

Example 1: The Culture of Cotton in the United States

Before 1800, most Americans wore clothing made of wool or linen. Cotton was expensive and labor intensive because the seeds had to be removed before cotton could be spun into thread. Planters had to limit their cotton crops to the amount they could clean. But in 1793, Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, a machine with wire teeth that separated the seeds from the cotton fiber. Suddenly, one worker could clean fifty pounds per day, twice the amount possible before the cotton gin. Cotton production soared, as southern farmers turned their land, formerly used for tobacco and rice, into cotton plantations. At the peak of the plantation system in 1850, 75% of all slaves in the southern states, about 1.8 million people, were working in cotton production. The 1850s were known as the decade of King Cotton. But the Civil War in 1860 brought an end to prosperity for southern planters

Question 1: According to the passage, which of the following was NOT true about cotton?

- A. It was expensive and required many workers.
- B. The cotton gin made it easier to remove the seeds.
- C. Cotton production increased in the south after the Civil War.
- D. Many cotton farmers formerly grew tobacco and rice.

Question 2: The author's description of cotton production mentions all of the following EXCEPT _____.

- A. Freeing the slaves decreased cotton production.
- B. Cotton production peaked in the 1850s.
- C. The Civil War ended cotton planters' prosperous times.
- D. The cotton gin had wire teeth that removed the seeds.

PRACTICE 1: THE CULTURE OF THE HOPI INDIANS

Agriculture is a key element of Hopi culture. Farming is not just a subsistence tool; it is a part of Hopi mythology. The Hopi believe that their time on Earth is the "fourth way of life," which they entered when people were offered ears of corn by Maasaw, a Hopi god. Other tribes pushed ahead and took the largest ears, leaving the smallest ears for the Hopi. They see this as a symbol of Hopi life: they have had to overcome the hardships of living in the dry southwest region of the United States. Corn represents humility, cooperation, respect, and reverence for the land. Hopi culture has changed as technology has intruded on their farm-based lifestyle. Electricity, cars, and consumer goods have diverted them from their spiritual ties to the land and toward consumerism. But they continue to hold on to their traditional values through making and selling Kachina dolls and pottery.

Question 1: According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true of the ways technology has affected Hopi culture?

- A. It has interfered with their agricultural lifestyle.
- B. It has made them -desire consumer goods.
- C. It has caused them to abandon their doll and pottery-making.
- D. It has weakened their spiritual ties.

Question 2: In the discussion of the role of corn in Hopi life, the author mentions all of the following EXCEPT _____.

- A. an example of hardships
- B. Maasaw
- C. a symbol of reverence for the land
- D. Kachina dolls

WORD CHOICE (Write A, B, C, D)

1. She had to pay the adult _____ on the bus since she was 18. (*fare/ fine/ wage/ fee*)
2. He had to pay a 500-dollar _____ for exceeding the speed limit. (*fare/ fine/ wage/ fee*)
3. Students have to borrow £9,000 a year to pay their tuition _____. (*fare/ fine/ wage/ fee*)
4. If you are on diet, you should _____ honey for sugar in your tea. (*change/ replace/ substitute/ convert*)
5. The grand piano has been _____ with a small, electric model. (*changed/ replaced/ substituted/ converted*)
6. Could we _____ the small bedroom into a second bathroom? (*change/ replace/ substitute/ convert*)
7. It's a bit difficult to _____ the difference between the twins. (*speak/ say/ tell/ talk*)
8. Being able to _____ a foreign language well takes time and effort. (*speak/ say/ tell/ talk*)
9. Sometimes I know it's hard to _____ sorry to someone. (*speak/ say/ tell/ talk*)
10. Fruits _____ good to our health. (*make/ cause/ do/ take*)
11. Most young people want to _____ an independent life without being influenced by anyone.
A. lay B. put C. lead D. bring
12. _____ a cry whenever you have a feeling that you are in danger so that everyone could hear you and come to help immediately. (*Send/ Give/ Make/ Lend*)
13. To solve the issue of pollution, it is important to identify the of it. (*reasons/ purpose/ causes/ facts*)
14. He hasn't told me the _____ for his dismissal. (*reasons/ purpose/ causes/ facts*)
15. Of 30 countries inspected for airline safety, only 17 received a _____ bill of health.
(*clear/clean/pure/dirty*)
16. Electronic devices are becoming _____ common in education.
(*increase/ increasing/ increasingly/ increased*)
17. I hope you _____ the point of what I do for you (*think/take/see/agree*)
18. I am in _____ of banning cars in city centers. (*agreement/ favor/ view/ need*)
19. The oil industry is working to _____ clean air requirements. (*meet/ see/ watch/ look*)
20. Candidates for supervisory jobs must _____ a written test. (*make/ take/ get/ put*)
21. Her husband is away, so she has to _____ other childcare arrangements. (*do/make/take/go*)
22. The children behaved so badly that I _____ my temper. (*missed/took/lost/kept*)
23. She _____ the blanket over her sleeping son. (*lay/ lie/ laid/ lain*)
24. She is _____ of running the hotel smoothly. (*able/capable/possible/likely*)
25. It's _____ for them to come here on time. (*unable/ incapable/ impossible/ unlikely*)
26. They are _____ to win the competition. (*possible/ capable/ likely*)
27. Smoking badly _____ your health. (*affects/ effects/ effective/ effectively*)
28. Electronic devices may have bad _____ on your health. (*affects/ effects/ effective/ effectively*)
29. What is the _____ of your failure? (*reason/cause/effect/impact*)
30. A molecule of DNA _____ the instructions an organization needs to develop, live and reproduce.
(*contains/ consists/ composes/ concludes*)
31. Sorry David, but can you _____ me a favor (*make/ take/ do/ get*)
32. Air is _____ mainly of nitrogen and oxygen. (*created/ consisted/ composed/ included*)
33. This _____ dictionary includes a few animations. (*electric/electrical/electronic*)
34. Heavy snowfalls _____ it impossible planes to land or take off. (*made/ found/ thought/took*)
35. Fishing in the reservoir is _____ prohibited. (*strictly/ relatively/highly/approximately*)
36. Nobody died in the accident, but 20 people were _____ (*injured/damaged/wounded*)
37. The salesman _____ us how to start the engine. (*showed/ reflected/described*)
38. The film is _____ recommended by critics. (*highly/ truly/ deeply*)
39. They discussed the matter thoroughly but couldn't _____ an agreement. (*come/ target/ reach/jump*)
40. I _____ this documentary film informative (*realized/ thought/ felt/ found*)
41. The problem can be _____ if we are determined. (*talked/ tackled/ thought/ carried*)
42. This is the worst incident I have ever _____ (*gone/encountered/covered/conquered*)