LANGUAGE CENTER
A Mengly J. Quach Education School

TOEFL DRILL 4

Part A: Listening

Question 1

(A) Attend a football game alone.

(B) Go to a sporting event.

(C) Eat in the cafeteria and study.

(D) See a play.

Question 2

(A) It's the final game of the season.

(B) It's better than the drama departments play.

(C) It's a very important game.

(D) It's close to the cafeteria

Question 3

(A) A play.

(B) A game.

(C) A study group meeting.

(D) Dinner in the cafeteria.

Question 4

(A) Saturday night.

(B) After dinner in the cafeteria.

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(C) Sunday afternoon.

(D) Maybe next weekend.

Question 5

(A) Trash orbiting Earth.

(B) A trip by an astronaut to the Moon.

(C) The overabundance of garbage on Earth.

(D) Becoming space scientists.

Question 6

(A) From a lecture.

(B) In a magazine article.

(C) In a book.

(D) On a television program.

Question 7

(A) 17,000 pounds.

(B) 3,000 tons.

(C) 3,000 pounds.

(D) 300 tons.

Question 8

(A) She will be able to travel in space.

(B) The problem will take care of itself.

(C) Scientists will find solutions to the problem.

(D) The junk will fall to Earth.

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Part B: Reading

1. The word "burgeoning" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to

A) stagnant
B) rapidly expanding
C) controversial
D) diminishing

2. According to paragraph 1, classical Mendelian genetics maintained that phenotypic traits were inherited through

A) structural changes in non-coding RNA molecules.
B) environmental modifications incurred during an organism's lifetime.
C) unaltered nuclear DNA sequences.
D) dietary fluctuations during early larval development.

3. The word "salient" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to

A) prominent
B) subtle
C) theoretical
D) ambiguous

4. According to paragraph 2, what biological mechanism leads female honeybee larvae to develop into queen bees?

A) The insertion of new nucleotide sequences via genetic mutation
B) The inhibition of Dnmt3 by royalactin, resulting in genomic hypomethylation
C) The hypermethylation of genes associated with metabolic growth and longevity
D) The complete deprivation of nutrient-rich dietary inputs during early stages

5. Why does the author mention the "Dutch Hunger Winter of 1944–1945" in paragraph 3?

A) To demonstrate that dietary deprivation permanently alters basic Mendelian DNA sequences.

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B) To provide historical evidence of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance in human populations.

C) To argue that metabolic syndromes are purely the result of post-natal adult nutrition.

D) To refute the claim that social insects exhibit phenotypic plasticity.

6. The word "dichotomy" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to

A) similarity

B) division into two contrasting parts

C) gradual evolutionary transition

D) biochemical reaction

7. According to paragraph 4, why are some scientists skeptical about transgenerational epigenetic inheritance in mammals?

A) Mammals lack retrotransposons and imprinted genes in their genome.

B) Epigenetic mechanisms like DNA methylation do not exist in mammalian cell lines.

C) The genome undergoes extensive erasure of methylation marks during gametogenesis and early development.

D) Historical epidemiological studies have proven to be methodologically flawed.

8. What can be inferred from paragraph 4 about retrotransposons and imprinted genes?

A) They are entirely erased during every wave of embryonic reprogramming.

B) They represent genomic areas that can bypass epigenetic reprogramming to transmit marks across generations.

C) They prevent DNA hypomethylation in queen honeybee larvae.

D) They were discovered during the study of the Dutch Hunger Winter.

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9. Which of the following best states the overall primary purpose of the passage?

A) To argue that Mendelian genetics has been completely invalidated by modern cellular biology.

B) To explain how epigenetics mediates phenotypic plasticity and transgenerational inheritance across species.

C) To prove that royal jelly is an effective therapeutic treatment for human metabolic disorders.

D) To compare the lifespan and reproductive capabilities of social insects and mammals.

10. Which sentence best expresses the essential information in the following sentence from paragraph 1?
"These epigenetic alterations—primarily mediated by DNA methylation, histone modification, and non-coding RNA regulation—act as molecular switches that modulate chromatin accessibility, thereby suppressing or enhancing transcriptional activity."

A) Epigenetic changes regulate gene transcription by opening or closing chromatin structure through mechanisms like DNA methylation.

B) DNA methylation and histone modification suppress all transcriptional activity by destroying non-coding RNA regulation.

C) Molecular switches produce chromatin accessibility without influencing gene expression or transcript regulation.

D) Transcriptional activity enhances chromatin accessibility, which in turn causes DNA methylation and epigenetic alteration.

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