

Questions 1–9

While the written word has done much to preserve history, pictures are necessary to supplement the printed page. No other section of the American frontier has been so richly endowed with a pictorial record of its past as has the area encompassed by the headwaters of the Missouri River and its tributary, the Yellowstone. For almost a century, beginning in the 1830s, artists with pencil and brush added to this record. Although paintings and drawings often provide a very valuable record, when pictures are considered from the standpoint of exactness, the work of the photographer must come first.

In the spring of 1886, a 30-year-old sodbuster who had worked briefly as a photographer back East hit upon the idea of producing an album of his fellow settlers. For the next 15 years, as the pioneer era drew to a close, Solomon D. Butcher crisscrossed Custer County, Nebraska, in a wagon that served as his studio. He announced his forays with notices in the local newspaper: "Farmers, have your farm photos taken for Butcher's Pioneer History." The fact that Butcher was himself a farmer provided rapport with his subjects. But his genius as a photographer lay in allowing them to pose as they wished, against scenes of their own choosing. The portraits that resulted convey the dignity of pioneers in challenging circumstances, and they remain a classic record of a resolute breed.

Another pictorial account of the American frontier was left by L. A. Huffman, a young man of pioneer stock who arrived in the Montana Territory in 1878 to work as a post photographer. When he died in 1931, Huffman left a priceless collection of pictures of Indians in the last days of buffalo-skin tepees, the buffalo hunters in the days of the open range, the lonely life of the sheepherder, the growth of the range towns, the coming of the railroads, and the final infiltration of the "plow man."

1. The topic of this passage is
   (A) enterprising young frontiersmen
   (B) photographic accounts of the American frontier
   (C) pioneer history
   (D) art in America

2. According to the passage, which of the following media gives the most precise record of a subject or scene?
   (A) Painting
   (B) Drawing
   (C) Journalism
   (D) Photography

3. The word "sodbuster" in line 9 is closest in meaning to
   (A) someone who fights a lot
   (B) a homeless person
   (C) an agricultural worker
   (D) a journalist

4. According to the article, what was Butcher most noted for?
   (A) His advertising techniques
   (B) His compatibility with his clients
   (C) The poses and settings of his portraits
   (D) The technical ability he demonstrated in photography

5. The word "rapport" in line 15 is closest in meaning to
   (A) spontaneous entertainment
   (B) mutual understanding
   (C) slight acquaintance
   (D) artistic skill

6. The author implies in the passage that Butcher's photography was
   (A) realistic
   (B) expensive
   (C) colorful
   (D) pretentious

7. The word "they" in line 18 refers to
   (A) the scenes
   (B) the circumstances
   (C) the portraits
   (D) the pioneers

8. The word "priceless" in line 21 is closest in meaning to
   (A) expensive
   (B) limited
   (C) rustic
   (D) valuable

9. We can infer from lines 21–24 that life on the western frontier during Huffman's lifetime
   (A) had changed greatly
   (B) was very romantic
   (C) was industrially based
   (D) had attracted national attention

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions 10–19

As new industrialism swept over the land in the wake of the Civil War, people flocked to the nation's cities in unprecedented numbers from rural regions, villages, and foreign countries. Housing for the new city-dwellers took many
Line forms as new architectural styles were developed.
(5) During this period of urban expansion, speculative builders discovered a bonanza in the form of the row house. Designed for single-family occupancy, these dwellings cost relatively little to construct because they shared common walls with their neighbors and because many could be erected side by side on a narrow street frontage. Along New York's gridiron of streets and avenues rose block after
(10) block of row houses, which, by the 1880s, were almost invariably faced with brownstone. In contrast, wooden row houses on the West Coast appeared light and airy with their coats of bright paint. San Francisco developed a particularly successful row vernacular, suitable for rich and poor alike, as typified by clusters of homes like the Rountree group, which featured Queen Anne elements in their
(15) pitched roofs and heavily decorated exteriors. Although critics likened the facades of such structures to the "puffing, paint, and powder of our female friends," the houses were efficiently planned, sanitary, and well-lighted. Virtually every dwelling boasted one or more bay windows, which were as important to sun-loving San Franciscans as brownstone fronts were to New Yorkers. As an English
(20) traveler observed, California architecture, "with all the windows gracefully leaping out at themselves," should rightly be called the "bay-window order."

10. The main purpose of the author in this passage is
    (A) to contrast two versions of a similar architectural form
    (B) to persuade people to live in row houses
    (C) to argue for the excellence of California row houses
    (D) to describe the effects of urbanization

11. The phrase "a bonanza" in lines 5-6 is closest in meaning to
    (A) a confusing choice
    (B) a difficult challenge
    (C) an exciting design
    (D) a good investment

12. The phrase "almost invariably" in line 10 is closest in meaning to
    (A) usually
    (B) seldom
    (C) sometimes
    (D) never

13. According to the passage, why did speculative builders profit from row houses?
    (A) Because they cost very little to build
    (B) Because they were for single families
    (C) Because they were well-constructed
    (D) Because they were attractive

14. All of the following can be inferred about row houses from the passage EXCEPT
    (A) they provided for high-density housing
    (B) they housed people of different economic classes
    (C) they provided a new and popular form of architectural design
    (D) they had no front yards

15. The phrase "such structures" in line 16 refers to
    (A) West coast wooden row houses
    (B) poor people's houses
    (C) the homes in the Rountree group
    (D) Queen Anne's home

16. What can be inferred from the passage about New York row houses?
    (A) They were less colorful than row houses on the West Coast.
    (B) They were windowless.
    (C) They were smaller than California row houses.
    (D) They were less similar in appearance than row houses in California.

17. In line 16 critics of California row houses commented on their
    (A) excessive use of bay windows
    (B) ostentatious decoration
    (C) repetitive nature
    (D) lack of light

18. In line 18 the word "boasted" is used to indicate the owners'
    (A) skill
    (B) wealth
    (C) intelligence
    (D) pride

19. The author of the passage implies that the most important feature for Californians living in row houses was
    (A) the color
    (B) the price
    (C) the windows
    (D) the heavily decorated exteriors

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions 20–29

Since water is the basis of life, composing the greater part of the tissues of all living things, the crucial problem of desert animals is to survive in a world where sources of flowing water are rare. And since man's inexorable necessity is to absorb large quantities of water at frequent intervals, he can scarcely comprehend that many creatures of the desert pass their entire lives without a single drop.

Uncompromising as it is, the desert has not eliminated life but only those forms unable to withstand its desiccating effects. No moist-skinned, water-loving animals can exist there. Few large animals are found: the giants of the North American desert are the deer, the coyote, and the bobcat. Since desert country is open, it holds more swift-footed, running, and leaping creatures than the tangled forest. Its population are largely nocturnal, silent, filled with reticence, and ruled by stealth. Yet they are not emaciated. Having adapted to their austere environment, they are as healthy as animals anywhere in the world.

The secret of their adjustment lies in a combination of behavior and physiology. None could survive if, like mad dogs and Englishmen, they went out in the midday sun; many would die in a matter of minutes. So most of them pass the burning hours asleep in cool, humid burrows underneath the ground, emerging to hunt only by night. The surface of the sun-baked desert averages around 150 degrees, but 18 inches down the temperature is only 60 degrees.

An example of a desert animal that has adapted to subterranean living and lack of water is the kangaroo rat. Like many desert animals, kangaroo rats stay underground during the day. At night, they go outside to look for food. As evening temperatures drop, moisture from the air forms on plants and seeds. They absorb some of this moisture and kangaroo rats take in the life-giving water as they eat.

20. What is the topic of this passage?
    (A) Desert plants
    (B) Life underground
    (C) Animal life in a desert environment
    (D) Man's life in the desert

21. The word "greater" in line 1 is closest in meaning to
    (A) stronger
    (B) larger
    (C) more noticeable
    (D) heavier

22. The phrase "those forms" in line 6 refers to all of the following except
    (A) water-loving animals
    (B) the bobcat
    (C) moist-skinned animals
    (D) many large animals

25. The word "emaciated" in line 12 is closest in meaning to
    (A) wild
    (B) cunning
    (C) unmanageable
    (D) unhealthy

26. The author states that one characteristic of animals who live in the desert is that they
    (A) are smaller and fleeter than forest animals
    (B) are less healthy than animals who live in different places
    (C) can hunt in temperatures of 150 degrees
    (D) live in an accommodating environment

23. "Desiccating" in line 7 means
    (A) drying
    (B) humidifying
    (C) killing
    (D) life threatening

24. The author mentions all of the following as examples of the behavior of desert animals EXCEPT
    (A) animals sleep during the day
    (B) animals dig homes underground
    (C) animals are noisy and aggressive
    (D) animals are watchful and quiet

27. The word "subterranean" in line 20 is closest in meaning to
    (A) underground
    (B) safe
    (C) precarious
    (D) harsh

28. The word "they" in line 23 refers to
    (A) kangaroo rats
    (B) the desert population
    (C) plants and seeds
    (D) the burrows of desert animals

29. Which of the following generalizations are supported by the passage?
    (A) Water is the basis of life.
    (B) All living things adjust to their environments.
    (C) Desert life is colorful.
    (D) Healthy animals live longer lives.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions 30–40

The influx of Americans into Oregon in the 1840s ignited a dispute between Britain and the United States that, in its more intemperate phases, was accompanied by shrill demands in both countries for war. The argument originated in the fact that the boundaries of Oregon had never been clearly fixed. The name vaguely embraced the territory west of the Rockies between the northern boundary of Mexican-held California and the southern edge of Russian-held Alaska, which at the time extended south to parallel 54° 40′. In 1818 when America proposed a boundary at the 49th parallel—an extension of the border with Canada that already existed east of the Rockies—and the British suggested a line farther south, statesmen of both nations avoided the resulting impasse by agreeing to accept temporary "joint occupancy."

But by the early 1840s, the issue could no longer be avoided: Oregon fever and Manifest Destiny had become potent political forces. Though many eastern Americans considered Oregon country too remote to become excited about, demands for its occupation were shouted with almost religious fervor. Senator Thomas Hart Benton, for one, urged Congress to muster "thirty or forty thousand American rifles beyond the Rocky Mountains that will be our effective negotiators." The Democratic Party made "54° 40′ or fight" an issue of the 1844 Presidential election and just managed to install James K. Polk, an ardent expansionist, in the White House. But despite their seeming intransigence, neither Polk nor the British government wanted to fight. And just about the time that Polk learned that the land lying north of the 49th parallel was useless for agriculture, the British decided the American market for goods was worth far more than Oregon's fast-dying fur trade. So they quietly settled for the 49th parallel, the boundary that the United States had proposed in the first place.

30. What is the main idea of this passage?
    (A) The disagreement over the boundaries of Oregon was peacefully solved.
    (B) The United States wanted more land than it needed.
    (C) Politicians in 1840 favored war with Britain.
    (D) The United States ended up by sharing Oregon with Canada.

31. The word "intemperate" in line 2 is closest in meaning to
    (A) untimely
    (B) initial
    (C) immoderate
    (D) uninformed

32. As used in line 4, the word "fixed" is closest in meaning to
    (A) repaired
    (B) adjusted
    (C) built
    (D) established

33. In line 14 the word "remote" is closest in meaning to
    (A) far away
    (B) dangerous
    (C) large
    (D) uninteresting

34. In line 12 the phrase "the issue" refers to
    (A) what to do with the Americans living in Oregon
    (B) claiming Alaska as part of the United States
    (C) setting the Oregon boundary
    (D) going to war with Britain

35. The confrontation with Britain over Oregon boundaries came to a head in the early 1840s for all the following reasons EXCEPT
    (A) more people were living in Oregon at that time
    (B) the expansionists made the situation a political issue
    (C) all people were united in favoring the expansion and settlement of Oregon
    (D) Manifest Destiny was a major political force at this time

36. The word "ardent" in line 19 is closest in meaning to
    (A) superficial
    (B) enthusiastic
    (C) old
    (D) moderate

37. The word "they" in line 24 refers to
    (A) the Americans
    (B) the British and the Americans
    (C) the British
    (D) the Democratic Party

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38. It can be inferred from the passage that Senator Thomas Hart Benton
(A) was a temperate man
(B) supported the occupation of Oregon by force
(C) felt negotiation was the best policy
(D) proposed and approved the final boundary decision

39. The 49th parallel was accepted by both parties in the border dispute for all of the following reasons EXCEPT
(A) the dying fur trade in Oregon
(B) the attraction of the American market for goods
(C) the condition of the land north of 49°
(D) the desire for a good fight

40. It can be inferred from the passage that in the final boundary settlement the United States
(A) got the land that it had originally demanded
(B) got less land than it had originally demanded
(C) got more land than it had originally demanded
(D) had no interest in the land involved in the dispute

Questions 41–50

For all their great diversity of shapes and sizes, glaciers can be divided into two essential types: valley glaciers, which flow downhill from mountains and are shaped by the constraints of topography, and ice sheets, which flow outward in all
Line directions from domelike centers of accumulated ice to cover vast expanses of
(5) terrain. Whatever their type, most glaciers are remnants of great shrouds of ice that covered the earth eons ago. In a few of these glaciers the oldest ice is very ancient indeed; the age of parts of the Antarctic sheet may exceed 500,000 years.

Glaciers are born in rocky wombs above the snow line, where there is sufficient winter snowfall and summer cold for snow to survive the annual melting. The
(10) long gestation period of a glacier begins with the accumulation and gradual transformation of snowflakes. Soon after they reach the ground, complex snowflakes are reduced to compact, roughly spherical ice crystals, the basic components of a glacier. As new layers of snow and firn, snow that survives the melting of the previous summer, accumulate, they squeeze out most of the air
(15) bubbles trapped within and between the crystals below. This process of recrystallization continues throughout the life of the glacier.

The length of time required for the creation of glacier ice depends mainly upon the temperature and the rate of snowfall. In Iceland, where snowfall is heavy and summer temperatures are high enough to produce plenty of meltwater, glacier ice
(20) may come into being in a relatively short time—say, ten years. In parts of Antarctica, where snowfall is scant and the ice remains well below its melting temperature year-round, the process may require hundreds of years.

The ice does not become a glacier until it moves under its own weight, and it cannot move significantly until it reaches a critical thickness—the point at which
(25) the weight of the piled-up layers overcomes the internal strength of the ice and the friction between the ice and the ground. This critical thickness is about 60 feet. The fastest moving glaciers have been gauged at not much more than two and a half miles per year, and some cover less than 1/100 inch in that same amount of time. But no matter how infinitesimal the flow, movement is what distinguishes a
(30) glacier from a mere mass of ice.

41. This passage mainly discusses
(A) the size and shape of glaciers
(B) the formation of glaciers
(C) why glaciers move
(D) two types of glaciers

42. The word "constraints" in line 3 is closest in meaning to
(A) restrictions
(B) height
(C) beauty
(D) speed

43. Why does the author mention the Antarctic ice sheet in the first paragraph?
(A) It is a slow-moving glacier.
(B) One would expect glaciers in this part of the world.
(C) It contains some of the oldest ice in existence.
(D) It is an example of a well-formed ice sheet.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

44. In order to describe the development of glaciers, the author uses the analogy of
(A) birth
(B) snowflakes
(C) crystals
(D) Iceland

45. The phrase "this process" in line 15 refers to
(A) air bubbles being trapped below
(B) snow and firn compressing the ice crystals
(C) formation of firn from snow that is about to melt
(D) melting of summer snow

46. The word "trapped" in line 15 is closest in meaning to
(A) enclosed
(B) hunted
(C) formed
(D) stranded

47. According to the passage, what is one of the differences between valley glaciers and ice sheets?
(A) Ice sheets move faster than valley glaciers.
(B) While valley glaciers flow downhill, ice sheets flow in all directions.
(C) Valley glaciers are thicker than ice sheets because of the restricting land formations.
(D) Valley glaciers are not as old as ice sheets.

48. In line 24, what does "it" refer to?
(A) glacier
(B) ice
(C) weight
(D) critical thickness

49. The word "significantly" in line 24 is closest in meaning to
(A) quickly
(B) naturally
(C) thoroughly
(D) notably

50. According to the passage, the characteristic that identifies a glacier is
(A) the critical thickness of the ice
(B) the amount of firn accumulated
(C) the movement of the ice
(D) the weight of the ice

This is the end of Section 3.



If you finish before time is called, check your work on Section 3 only.

LIVEWORKSHEETS