

Questions 1–10

The final battle of the War of 1812 was the Battle of New Orleans. This battle gave a clear demonstration of the need for effective communication during wartime; it also showed the disastrous results that can come to pass when communication is inadequate.

Line
(5) The War of 1812 was fought between Great Britain and the very young country of the United States only a relatively few years after the United States had won its independence from Britain. The United States had declared war against Britain in June of 1812, mostly because of interference with U.S. shipping by the British and because of the shanghaiing of U.S. sailors for enforced service on British vessels. The war lasted for a little more than two years, when a peace treaty was signed at Ghent, in Belgium, on the 24th of December, 1814.

(10) Unfortunately, the news that the Treaty of Ghent had been signed and that the war was officially over was not communicated in a timely manner over the wide distance to where the war was being contested. Negotiations for the treaty and the actual signing of the treaty took place in Europe, and news of the treaty had to be carried across the Atlantic to the war front by ship. A totally unnecessary loss of life was incurred as a result of the amount of time that it took to inform the combatants of the treaty.

(15) Early in January of 1815, some two weeks after the peace treaty had been signed, British troops in the southern part of the United States were unaware that the war had officially ended. Over 5,000 British troops attacked U.S. troops. During the ensuing battle, known as the Battle of New Orleans, the British suffered a huge number of casualties, around 2,000, and the Americans lost 71, all in a battle fought only because news of the peace treaty that had already been signed in Ghent had not yet reached the battlefield.

- The main idea of this passage is that
 - the War of Independence was unnecessary
 - the War of 1812 was unnecessary
 - the Treaty of Ghent was unnecessary
 - the Battle of New Orleans was unnecessary
- The pronoun "it" in line 2 refers to
 - battle
 - demonstration
 - communication
 - wartime
- The expression "come to pass" in line 3 could best be replaced by
 - happen
 - overthrow
 - self-destruct
 - circumvent
- According to the passage, when did the United States win its independence from Britain?
 - Shortly before the War of 1812
 - During the War of 1812
 - Just after the War of 1812
 - Long after the War of 1812
- According to the passage, some U.S. sailors were
 - taken forcibly to Shanghai
 - made to go to Ghent
 - forced to work on British ships
 - responsible for causing the War of 1812
- It is NOT stated in the passage that Ghent was
 - where negotiations took place
 - the site of the final battle
 - where the treaty was signed
 - far from the battlefield

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7. The word "contested" in line 12 is closest in meaning to
- (A) played
 - (B) fought
 - (C) discussed
 - (D) examined
8. It can be determined from the passage that, of the following dates, the Battle of New Orleans was most probably fought
- (A) on December 10, 1814
 - (B) on December 24, 1814
 - (C) on January 1, 1815
 - (D) on January 8, 1815
9. Where in the passage does the author indicate when the War of 1812 officially ended?
- (A) Lines 1-3
 - (B) Lines 4-5
 - (C) Lines 8-9
 - (D) Lines 10-12
10. Which paragraph describes the battle that took place after the signing of the treaty?
- (A) The first paragraph
 - (B) The second paragraph
 - (C) The third paragraph
 - (D) The last paragraph

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Questions 11–21

Mount Rushmore is a well-known monument in the Black Hills of South Dakota that features the countenances of four United States presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln. What is not so well known is that the process of creating this national treasure was not exactly an uneventful one.

Line

(5)

Mount Rushmore was the project of the visionary sculptor John Gutzen de la Mothe Borglum, who was born in Idaho but studied sculpture in Paris in his youth and befriended the famous French sculptor Auguste Rodin. In 1927 Borglum was granted a commission by the federal government to create the sculpture on Mount Rushmore. Though he was nearly sixty years old when he started, he was undaunted by the enormity of the project and the obstacles that it engendered. He optimistically asserted that the project would be completed within five years, not caring to recognize the potential problems that such a massive project would involve, the problems of dealing with financing, with government bureaucracy, and with Mother Nature herself. An example of what Mother Nature had to throw at the project was the fissure—or large crack—that developed in the granite where Jefferson was being carved. Jefferson had to be moved to the other side of Washington, next to Roosevelt because of the break in the stone. The work that had been started on the first Jefferson had to be dynamited away.

(10)

(15)

Mount Rushmore was not completed within the five years predicted by Borglum and was in fact not actually completed within Borglum's lifetime, although it was almost finished. Borglum died on March 6, 1941, at the age of seventy-four, after fourteen years of work on the presidents. His son, Lincoln Borglum, who had worked with his father throughout the project, completed the monument within eight months of his father's death.

(20)

11. Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Mount Rushmore was a huge project filled with numerous obstacles.
- (B) Mount Rushmore is a famous American monument.
- (C) Mount Rushmore has sculptures of four United States presidents on it.
- (D) John Gutzen de la Mothe Borglum created Mount Rushmore.

12. Which of the following best describes the relationship between Borglum and Rodin in Borglum's early years?

- (A) Borglum studied about Rodin in Paris.
- (B) Borglum was far more famous than Rodin as a sculptor.
- (C) Borglum and Rodin were born and raised in the same place.
- (D) Borglum and Rodin were friends.

13. The word "nearly" in line 8 could best be replaced by which of the following.

- (A) Over
- (B) Closely
- (C) Almost
- (D) Barely

14. Which of the following is NOT true about Borglum?

- (A) He began Mount Rushmore around the age of sixty.
- (B) He predicted that Mount Rushmore would be finished around 1932.
- (C) Mount Rushmore was finished when Borglum predicted it would be.
- (D) Borglum worked on Mount Rushmore for more than a decade.

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15. It can be inferred from the passage that Borglum was someone who
- (A) expected the best to happen
 - (B) set realistic goals
 - (C) never tried anything too challenging
 - (D) was always afraid that bad things were going to happen
16. A "fissure" in line 13 is a
- (A) discoloration
 - (B) break
 - (C) unevenness
 - (D) softness
17. Why does the author mention the fact that the carving of Thomas Jefferson was moved?
- (A) It shows what a perfectionist Borglum was.
 - (B) It demonstrates Borglum's artistic style.
 - (C) It gives insight into Jefferson's character.
 - (D) It is an example of a problem caused by nature.
18. The pronoun "it" in line 18 refers to which of the following?
- (A) The first Jefferson
 - (B) Mount Rushmore
 - (C) Borglum's lifetime
 - (D) Fourteen years of work
19. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the expression "within eight months of his father's death" in line 21?
- (A) More than eight months before his father's death
 - (B) Less than eight months before his father's death
 - (C) Less than eight months after his father's death
 - (D) More than eight months after his father's death
20. Where in the passage does the author mention when the Mount Rushmore project got started?
- (A) Lines 1–4
 - (B) Lines 7–8
 - (C) Lines 9–12
 - (D) Lines 17–18
21. This passage would most likely be assigned reading in a course on
- (A) art history
 - (B) geography
 - (C) management
 - (D) government

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Questions 22–31

Carbon dating can be used to estimate the age of any organic natural material; it has been used successfully in archeology to determine the age of ancient artifacts or fossils as well as in a variety of other fields. the principle underlying the use of carbon dating is that carbon is a part of all living things on Earth. Since a radioactive substance such as carbon-14 has a known half-life, the amount of carbon-14 remaining in an object can be used to date that object.

Line
(5)

Carbon-14 has a half-life of 5,570 years, which means that after that number of years half of the carbon-14 atoms have decayed into nitrogen-14. It is the ratio of carbon-14 to nitrogen-14 in that substance that indicates the age of the substance. If, for example, in a particular sample the amount of carbon-14 is roughly equivalent to the amount of nitrogen-14, this indicates that around half of the carbon-14 has decayed into nitrogen-14, and the sample is approximately 5,570 years old.

(10)

Carbon dating cannot be used effectively in dating objects that are older than 80,000 years.

When objects are that old, much of the carbon-14 has already decayed into nitrogen-14, and the minuscule amount that is left does not provide a reliable measurement of age. In the case of older objects, other age-dating methods are available, methods which use radioactive atoms with longer half-lives than carbon has.

(15)

22. This passage is mainly about
- the differences between carbon-14 and nitrogen-14
 - one method of dating old objects
 - archeology and the study of ancient artifacts
 - various uses for carbon
23. The word "estimate" in line 1 is closest in meaning to
- understand
 - hide
 - rate
 - approximate
24. The pronoun "it" in line 1 refers to
- carbon dating
 - the age
 - any organic natural material
 - archeology
25. Which of the following is NOT true about carbon-14?
- It is radioactive.
 - Its half-life is more than 5,000 years.
 - It and nitrogen always exist in equal amounts in any substance.
 - It can decay into nitrogen-14.
26. The word "underlying" in line 3 could best be replaced by
- below
 - requiring
 - being studied through
 - serving as a basis for
27. It can be inferred from the passage that if an item contains more carbon-14 than nitrogen-14, then the item is
- too old to be age-dated with carbon-14
 - not as much as 5,570 years old
 - too radioactive to be used by archeologists
 - more than 5,570 years old
28. The word "roughly" in line 9 could best be replaced by
- harshly
 - precisely
 - coarsely
 - approximately

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29. The expression "is left" in line 13 could best be replaced by
- (A) remains
 - (B) has turned
 - (C) changes
 - (D) is gone
30. It is implied in the passage that
- (A) carbon dating could not be used on an item containing nitrogen
 - (B) fossils cannot be age-dated using carbon-14
 - (C) carbon-14 does not have the longest known half-life
 - (D) carbon dating has no known uses outside of archeology
31. The paragraph following the passage most probably discusses
- (A) how carbon-14 decays into nitrogen-1
 - (B) various other age-dating methods
 - (C) why carbon-14 has such a long half-life
 - (D) what substances are part of all living things

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Questions 32–40

Madison Square Garden, a world-famous sporting venue in New York City, has actually been a series of buildings in varied locations rather than a single building in one spot. In 1873, P. T. Barnum built Barnum's Monster Classical and Geological Hippodrome at the corner of Madison Avenue and 26th Street, across from Madison Square Park. Two years later, bandleader Patrick Gilmore bought the property, added statues and fountains, and renamed it Gilmore's Gardens. When Cornelius Vanderbilt bought the property in 1879, it was renamed Madison Square Garden.

Line
(5)

A second very lavish Madison Square Garden was built at the same location in 1890, with a ballroom, a restaurant, a theater, a rooftop garden, and a main arena with seating for 15,000. However, this elaborate Madison Square Garden lasted only until 1924, when it was torn down to make way for a forty-story skyscraper.

(10)

When the second Madison Square Garden had been replaced in its location across from Madison Square Park, boxing promoter Tex Rickard raised six million dollars to build a new Madison Square Garden. This new Madison Square Garden was constructed in a different location, on 8th Avenue and 50th Street and quite some distance from Madison Square Park and Madison Avenue. Rickard's Madison Square Garden served primarily as an arena for boxing prizefights and circus events until it outgrew its usefulness by the late 1950s.

(15)

A new location was found for a fourth Madison Square Garden, atop Pennsylvania Railroad Station, and plans were announced for its construction in 1960. This current edifice, which includes a huge sports arena, a bowling center, a 5,000-seat amphitheater, and a twenty-nine-story office building, does retain the traditional name Madison Square Garden. However, the name is actually quite a misnomer. The building is not located near Madison Square, nor does it have the flowery gardens that contributed to the original name.

(20)

32. The main point of this passage is that Madison Square Garden
- (A) has had a varied history in various locations
 - (B) was P. T. Barnum's major accomplishment
 - (C) is home to many different sporting events
 - (D) was named after an adjacent park
33. Which paragraph discusses the third incarnation of Madison Square Garden?
- (A) The first paragraph
 - (B) The second paragraph
 - (C) The third paragraph
 - (D) The last paragraph
34. What is a "venue" in line 1?
- (A) A place where people come together
 - (B) An event in a competition
 - (C) An exhibit of various products
 - (D) An invitation to a program
35. According to the passage, Patrick Gilmore did all of the following EXCEPT that he
- (A) purchased the property at the corner of Madison Avenue and 26th Street
 - (B) made improvements to the property that he bought
 - (C) named the property that he bought Madison Square Garden
 - (D) sold the property to Cornelius Vanderbilt
36. The word "lavish" in line 7 is closest in meaning to
- (A) simple
 - (B) modern
 - (C) elaborate
 - (D) outlandish

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37. How long did the second Madison Square Garden last?
- (A) 11 years
 - (B) 34 years
 - (C) 45 years
 - (D) 60 years
38. Which of the following would most likely have taken place at Rickard's Madison Square Garden?
- (A) A ballroom dance
 - (B) A theater production
 - (C) A basketball game
 - (D) A tiger show
39. An "edifice" in line 18 is most likely
- (A) an address
 - (B) an association
 - (C) a component
 - (D) a building
40. What can be inferred about the current Madison Square Garden?
- (A) It is on Madison Avenue.
 - (B) It is across from Madison Square Park.
 - (C) It has incredible gardens.
 - (D) It is above a transportation center.

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Questions 41–50

It is often the case with folktales that they develop from actual happenings but in their development lose much of their factual base; the story of Pocahontas quite possibly fits into this category of folktale. This princess of the Powhatan tribe was firmly established in the lore of early America and has been made even more famous by the Disney film based on the folktale that arose from her life. She was a real-life person, but the actual story of her life most probably differed considerably from the folktale and the movie based on the folktale.

Line
(5)

Powhatan, the chief of a confederacy of tribes in Virginia, had several daughters, none of whom was actually named Pocahontas. The nickname means "playful one," and several of Powhatan's daughters were called Pocahontas. The daughter of Powhatan who became the subject of the folktale was named Matoaka. What has been verified about Matoaka, or Pocahontas as she has come to be known, is that she did marry an Englishman and that she did spend time in England before she died there at a young age. In the spring of 1613, a young Pocahontas was captured by the English and taken to Jamestown. There she was treated with courtesy as the daughter of chief Powhatan. While Pocahontas was at Jamestown, English gentleman John Rolfe fell in love with her and asked her to marry. Both the governor of the Jamestown colony and Pocahontas's father Powhatan approved the marriage as a means of securing peace between Powhatan's tribe and the English at Jamestown. In 1616, Pocahontas accompanied her new husband to England, where she was royally received. Shortly before her planned return to Virginia in 1617, she contracted an illness and died rather suddenly.

(10)

(15)

(20)

(25)

A major part of the folktale of Pocahontas that is unverified concerns her love for English Captain John Smith in the period of time before her capture by the British and her rescue of him from almost certain death. Captain John Smith was indeed at the colony of Jamestown and was acquainted with Powhatan and his daughters; he even described meeting them in a 1612 journal. However, the story of his rescue by the young maiden did not appear in his writings until 1624, well after Pocahontas had aroused widespread interest in England by her marriage to an English gentleman and her visit to England. It is this discrepancy in dates that has caused some historians to doubt the veracity of the tale. However, other historians do argue quite persuasively that this incident did truly take place.

41. The main idea of the passage is that

- (A) folktales are often not very factual
- (B) Pocahontas did not really exist
- (C) any one of Powhatan's daughters could have been the Pocahontas of legend
- (D) Pocahontas fell in love with John Smith and saved his life

42. The expression "arose from" in line 4 is closest in meaning to

- (A) developed from
- (B) went up with
- (C) was told during
- (D) climbed to

43. What is true about the name Pocahontas, according to the passage?

- (A) It was the real name of a girl named Matoaka.
- (B) It meant that someone was playful.
- (C) Only one girl was known to have used this name.
- (D) Powhatan was one of several people to be given this nickname.

44. How was Pocahontas treated when she was held at Jamestown?

- (A) With respect
- (B) With disdain
- (C) With surprise
- (D) With harshness

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