HOMEWORK READING LESSON 1

PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21-30

Every modern war has its icon, the technological development essential to the conflict, the one that changes the course of battle and becomes, ever after, symbolic of the time. The Civil War's cannon, World War I's machine gun, World War II's tank — each left its mark on the landscape and the soldier. Vietnam's icon was the helicopter, specifically the UH-1 utility helicopter soldiers referred to as "the Huey."

The geographic and political realities of Vietnam called for a new kind of warfare, one the U.S. Army termed "Airmobile." Remote battle zones, mountains topped in old-growth hardwood jungles, and poorly developed roads eliminated motor vehicles as a means of quickly moving masses of troops and supplies. Helicopters took over. In Airmobile warfare, flocks of helicopters took troops and supplies to strategic locations, monitored operations from the air, engaged in battle, and evacuated forces. The famed U.S. Army 1st Cavalry joined aviation units already in Vietnam to pioneer Airmobile operations, trading **its** horses for helicopters and creating an archetype followed by the 101st Airborne, the 1st Aviation Brigade, and several other aviation units and smaller detachments.

Many helicopters were used in Vietnam, but none was as widely employed as the Huey. The UH-1 "Iroquois," popularly dubbed the Huey, is known as "the workhorse of the Vietnam War," used by all military forces for troop transport, medical evacuation, and combat **assault**. Hueys transported soldiers and supplies to the lines as the horses for a modern cavalry. The U.S. Army and Marine Corps made them into gunships, modifying them with machine guns and air-to-ground rocket pods and putting **them** to work in frontal assaults. Hueys carried officers to develop battle plans, soldiers to battle, nurses to orphanages, and "Donut Dollies" to entertain troops. Outfitted with broadcasting systems, they ferried Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) messengers. And, perhaps most significantly, Hueys were the technology behind "Dustoffs," evacuations of the wounded so-named by a pilot who gave his life doing it. The ability to swoop into the battle, load the Huey with wounded, and fly to evacuation hospitals, started in Korea and refined in Vietnam, has been called "one of the major medical innovations of the Vietnam War." This quick transport meant that more than 90 percent of wounded soldiers who reached a medical facility survived. The medical evacuation technology gained in the Huey experience of Vietnam came home to become the air rescue operations we today take for granted.

The Huey is an enormously **versatile** helicopter, easily modified for various missions. **The interchangeable interiors of the Huey allowed for easy conversion from troop carrier to ambulance.** It was also an amazing machine, capable of flying in extreme stress and relatively easy to get in and out quickly–a feature crucial in troop extraction and rescue missions. Those who flew and maintained them, the pilots and crew chiefs, are fiercely loyal to the Huey, even though many have flown many other aircraft.

More than 7,000 Huey helicopters served in Vietnam and nearly half were lost. 2,177 Huey crew members were killed in action. Because the Huey was always there for them, for soldiers on the ground, the distinctive WHOP WHOP of the Huey's 48-foot rotor blades slapping the air was the sound of their lifeline.

21. What was the icon of The Civil War?
    A. cannon
    B. machine gun
    C. tank
    D. helicopter

22. Which list best describes the conditions that necessitated the use of the helicopter in Vietnam?
    A. strategic operations, supply routes, troop movements
    B. large rivers, vast shoreline, marshy rice paddies
    C. dense jungles, remote battle sites, bad roads
    D. rapid transport, medical evacuation, soldier resupply

23. The word "**its**" in paragraph 2 refers to
    A. The 101 st Airborne
    B. The famed U.S Academy 1st Cavalry
    C. Vietnam
    D. Airmobile operations

24. The word "**assault**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to
    A. advance
    B. aggression
    C. attempt
    D. strike

25. The word "**them**" in paragraph 3 refers to
    A. Hueys
    B. soldiers
    C. horses
    D. The U.S Army and Marine Corps

26. What name was given to helicopter ambulance missions?
    A. Dustoff
    B. PSYOP
    C. Donut Dollies
    D. Cavalry

27. What is the best title for this passage?
    A. Icon of Wars
    B. Helicopters
    C. The UH-1 Helicopter: Icon of the Vietnam War
    D. Kinds of helicopters in Vietnam

28. The word "**versatile**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to
    A. adaptable
    B. flexible
    C. resourceful
    D. talent

29. Read the sentence below, then answer the question.
    The interchangeable interiors of the Huey allowed for easy conversion from troop carrier to air ambulance.
    Which of these is the best category for this fact?
    A. Safety features of the Huey
    B. Huey crew members
    C. Versatility of the Huey
    D. Effects of the Huey on the enemy force

30. What can be inferred from the last paragraph?
    A. Flying a Huey in Vietnam was dangerous work.
    B. The Huey helicopter was extremely versatile.
    C. Other helicopters were safer than the Huey.
    D. Most military personnel preferred a motor vehicle to a Huey.

PASSAGE 4 – Questions 31-40

Photographic evidence suggests that liquid water existed on the surface of Mars. Two types of flow features are: runoff channels and outflow channels. Runoff channels are found in the southern highlands. **These** flow features are extensive systems-sometimes hundreds of kilometers in total length-of interconnecting, twisting channels that seem to merge into larger, wider channels. They bear a strong resemblance to river systems on Earth. Geologists think that they are dried-up beds of long-gone rivers that carried rainfall on Mars from the mountains down into the valleys. Runoff channels on Mars speak of a time 4 billion years ago when the atmosphere was thicker, the surface warmer, and liquid water widespread.

Outflow channels are probably relics of catastrophic flooding on Mars long ago. They appear only in equatorial regions and generally do not form extensive interconnected networks. Instead, they are probably the paths taken by huge volumes of water draining from the southern highlands into the northern plains. The onrushing water arising from these flash floods likely also formed the odd teardrop-shaped "islands" (resembling the **miniature** versions seen in the wet sand of our beaches at low tide) that have been found on the plains close to the ends of the outflow channels. Judging from the width and depth of the channels, the flow rates must have been truly enormous. Flooding shaped the outflow channels 3 billion years ago, about the same times as the northern volcanic plains formed.

Scientists speculate that Mars may have enjoyed an extended early Period during which rivers, lakes, and perhaps even oceans adorned its surface. A 2003 Mars Global Surveyor image shows what mission specialists think may be a delta-a fan-shaped

network of channels and sediments where a river once flowed into a larger body of water, in this case a lake filling a crater in the southern highlands. Other researchers go even further, suggesting that the data provide evidence for large open expenses of water on the early Martian surface. A computer-generated view of the Martian North Polar Region shows the extent of what may have been an ancient ocean covering much of the northern lowlands. The Hellas Basin, which measures some 3,000 kilometers across and has a floor that lies nearly 9 kilometers below the basin's rim, is another candidate for an ancient Martian sea.

These ideas remain controversial. Proponents point to features such as the terraced "beaches" shown in one image, which could conceivably have been left behind as a lake or ocean evaporated and the shoreline receded. But detractors maintain that the terraces could also have been created by geological activity, perhaps related to the geologic forces that depressed the Northern Hemisphere far below the level of the south, in which case they have nothing whatever to do with Martian water. Furthermore, Mars Global Surveyor data released in 2003 seem to indicate that the Martian surface contains too few carbonate rock layers-layers containing compounds of carbon and oxygen-that should have been formed in abundance in an ancient ocean. Their absence supports the picture of a cold, dry Mars that never experienced the extended mild period required to form lakes and oceans. However, more recent data imply that at least some parts of the planet did in fact experience long periods in the past during which liquid water existed on the surface.

31. What does the word "**these**" in paragraph 1 refer to?
    A. runoff channels
    B. outflow channels
    C. both A and B
    D. flow features

32. What does the discussion in paragraph 1 of runoff channels in the Southern Highlands suggest about Mars?
    A. The atmosphere of Mars was once thinner than it is today.
    B. Large amounts of rain once fell on parts of Mars.
    C. The river systems of Mars were once more extensive than Earth's.
    D. The rivers of Mars began to dry up about 4 billion years ago.

33. The word "**miniature**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to
    A. temporary
    B. small
    C. multiple
    D. familiar

34. According to paragraph 2, all of the following are true of the outflow channels on Mars EXCEPT:
    A. They formed at around the same time that volcanic activity was occurring on the northern plains.
    B. They are found only on certain parts of the Martian surface.

C. They sometimes empty onto what appear to have once been the wet sands of tidal beaches.
D. They are thought to have carried water northward from the equatorial regions.

35. According to paragraph 3, images of Mars' surface have been interpreted as support for the idea that
A. The polar regions of Mars were once more extensive than they are now
B. A large part of the northern lowlands may once have been under water
C. Deltas were once a common feature of the Martian landscape
D. the shape of the Hellas Basin has changed considerably over time

36. What can be inferred from paragraph 3 about liquid water on Mars?
A. If ancient oceans ever existed on Mars' surface, it is likely that the water in them has evaporated by now.
B. If there is any liquid water at all on Mars' surface today, its quantity is much smaller than the amount that likely existed there in the past.
C. Small-scale gullies on Mars provide convincing evidence that liquid water existed on Mars in the recent past.
D. The small amount of water vapor in the Martian atmosphere suggests that there has never been liquid water on Mars.

37. All of the following questions about geological features on Mars are answered in paragraph 3 EXCEPT:
A. What are some regions of Mars that may have once been covered with an ocean?
B. Where do mission scientists believe that the river forming the delta emptied?
C. Approximately how many craters on Mars do mission scientists believe may once have been lakes filled with water?
D. During what period of Mars' history do some scientists think it may have had large bodies of water?

38. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 4?
A. But detractors argue that geological activity may be responsible for the water associated with the terraces.
B. But detractors argue that the terraces may have been formed by geological activity rather than by the presence of water.
C. But detractors argue that the terraces may be related to geological forces in the Northern Hemisphere of Mars, rather than to Martian water in the south.
D. But detractors argue that geological forces depressed the Northern Hemisphere so far below the level of the south that the terraces could not have been formed by water.

39. According to paragraph 4, what do the 2003 Global Surveyor data suggest About Mars?

A. Ancient oceans on Mars contained only small amounts of carbon.
B. The climate of Mars may not have been suitable for the formation of large bodies of water.
C. Liquid water may have existed on some parts of Mars' surface for long periods of time.
D. The ancient oceans that formed on Mars dried up during periods of cold, dry weather.

40. In paragraph 2 of the passage, there is a missing sentence. The paragraph is repeated below and shows four letters (A, B, C, and D) that indicate where the following sentence could be added.

These landscape features differ from runoff channels in a number of ways.
Where would the sentence best fit?

Outflow channels are probably relics of catastrophic flooding on Mars long ago. **(A)** They appear only in equatorial regions and generally do not form extensive interconnected networks. **(B)** Instead, they are probably the paths taken by huge volumes of water draining from the southern highlands into the northern plains. **(C)** The onrushing water arising from these flash floods likely also formed the odd teardrop-shaped "islands" (resembling the miniature versions seen in the wet sand of our beaches at low tide) that have been found on the plains close to the ends of the outflow channels. **(D)** Judging from the width and depth of the channels, the flow rates must have been truly enormous—perhaps as much as a hundred times greater than the 105 tons per second carried by the great Amazon River. Flooding shaped the outflow channels approximately 3 billion years ago, about the same time as the northern volcanic plains formed.

A. Option A
B. Option B
C. Option C
D. Option D