

PRACTICE TEST 1: DIAGNOSTIC

50 Questions • Time: 25 Minutes

Directions: Each passage is followed by a series of questions. Answer the questions based on the information you gathered from the passage. Choose the best answer to each question and answer each question based on what is *stated* or *implied* in the passage.

QUESTIONS 1–10 REFER TO THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE.

The cabildo, which is Spanish for “municipal council,” was the fundamental unit of local government in colonial Spanish America. Following a tradition going back to the Romans, the Spanish considered the city to be of paramount importance, with the surrounding countryside directly subordinate to it.

In local affairs, each municipality in Hispanic America was governed by its cabildo, or council, in a manner reminiscent of Castilian towns in the late Middle Ages. A council’s members and magistrates, together with the local judge appointed by the king, enjoyed considerable prestige and power. The size of a council varied but was always small. The cabildos of important cities, such as Lima and Mexico, had about 12 members.

The cabildo was in charge of all ordinary aspects of municipal government—e.g., policing, sanitation, taxation, the supervision of building, price and wage regulation, and the administration of justice. To assist them in these responsibilities, the city councilors appointed various officials, such as tax collectors, inspectors of weights and measures and the markets, and peace officers. In spite of royal decrees to promote honest and efficient city government, the cabildos were often corrupt and rapacious.

By the mid-sixteenth century, appointments to cabildos were ordinarily made by the Spanish crown and sometimes became hereditary. Occasionally, the propertied class in a city elected some of the councilors. Sometimes citizens were asked to attend a open town meeting on

important matters. Such open meetings became very important to the movement for the independence of Hispanic America in the early nineteenth century.

1. Which choice does the word “paramount” as used in line 6 refer to?

- (A) Fundamental
- (B) Government
- (C) Tradition
- (D) Surrounding

2. Where was the cabildo used as a form of government?

- (A) In Roman colonies
- (B) In Spanish colonies
- (C) In Roman provinces
- (D) In Spanish provinces

3. Which of the following answer choices is closest in meaning to the word “reminiscent” as used in lines 11–12?

- (A) Suggesting something in the past
- (B) Suggesting a schedule or agenda
- (C) Suggesting a small village
- (D) Suggesting an odor

4. According to the passage, how was a local judge in Hispanic America selected?

- (A) He was elected by the council.
- (B) He was appointed by the king.
- (C) He was chosen by the town’s wealthy citizens.
- (D) He was the richest man in the town.

5. According to the passage, how many councilors did Lima have?
(A) Ten
(B) Eleven
(C) Twelve
(D) Thirteen
6. From the passage it can be inferred that some cabildos were
(A) poorly educated
(B) important
(C) corrupt
(D) independent
7. What word does the phrase "peace officers" as used in line 29 refer to?
(A) Sanitation
(B) Policing
(C) Assist
(D) Tax collectors
8. Which is closest in meaning to the word in the passage "responsibilities" as used in lines 25–26?
(A) Duties
(B) Wages
(C) Sanitation
(D) Inspections
9. From the passage it can be inferred that by the mid-sixteenth century, the cabildo was all of the following EXCEPT:
(A) Elected by all registered voters
(B) Appointed by the king
(C) Came from the propertied class
(D) Was an inherited office
10. Where can the following sentence best be added to the passage?
Debates were sometimes heated, and the wealthy landowners had to defend their positions by arresting their opponents.
(A) At the end of paragraph 1
(B) At the end of paragraph 2
(C) After the words "peace officers" in paragraph 3
(D) After the words "important matters" in paragraph 4

QUESTIONS 11–20 REFER TO THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE.

- Annie Oakley, an intriguing figure in American entertainment, was a markswoman who starred in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, where she was often called "Little Sure Shot." She was born in 1860 in Darke County, Ohio, and her original name was Phoebe Ann Moses. As a child, she hunted game with such success that, according to legend, by selling it in Cincinnati, Ohio, she was able to pay off the mortgage on the family farm. When she was 15 she won a shooting match in Cincinnati with Frank E. Butler, a vaudeville marksman, and they were married a year later.
- For the next ten years they toured the country and performed in theaters and circuses as "Butler and Oakley." In April 1885, Annie Oakley, now under her husband's management, joined "Buffalo Bill" Cody's Wild West Show. Billed as "Miss Annie Oakley, the Peerless Lady Wing-Shot," she was one of the show's star attractions for sixteen years.
- Oakley never failed to delight her audiences, and her feats of marksmanship were truly incredible. At 30 paces she could split a playing card held edge-on, and she hit dimes tossed into the air. She shot cigarettes from her husband's lips, and, when he threw a playing card into the air, she would shoot it full of holes before it touched the ground. She was a great success on the Wild West Show's European trips.

- In 1887, she was presented to Queen Victoria, and later in Berlin she performed her cigarette trick with, at his insistence, Crown Prince Wilhelm (later Kaiser Wilhelm II) holding the cigarette. A train wreck in 1901 left her partially paralyzed for a time, but she recovered and returned to the stage to amaze audiences for many more years.
- (40) 11. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word “intriguing” as used in line 1?
 (A) Frightening
 (B) Fascinating
 (C) Fabulous
 (D) Funny
12. What was Oakley often called while performing in Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show?
 (A) Little Orphan Annie
 (B) Little Phoebe Ann
 (C) Little Sure Shot
 (D) Little Phoebe Butler
13. Which of the following is the closest in meaning to the word “mortgage” as used in line 11?
 (A) A debt left by a deceased property owner
 (B) A bank-loan contract using property as security
 (C) A measurement of debts owed
 (D) A piece of furniture loaned to a neighbor
14. What does the word “it” as used in the phrase “by selling it” in line 10 refer to?
 (A) Child
 (B) Game
 (C) Legend
 (D) Mortgage
15. The passage implies that Oakley and Butler were married in
 (A) 1873
 (B) 1874
 (C) 1875
 (D) 1876
16. According to the passage, Frank E. Butler was all of the following EXCEPT:
 (A) Annie Oakley’s assistant in her act
 (B) Annie Oakley’s husband
 (C) Annie Oakley’s teacher
 (D) Annie Oakley’s manager
17. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word “feats” as used in line 26?
 (A) Jokes
 (B) Accomplishments
 (C) Displays
 (D) Mistakes
18. Where can the following sentence best be added to the passage?
Her story was made into a Broadway musical called *Annie Get Your Gun*, but the real life of Annie Oakley is just as interesting.
 (A) After the phrase “Little Sure Shot” in paragraph 1
 (B) After the phrase “Butler and Oakley” in paragraph 2
 (C) At the end of paragraph 3
 (D) At the beginning of paragraph 4
19. According to the passage, who performed the cigarette trick with her in Europe?
 (A) Queen Victoria
 (B) Crown Prince Wilhelm
 (C) Buffalo Bill Cody
 (D) Princess Anne
20. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
 (A) Annie Oakley was a talented and popular entertainer.
 (B) Frank E. Butler was jealous of his wife’s talent and popularity.
 (C) Queen Victoria was brave when she held a cigarette for Annie Oakley.
 (D) Buffalo Bill Cody was not as good a marksman as Annie Oakley.

QUESTIONS 21–30 REFER TO THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE.

Edward Patrick Egan was born April 26, 1897, in Denver, Colorado, and his father died in a railroad accident when Egan was only a year old. He and his

- (5) four brothers were raised by his mother, who earned a small income from teaching foreign languages.

Inspired by Frank Merriwell, the hero of a series of popular novels for boys, Egan pursued an education for himself as well as an interest in boxing. He attended the University of Denver for a year before serving in the U.S. Army as an artillery lieutenant during World War

- (10) I. After the war, he entered Yale University and, while studying there, won the U.S. national amateur heavyweight boxing title. He graduated from Yale in 1921, attended Harvard Law School, and received a Rhodes scholarship to the University of Oxford where he received his A.M. in 1928.

While studying at Oxford, Egan became the first American to win the British amateur boxing championship. Egan won his first Olympic gold medal as a light heavyweight boxer at the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp, Belgium. Egan also fought at the 1924 Olympics in Paris as a heavyweight but failed to get a medal. Though he had taken up the sport just three weeks before the competition, he managed to win a second gold medal as a member of the four-man

- (25) bobsled team at the 1932 Olympics in Lake Placid, New York. Thus he became the only athlete to win gold medals at both the Summer and Winter Olympics. Egan was a member of the first group of athletes inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 1983. Egan became a respected attorney, serving as an assistant district attorney for southern New York and as chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission (1945–
- (30) 51). He married soap heiress Margaret Colgate and attained the rank of lieutenant colonel during World War II.

21. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Egan's life shows how a wealthy student can achieve as much as a poor one.
(B) Egan's life shows that military experience makes athletes great.
(C) Egan's life shows that a man can be an athlete and a well-educated person.
(D) Egan's life shows how easy it is to win two gold medals in different Olympic sports.

22. According to the passage, who was Frank Merriwell?

- (A) A teacher at Yale
(B) A fictional character
(C) A student at Oxford
(D) A bobsledder at the Olympics

23. According to the passage, how did Egan's mother earn a living?

- (A) Renting rooms to immigrants
(B) Teaching foreign languages
(C) Doing laundry and cleaning
(D) Writing fiction for women's magazines

24. Which of the following is the closest in meaning to the word "artillery" as used in line 14?

- (A) Large weapons such as cannons
(B) Small weapons such as pistols
(C) Shoulder weapons such as rifles
(D) Tension weapons such as crossbows

25. According to the passage, Egan won all of the following EXCEPT:

- (A) Light heavyweight boxing, Olympic gold medal
(B) U.S. national amateur heavyweight boxing title
(C) British amateur boxing championship
(D) Heavyweight boxing, Olympic gold medal

26. According to the passage, where were the 1920 Olympic Games held?

- (A) Antwerp, Belgium
- (B) Paris, France
- (C) London, England
- (D) Lake Placid, New York

27. Where can the following sentence best be added to the passage?

He continued to be active in amateur athletics for the rest of the decade.

- (A) At the end of paragraph 1
- (B) After the word "boxing" in paragraph 2
- (C) After the phrase "get a medal" in paragraph 3
- (D) At the end of paragraph 4

28. Which word or phrase does the word "competition" as used in lines 32–33 refer to?

- (A) Sport
- (B) Gold medals
- (C) 1932 Olympics
- (D) Summer Olympics

29. According to the passage, what was Eagan's profession?

- (A) He was a boxing trainer.
- (B) He was an attorney.
- (C) He was an army officer.
- (D) He was president of Colgate.

30. According to the passage, what special honor did Eagan receive in 1983?

- (A) He was inducted into U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.
- (B) He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army.
- (C) He received a gold medal in four-man bobsledding.
- (D) He was appointed assistant district attorney for Southern New York.

QUESTIONS 31–40 REFER TO THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE.

The first folio edition of the collected works of William Shakespeare was originally published in 1623 as *Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories & Tragedies*. This folio edition is the major source for contemporary texts of his plays.

(5) The publication of drama in the early seventeenth century was usually left to the poorer members of the Stationers' Company and to outright pirates. The would-be publisher only had to get hold of a manuscript, legally or illegally, register it as his copy, and have it printed. Sometimes the publisher dispensed with the formality. Such a man was Thomas Thorpe, the publisher of Shakespeare's sonnets in 1609.

(10) *Titus Andronicus* was the first play by Shakespeare to be published and was printed by a notorious literary pirate, John Danter, who also brought out, anonymously, a defective *Romeo and Juliet*, largely from shorthand notes made during performance. Eighteen of Shakespeare's plays were printed in quartos (books about half the size of a modern magazine) both "good" and "bad" before the First Folio (a large-format book) was published in 1623. The bad quartos are defective editions, usually with badly garbled or missing text.

(15) For the First Folio, a formidable project of more than 900 pages, five men formed a partnership, headed by Edward Blount and William Jaggard. The actors John Heminge and Henry Condell undertook the collection of 36 of Shakespeare's plays, and about 1,000 copies of the First Folio were printed by Isaac Jaggard, William's son. In 1632, a second folio was issued and in 1663, a third. The latter included *Pericles* and several other plays that may not have been written by Shakespeare. These included *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, which is now thought to have been a collaboration of Shakespeare and John Fletcher.

31. From the passage it can be inferred that the First Folio of Shakespeare's plays is important because it
- (A) was registered at the Stationer's Office by Thomas Thorpe
 - (B) is the major source for contemporary texts of Shakespeare's plays
 - (C) is twice the size of the quarto editions that were badly printed by many publishers
 - (D) was published three years after the establishment of the Plymouth Colony
32. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word "outright" as used in line 11?
- (A) Unfairly judged as something
 - (B) Proved to be something without question
 - (C) Imprisoned without a trial
 - (D) Opposing the rights of an enemy
33. The passage implies that many publishers
- (A) were unsuccessful authors themselves
 - (B) printed the work of only the best writers.
 - (C) used an author's work without permission
 - (D) paid the author very well for his writing
34. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the phrase "dispensed with" as used in line 15?
- (A) Gave away to customers
 - (B) Managed without something
 - (C) Wrote a denial to an accusation
 - (D) Compensated another's loss
35. According to the passage, when were Shakespeare's sonnets published?
- (A) 1609
 - (B) 1610
 - (C) 1611
 - (D) 1612
36. Which word is closest in meaning to the phrase "brought out" as used in line 22?
- (A) Published
 - (B) Printed
 - (C) Performed
 - (D) Defect
37. According to the passage, how many of Shakespeare's plays were printed in quartos?
- (A) 17
 - (B) 18
 - (C) 19
 - (D) 20
38. The passage implies that John Danter acquired the text of *Romeo and Juliet* by
- (A) paying an actor for a copy of the script
 - (B) buying the copyright from Shakespeare
 - (C) taking notes during a performance
 - (D) hiring an actor to recite the lines to him
39. According to the passage, all of the following were involved in the publishing of the First Folio EXCEPT:
- (A) Edward Blount
 - (B) Henry Condell
 - (C) William Jaggard
 - (D) John Danter
40. Where can the following sentence best be added to the passage?
- They sold quickly to a public anxious to have accurate copies of the master dramatist's plays.**
- (A) At the end of paragraph 1
 - (B) After the word "formality" in paragraph 2
 - (C) After the word "performance" in paragraph 3
 - (D) After the phrase "William's son" in paragraph 4

**QUESTIONS 41–50 REFER TO THE
FOLLOWING PASSAGE.**

Steamboats were shallow-draft boats propelled by steam-driven paddle wheels. In the nineteenth century, they could be seen every day on rivers, particularly on the Mississippi River and its principal tributaries in the United States.

The development of the steamboat as a practical means of transportation began in America in 1787, but it wasn't until 1811 that a steamboat was built specifically to travel along the lower Mississippi River. The boat, called appropriately the *New Orleans*, was built at Pittsburgh, Pa., for Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston. In 1812, the two men began operating a regular steamboat service between New Orleans and Natchez, Mississippi. Their vessels traveled at eight miles per hour downstream and three upstream.

In 1816, Henry Miller Shreve launched his steamboat *Washington*, and soon became known as the father of Mississippi navigation, because he adapted steamboat design to fit the shallow waters of the river. He installed the engine high up above the water line and mounted it on a hull that was as shallow as that of a barge. He also added a tall second deck, and afterwards all Mississippi steamboats copied Shreve's design. From then on and until about 1870, the steamboat dominated the economy, agriculture, and commerce of the middle area of the United States.

By 1834, there were 1,200 steamboats, carrying not only cotton and sugar, but also passengers who enjoyed luxuriously appointed lounges with rich rugs, oil paintings, and chandeliers. Many steamboats were famous for their chefs, orchestras, and large staffs of maids and butlers to assist their cabin passengers.

Steamboat pilots had to memorize or guess at the depths of the river and its potential obstacles along long stretches of river in order to navigate safely. The average life span of a steamboat was only four to five years, because most of

the vessels were poorly constructed and maintained. They sank after hitting sand bars and hidden rocks in the river, and many of their boilers exploded, causing many deaths among their passengers. By the 1870s, railroads had become more efficient modes of transport and gradually caused the retirement of almost all the steamboats from the river.

41. In the passage, it is implied that steamboats were used mainly
- (A) in New Orleans
 - (B) in Washington, D.C.
 - (C) along the Hudson River
 - (D) in the Mississippi River valley
42. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word "tributaries" as used in line 6 of the passage?
- (A) A party honoring a famous person
 - (B) A stream that flows into another
 - (C) A three-wheeled vehicle
 - (D) A state that has a border on three other states
43. According to the passage, in what year were steamboats operating regularly on the Mississippi?
- (A) 1810
 - (B) 1811
 - (C) 1812
 - (D) 1813
44. Which of the following does the phrase "means of transportation" as used in line 9 refer to?
- (A) Steamboat
 - (B) America
 - (C) Built specifically
 - (D) Travel

45. According to the passage, how fast did the *New Orleans* travel downstream between New Orleans and Natchez?
- (A) 3 miles per hour
 - (B) 8 miles per hour
 - (C) 13 miles per hour
 - (D) 18 miles per hour
46. According to the passage why was Henry Shreve called the “father of Mississippi navigation”?
- (A) He designed a steering mechanism that other steamboats used.
 - (B) He was born and raised in a small village on the banks of the Mississippi.
 - (C) He printed maps for the steamboat captains and pilots.
 - (D) He adapted steamboat design to fit the shallow waters of the river.
47. Which of the following is the closest in meaning to the phrase “from then on” as used in line 33 in the passage?
- (A) Subsequently
 - (B) Consequently
 - (C) Apparently
 - (D) Thoroughly
48. According to the passage, after the 1830s, steamboats had all of the following EXCEPT:
- (A) Orchestras
 - (B) Chefs and maids
 - (C) Chandeliers
 - (D) Air conditioning
49. According to the passage, how long did the average steamboat remain afloat?
- (A) Two to three years
 - (B) Three to four years
 - (C) Four to five years
 - (D) Five to six years
50. Where can the following sentence best be added to the passage?
- Mark Twain, a steamboat pilot who became one of America’s greatest writers, told about his brother’s death in a steamboat explosion in his book *Life on the Mississippi*.**
- (A) After the words “Mississippi River” in paragraph 2
 - (B) After the phrase “Shreve’s design” in paragraph 3
 - (C) After the word “chandeliers” in paragraph 4
 - (D) After the phrase “their passengers” in paragraph 5