Questions 1–10

Long ago prehistoric man began to domesticate a number of wild plants and animals for his own use. After centuries of being nomadic, of moving from place to place in pursuit of game or of fresh supplies of plant food, humans were finally able to stay in one place and systematically exploit the seasonal resources of one locality. This not only provided more abundant food but also allowed more people to live on a smaller plot of ground. As a result, societies developed knowledge and experience about the world around them; our present-day pets, livestock, and food plants were taken from the wild and developed into the forms we know today.

As centuries passed and human cultures evolved and blossomed, humans began to organize their knowledge of nature into the broad field of natural history. One aspect of early natural history concerned the use of plants for drugs and medicine. The early herbalists sometimes overworked their imaginations in this respect. For instance, it was widely believed that a plant or part of a plant that resembled an internal organ would cure ailments of that organ. Thus, an extract made from a heart-shaped leaf might be prescribed for a person suffering from heart problems. All early societies included individuals who learned to use plants for medicinal purposes. Salves, potions, and brews made from leaves, roots, and the fruits of plants were devised to cure illnesses, to heal wounds, to ward off depression, and even as birth-control measures for women. Often the early herbalists of a society guarded the knowledge of medicinal uses of plants for their select group. They became very powerful members of the early societies and were sometimes credited with magical or religious powers.

Nevertheless, the overall contributions of these early observers provided the rudiments of our present knowledge of drugs and their uses.

1. What does this passage mainly discuss?
   (A) One aspect of early natural history
   (B) The beginning of agriculture
   (C) Drugs and their uses
   (D) The imagination of prehistoric man

2. According to the passage, domestication of plants and animals probably occurred because of
   (A) need for more readily available food
   (B) lack of wild animals and plants
   (C) early man's power as a hunter
   (D) the desire of prehistoric man to be nomadic

3. The word "this" in line 5 refers to
   (A) providing food for man
   (B) man's domestication of plants and animals
   (C) man's ability to live on a smaller plot of land
   (D) the earliest condition of prehistoric man

4. The word "blossomed" in line 9 is closest in meaning to
   (A) produced flowers
   (B) changed
   (C) learned
   (D) flourished

5. It can be inferred from the passage that an herbalist is which of the following?
   (A) A dreamer
   (B) An early historian
   (C) Someone who uses plants in medicine
   (D) A farmer

6. The phrase "in this respect" in lines 12–13 refers to
   (A) the development of human culture
   (B) the development of the field of natural history
   (C) the use of plants for drugs and medicine
   (D) the origin of knowledge of nature

7. The word "extract" in line 14 is closest in meaning to
   (A) design
   (B) substance
   (C) fungus
   (D) ailment

8. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?
   (A) The shape of a plant is indicative of its ability to cure ailments of a similarly shaped organ.
   (B) Early herbalists were unimaginative.
   (C) The work of early herbalists has nothing to do with present day medicine.
   (D) There is little relation between a cure for illness and the physical shape of a plant.

9. What is the purpose of the author in this passage?
   (A) To persuade
   (B) To inform
   (C) To entertain
   (D) To ridicule

10. The word "rudiments" in line 24 is closest in meaning to
    (A) beginnings
    (B) history
    (C) requirements
    (D) protocol

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions 11–21

Simply being bilingual does not qualify someone to interpret. Interpreting is not merely a mechanical process of converting one sentence in language A into the same sentence in language B. Rather, it's a complex art in which thoughts and idioms that have no obvious analogues from tongue to tongue—or words that have multiple meanings—must quickly be transformed in such a way that the message is clearly and accurately expressed to the listener.

At one international conference, an American speaker said, " You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear," which meant nothing to the Spanish audience. The interpretation was, " A monkey in a silk dress is still a monkey"—an idiom the Spanish understood and that conveyed the same idea.

There are two kinds of interpreters, simultaneous and consecutive, each requiring separate talents. The former, sitting in an isolated booth, usually at a large multilingual conference, speaks to listeners wearing headphones, interpreting what a foreign-language speaker says as he says it—actually a sentence behind. Consecutive interpreters are the ones most international negotiators use. They are mainly employed for smaller meetings without sound booths, headphones, and other high-tech gear. Equally taxing in its own way, consecutive interpretation also requires two-person teams. A foreign speaker says his piece while the interpreter, using a special shorthand, takes notes and during a pause, tells the client what was said. Consecutive translation constitutes the basis of both types of interpretation, as it develops the requisite analytical skills. While 99 percent of the interpreter's work is done in the simultaneous mode, consecutive translation is used whenever a high degree of accuracy is required.

11. What is the purpose of this passage?
    (A) To explain the scope of interpreting
    (B) To differentiate between simultaneous and consecutive interpreters
    (C) To state the qualifications of an interpreter
    (D) To point out the importance of an interpreter

12. In line 2 the word "converting" is closest in meaning to
    (A) understanding
    (B) changing
    (C) reading
    (D) concluding

13. The word "analogues" in line 4 is closest in meaning to
    (A) dictionaries
    (B) scripts
    (C) counterparts
    (D) anthologies

14. The author implies that most people are of the opinion that the skill of interpreting is
    (A) simpler than it really is
    (B) very complex and demanding
    (C) highly valued and admired
    (D) based on principles of business

15. The example of the expression "You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear" in lines 7–8 is used to
    (A) show the differences in language A and language B
    (B) stress the importance of word for word translation
    (C) emphasize the need for translation o the meaning of the utterance
    (D) to point out the difference in attributes of animals in English and Spanish

16. The phrase "The former" in line 12 refers to
    (A) simultaneous interpreters
    (B) the booth
    (C) consecutive interpreters
    (D) separate talents

17. It can be inferred from the passage that a necessary prerequisite of being a translator is
    (A) being a linguist
    (B) being bilingual
    (C) being able to use high-tech equipment
    (D) working well with people

18. According to the passage, which of the following would a consecutive interpreter be used for?
    (A) A business transaction between two foreign speakers
    (B) A large meeting of many nations
    (C) A translation of a foreign book
    (D) An interpretation of a major literary work

19. Based on the description given in the passage, what would a simultaneous interpreter be most in need of?
    (A) A dictionary or phrase book
    (B) Advanced technical style in writing
    (C) Headphones and a booth
    (D) Shorthand skills and a notepad

LIVEWORKSHEETS

20. In line 17 the word "taxing" is closest in meaning to
    (A) expensive
    (B) rewarding
    (C) worrisome
    (D) demanding

21. It can be inferred from the passage that simultaneous translation
    (A) would be learned after mastering the skills of consecutive translation
    (B) is more accurate than consecutive translation
    (C) does not involve analytical skills
    (D) is not in high demand

Questions 22–32

Watching for wildlife in the forest, we rarely see past the surface of things. Standing on the ground floor, we scan the leafy rafters, entirely overlooking the living world in the soil beneath our feet.

Line
(5) The forest's basement is a secret world. As different from our own world as water is from air, the soil seems quiet, even dead. But life bustles down below: a cubic inch of topsoil may contain billions of creatures.

Predators and prey roam beneath as well as above the forest floor. Furthermore, those upstairs and downstairs forest denizens live closely linked lives. Soil-dwelling bacteria and fungi break down dead organic matter into molecules that *(10)* above ground plants use for food. Those plants, as well as animals, mature and die, leaving more organic matter to fuel the folks downstairs.

Like a well-insulated house, the soil protects its tenants from extreme temperatures, and from rain and snow. It also provides a bulwark against predators that roam the surface world. But the dense, protecting soil also limits *(15)* mobility. Soil creatures must be specially equipped in order to travel easily through their dark, constricting realm.

Earthworms and ants are the champion earth-movers, creating channels that allow air and water to enter the soil. While ants travel relatively far from their nests, earthworms work small areas, reprocessing vast amounts of soil into fertile *(20)* "waste." In a single year, as much as 36 tons of soil may pass through the alimentary tracts of all the earthworms living in an acre of soil.

22. The main topic of this passage is
    (A) life in the forest soil
    (B) the life cycle of ants and worms
    (C) a description of a forest scene
    (D) the habits of the forest animals

23. The word "bustles" in line 5 is closest in meaning to
    (A) continues
    (B) is very active
    (C) threatens
    (D) waits

24. It can be inferred from the passage that the forest soil is
    (A) densely inhabited
    (B) sparsely inhabited
    (C) devoid of life
    (D) unknown to man

25. The word "linked" in line 8 is closest in meaning to
    (A) related
    (B) chained
    (C) mechanical
    (D) measured

26. According to the passage, what is the main function of bacteria and fungi?
    (A) To help aerate the soil
    (B) To provide food for plant life
    (C) To kill mature plants
    (D) To build walls in the soil

27. The word "bulwark" in line 13 is closest in meaning to
    (A) barrier
    (B) gateway
    (C) radar
    (D) tomb

28. According to the passage, the soil offers creatures who live underground protection from all of the following EXCEPT
    (A) enemies
    (B) bad weather
    (C) bacteria and fungi
    (D) extreme heat and cold

29. The word "constricting" in line 16 is closest in meaning to
    (A) damp
    (B) heavy
    (C) deep
    (D) limiting

30. According to the passage, it could be expected that ants
    (A) move more earth than earthworms
    (B) are more mobile than earthworms
    (C) live only above ground
    (D) perform similar functions to fungi

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31. The word "reprocessing" in line 19 is closest in meaning to
(A) transporting
(B) arranging
(C) converting
(D) eliminating

32. The author uses which analogy to discuss the soil of the forest?
(A) A laboratory
(B) A tunnel
(C) A vehicle
(D) A building

Questions 33–42

Over the years from the seventeenth century through the nineteenth and beyond, as one style and fashion in building succeeded another, two very modest but highly distinctive types of dwellings flourished continuously—the log cabin and the Cape Cod cottage. Completely unpretentious in design, both varieties enjoyed widespread popularity, and their derivatives are still with us today.

While visiting Cape Cod in 1800, the president of Yale, Timothy Dwight, observed that nearly all the homes of this whaling and shipbuilding center were one and one-half stories, with central chimneys, small windows, and gabled roofs. He referred to these dwellings as "Cape Cod houses," a type which originated with the Pilgrims, and which today can be found everywhere from Palo Alto to Provincetown. Simplicity was the keynote of these houses. Nearly all these early homesites were planned so the front of the house faced south. Fireplaces were the only source of heat, and the low winter sun added warmth to the front rooms which were usually reserved for formal occasions such as weddings, funerals, and entertaining the minister. The shingled exteriors of these cottages usually weathered to a silvery gray. In Cape communities, where pretension was abhorred, and where the homes of captain and crewman were undifferentiated, even painted clapboards were considered "showy." As one Bostonian put it, "Cape Cod residences have a peculiarity. . . . The houses and their surroundings seem of an unsuitable inferiority of style to those who live in them . . . [men] whose sons and daughters visit and marry in the best circles . . . . There is . . . a remarkable republican simplicity in the style of buildings; little distinction that betokens wealth; and equality that extends to everything."

33. This passage mainly discusses
(A) two types of houses
(B) the effect of the weather on house types
(C) the Cape Cod house
(D) peculiarities of the Cape Cod communities

34. The word "succeeded" in line 2 is closest in meaning to
(A) outperformed
(B) replaced
(C) mimicked
(D) represented

35. The word "derivatives" in line 5 is closest in meaning to
(A) photos
(B) foundations
(C) replicas
(D) furnishings

36. From the passage, which of the following can be inferred about log cabins and Cape Cod cottages?
(A) They were the only available housing in the 17th and 18th centuries.
(B) They can still be seen today as a popular housing form.
(C) They often appeared in high fashion magazines.
(D) They appealed to people who desired a distinctive style.

37. The word "abhorred" in line 17 is closest in meaning to
(A) disliked
(B) practiced
(C) admired
(D) tolerated

38. The word "peculiarity" in line 19 is closest in meaning to
(A) tendency
(B) uniqueness
(C) defect
(D) tranquility

39. The passage characterizes the Cape Cod house as
(A) poorly built and inferior
(B) free from affectation
(C) strange and unsuitable
(D) large and airy

40. In line 18, the word "showy" is closest in meaning to
(A) not functional
(B) unusual
(C) pretentious
(D) inferior

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41. In lines 19–23, what was the Bostonian commenting on?
(A) The craftsmanship of the era that produced the Cape Cod
(B) The lack of social class distinction represented by the Cape Cod cottage
(C) His particular distaste for the Cape Cod style
(D) The high cost of the house for such a simple style

42. What will the following section of this text probably discuss?
(A) The Pilgrims' homes in England
(B) The opinion of the Bostonian about other styles of houses
(C) A modern architectural style house
(D) The log cabin style house

Questions 43–50

Generally recognized as one of the significant musical artists of this century, Aaron Copland succeeded so well in assimilating the materials of American folksong into his own highly personal style that, in the eyes of the world, he came
Line to be regarded as "the" American composer of his time.
(5) The son of a Russian-Jewish immigrant to America, Copland was born on November 14, 1900, in Brooklyn. By the time he was 15, he had decided to become a composer. In 1921 he went to France, where he became the student of Nadia Boulanger, a brilliant teacher who shaped the outlook of an entire generation of American musicians.
(10) In his growth as a composer, Copland mirrored the important trends of his time. After his return from Paris, he worked with jazz rhythms. There followed a period during which he was strongly influenced by Stravinski's Neoclassicism, turning toward an abstract style. In 1935, however, Copland took a change of direction that began the most productive phase of his career. He realized that a new public for
(15) modern music was being created by the new media of radio, phonograph, and film scores. Copland was therefore led to what became a most significant development after the 1930s: the attempt to simplify the new music in order for it to have meaning for a large public.
The decades that followed saw the production of the scores that spread
(20) Copland's fame throughout the United States and the world. Notable among these were three ballets based on American folk material, an orchestral piece based on Mexican melodies and rhythms, and a series of film scores. Typical too of the Copland style are two major works that were written in time of war—both drawing on the life and speeches of Abraham Lincoln for their inspiration.
(25) In his later years Copland refined his treatment of Americana. "I no longer feel the need of seeking out conscious Americanism. Because we live here and work here, we can be certain that when our music is mature it will also be American in quality." As composer, teacher, and conductor, Copland has succeeded in expressing "the deepest reactions of the American consciousness to the American scene."

43. According to the passage, Copland is mostly famous for
(A) the range of types of compositions he produced
(B) the treatment of American topics in his music
(C) his study with the famous French teacher, Nadia Boulanger
(D) his ability as a conductor

44. The word "assimilating" in line 2 is closest in meaning to
(A) combining
(B) referring
(C) avoiding
(D) assigning

45. All of the following are mentioned in the passage as types of compositions Copland produced EXCEPT
(A) concertos
(B) film scores
(C) ballets
(D) operas

46. Which of the following did the author cite as having a major influence on the most productive phase of Copland's career?
(A) His work with the French teacher, Nadia Boulanger
(B) The realization of a new public created by new media
(C) Stravinski's Neoclassicism
(D) The war

47. The word "mirrored" in line 10 is closest in meaning to
(A) represented
(B) denied
(C) understood
(D) investigated

48. According to the passage, in the decade after 1935 Copland's compositions became
(A) more abstract
(B) more complex
(C) more refined
(D) more simplified

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49. In line 20 the word "these" refers to
    (A) three ballets
    (B) the scores
    (C) the decades
    (D) the United States

50. With which of the following generalizations can it be inferred that Copland would agree?
    (A) American composers must consciously work with American topics.
    (B) Only mature composers can produce American music.
    (C) American composers will surely produce music reflective of America.
    (D) American folk material has little place in American music.

This is the end of Section 3.



If you finish before time is called, check your work on Section 3 only.

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