no flowers. Bullock, in Mexico, declares that he saw them catch small butterflies, and that he found many kinds of insects in their stomachs. Waterton made a similar statement. Hundreds and perhaps thousands of specimens have since been dissected by collecting naturalists, and in almost every instance their stomachs have been found full of insects, sometimes, but not generally, mixed with a proportion of honey. Many of them in fact may be seen catching gnats and other small insects just like fly-catchers, sitting on a dead twig over water, darting off for a time in the air, and then returning to the twig. Others come out just at dusk, and remain on the wing, now stationary, now darting about with the greatest rapidity, imitating in a limited space the evolutions of the goatsuckers, and evidently for the same end and purpose. Mr. Gosse also remarks, "All the hummingbirds have more or less the habit, when in flight, of pausing in the air and throwing the body and tail into rapid and odd contortions. This is most observable in the *Polytmus*, from the effect that such motions have on the long feathers of the tail. That the object of these quick turns is the capture of insects, I am sure, having watched one thus engaged pretty close to me."

Based on what is said in the passage, the author most likely believes that _____.

- A. hummingbirds eat a mixture of flower nectar and insects, but mostly flower nectar
- B. hummingbirds eat a mixture of flower nectar and insects, but mostly insects
- C. hummingbirds eat only flower nectar
- D. None of the other answers
- E. hummingbirds eat neither flower nectar nor insects

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

This is a tricky question because in the passage, the author never directly states his opinion about what hummingbirds eat; readers have to infer it based on the evidence he presents. The author begins the passage by stating that while old scientists used to think hummingbirds ate only flower nectar, modern writers think that they eat “largely, and in some cases wholly,” on insects. He then presents evidence suggesting that hummingbirds eat insects, and in discussing the contents of hummingbirds’ stomachs, says that scientists sometimes find both insects and honey. For the rest of the paragraph, he provides evidence suggesting that hummingbirds eat insects.

What can we infer from this? Well, we can tell that it’s not likely that the author thinks hummingbirds eat only flower nectar, because he provides evidence supporting the idea that they eat insects. This means that we can also discard the answer choice “hummingbirds eat neither flower nectar nor insects.” It’s quite reasonable to think that the author thinks that “hummingbirds eat a mixture of flower nectar and insects” because he mentions that sometimes honey is found along with insects in hummingbirds’ stomachs. So, we need to figure out whether he probably believes that they eat mostly insects or mostly flower nectar. Let’s look at how the author phrases his description of the contents of hummingbirds’ stomachs: “in almost every instance their stomachs have been found full of insects, sometimes, but not generally, mixed with a proportion of honey.” So, if “in almost every instance” the hummingbird stomachs examined were “full of insects,” but

“sometimes, but not generally” honey was also found, the correct answer must be “hummingbirds eat a mixture of flower nectar and insects, but mostly insects.”