

(2024_A) SAT Reading and Writing

1. The American continents are home to a huge diversity of languages, from Mayo, found in places like Mexico in North America, to Koreguaje, found in places like Colombia in South America. Much like the continents themselves, the variety of native languages in the Americas is _____.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① immense
- ② unknown
- ③ ordinary
- ④ limited

2. The minor planet 1095 Tulipa was named after the plant genus that includes tulips, but given the sheer number of minor planets that have been discovered (more than 500,000 so far), most are given only an identification number. Because any name given to a minor planet needs to be unique to that body, naming each would be _____.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① impractical
- ② presumptuous
- ③ ambiguous
- ④ customary

3. Drivers who strongly believe that the toll they must pay to use the San Luis Pass-Vacek Toll Bridge, which spans the San Luis Pass in Texas, is currently too high are likely to be _____ arguments for increasing the toll. Advocates for a higher toll are likely to have more success if they instead direct their arguments toward a more persuadable segment of the population.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① cited in
- ② apprised of
- ③ unsympathetic to
- ④ placated by

4. Though few critics consider Vasily Grossman's novel *Stalingrad*—which focuses on the experience of the Soviet Union in the early years of World War II—to be as well written as his later book *Everything Flows*, some compliment it despite the damage _____ Soviet censors: Gary Saul Morson in *The New York Review of Books* called the novel "remarkably bold."

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① bestowed on
- ② wrought by
- ③ allocated to
- ④ concealed from

6. Karl Polanyi and other historians of capitalism rarely discuss domestic capitalism in Africa before the period of European colonization, implicitly presenting capitalism as external to and imposed on Africa. Mariana Candido and other Africanist scholars have shown, however, that in parts of Africa, centrally administered industrial production, the legal treatment of land as private property, and other features of capitalism predated colonization. One reason for this discrepancy is that historians of capitalism tend to focus on longitudinal economic data drawn from archival records, which do not exist for much of precolonial Africa.

Which choice best describes the main purpose of the text?

- ① To explain why historians of capitalism and Africanist scholars disagree about which activities are features of capitalism
- ② To present and account for a potentially misleading characteristic of the work of historians of capitalism
- ③ To describe and evaluate a method used by Africanist scholars that distinguishes their work from that of historians of capitalism
- ④ To summarize a debate between historians of capitalism and Africanist scholars about how to interpret longitudinal economic data from archival records

7. The following text is adapted from George Eliot's 1857 short story "The Sad Fortunes of the Rev. Amos Barton." The Countess Czerlaski is a newcomer to the town of Milby.

I am by no means sure that if the good people of Milby had known the truth about the Countess Czerlaski, they would not have been considerably disappointed to find that it was very far from being as bad as they imagined. Nice distinctions are troublesome. It is so much easier to make up your mind that your neighbour is good for nothing, than to enter into all the circumstances that would oblige you to modify that opinion.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- ① To offer commentary on a human foible that may account for why the people of Milby view the Countess Czerlaski as they do
- ② To speculate on the circumstances under which the unfavorable opinion of the Countess Czerlaski that is held by the people of Milby could be improved
- ③ To explain why the people of Milby are somewhat correct to reproach the Countess Czerlaski for her misdeeds
- ④ To engage the reader's compassion for both the Countess Czerlaski and the people of Milby by detailing their different viewpoints

8. The following text is from Julia Alvarez's 2000 novel *In the Name of Salomé*. Salomé, a poet, is hosting guests in the front parlor of her family home, and Ramona is her sister. A salon is a social gathering for the exploration of intellectual ideas.

It was evening when the two men got up to leave. Tia Ana had already come into the room several times to see if these guests had departed yet. The front parlor had

always been her special province, as she used it for her little school. Now, every evening, it turned into Salomé's salon, as Ramona called it, and it was never in order for its transformation back to a classroom the following morning.

Based on the text, what most likely motivates Tía Ana's behavior during Salomé's salon?

- ① She is frustrated because she needs assistance elsewhere in the house, but Salome is unavailable while entertaining the guests.
- ② She is anxious for the gathering to disperse so that she can ready the space for her own needs.
- ③ She is impatient to share her plans to start a new school with the guests and hopes they will support her.
- ④ She finds the guests to be dull and is eager to find a way to leave the salon.

9. Companies involved in petroleum extraction include drilling equipment among their assets. But petroleum extraction is a very carbon-intensive industry, so as social attitudes increasingly favor using less carbon-intensive sources of energy, demand for petroleum falls and the drilling equipment will eventually, or even suddenly, become a liability as reduced petroleum prices make it more difficult to recover the expense of maintaining such equipment.

What claim does the text make about the demand for petroleum?

- ① Companies involved in petroleum extraction are not affected by the demand for petroleum.
- ② The societal preference for low-carbon energy sources is a factor in the demand for petroleum.
- ③ The demand for petroleum follows a predictable annual cycle.
- ④ Companies involved in petroleum extraction can benefit from a decline in the demand for petroleum.

10. Why do flat-headed cats purr but jaguars roar? Researchers hypothesize that this difference between the two feline species may be partly due to a U-shaped bone in their throats called the hyoid. Flat-headed cats, which are much smaller than jaguars, have a rigid hyoid that rumbles when the cat's larynx vibrates, resulting in a purr. By contrast, jaguars have a somewhat flexible hyoid, and the bone is attached to the skull with a

stretchy ligament that flat-headed cats lack. These traits allow jaguars and most other species of big cats to produce powerful roars. The same traits may also prevent most big cats from purring.

According to the text, which trait do researchers think may contribute to a flat-headed cat's ability to purr?

- ① The shape of the flat-headed cat's larynx
- ② The ligament attaching the hyoid bone to the flat-headed cat's skull
- ③ The flat-headed cats' rigid hyoid bone
- ④ The relative size of the flat-headed cat's body and throat

11.

Total Areas of Five Hawaiian Home Lands

Home Land	Area (square miles)
Nanakuli	3.61
Kawaihae	15.99
Kamoku-Kapulena	7.47
Kahikinui	37.26
Waimea	23.57

Hawaiian home lands are areas of public land in the state of Hawaii that have been reserved for use by the Kānaka Maoli, or the Native Hawaiian people. The largest of the home lands, Homuula-Upper Piihonua, covers nearly 100 square miles on the island of Hawai'i. Most of the home lands are much smaller. For example, the total area of Kamoku-Kapulena is 7.47 square miles, and the total area of Nanakuli is _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the example?

- ① 37.26 square miles.
- ② 3.61 square miles.
- ③ 23.57 square miles.
- ④ 15.99 square miles.

12 ← screenshot missing

13. Water flowing around an obstruction creates vortices (patterns of swirls) of varying size; by detecting the vortices, fish can determine the size and position of the obstruction. Testing by Yuzo R. Yanagisuru, Otar Akanyeti, and James C. Liao using models of three head shapes—narrow (low ratio of width to length), intermediate, and wide (high ratio of width to length)—showed that for large vortices, fish with intermediate heads would be better able than wide-headed fish to distinguish between vortices and general turbulence in the water. A second research team has therefore hypothesized that in low visibility conditions, intermediate-headed fish will be more likely than wide-headed fish to detect obstructions that create large vortices.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the second research team's hypothesis?

- ① A study using obstructions that created large vortices in low-visibility conditions found that the devil catfish (*Bagarius bagarius*), which has a relatively wide head, bumped into more than half of the obstructions.
- ② A study using obstructions that created large vortices in low-visibility conditions found that the wide-headed devil catfish (*Bagarius bagarius*) bumped into obstructions more often than the intermediate-headed rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) did.
- ③ A study using obstructions that created large vortices in low-visibility conditions found that the intermediate-headed rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) bumped into the obstructions just as often as the wide-headed devil catfish (*Bagarius bagarius*) did.
- ④ A study using obstructions that created large vortices in low-visibility conditions found that some specimens of the intermediate-headed rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) bumped into the obstructions more often than other specimens of the same fish did.

14.

Population and Population Density of African Countries in 2015

Country	Density (inhabitants/km ²)	Area (km ²)	Estimated population
Lesotho	70.3	30,355	2,135,000
Mali	14.2	1,240,000	17,600,000
Zambia	21.5	752,614	16,212,000
Benin	96.6	112,620	10,880,000

As the second-most populous continent in the world, Africa was home to an estimated 1.186 billion people in 2015. In a paper for a social studies class, a student nonetheless notes that countries with very large populations may be less densely populated than are countries with much smaller populations, as can be seen by comparing _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the example?

- ① Zambia, which has a low density, with Benin, which has a similar density despite both countries having different geographic sizes.
- ② the geographic size of Mali (1,240,000 square kilometers) with its relatively high population of 17,600,000 inhabitants.
- ③ Mali, which has a high population of 17,600,000 inhabitants and a relatively low density of 142. inhabitants/square kilometer, with Lesotho, which has a much lower population and a higher density.
- ④ the populations of both Lesotho and Benin in 2015 with their populations in 2010.

15. Humans have a very strong bias toward right-handedness, with approximately 85-90% having right as their dominant hand. Among studies of nonhuman primates, James Welles's 1976 study of captive chimpanzees and catarrhine monkeys reported more right-handed individuals than left-handed ones, but William C. McGrew and colleagues' 1999 study of wild chimpanzees did not find a tendency toward right-handedness. It's important to note, however, that captive animals spend significantly more time with humans than wild animals do, and therefore _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

- ① the apparent difference between the two studies' results may be partly attributable to the 1976 study using a different standard to determine handedness than the 1999 study did.

- ② the right-handedness exhibited by the captive chimpanzees and catarrhine monkeys might be, in part, an effect of extended contact with humans.
- ③ the number of individuals in the study of captive chimpanzees and catarrhine monkeys is likely too small to support the claim that the species tends toward right handedness.
- ④ the number of individuals in the study of wild chimpanzees is probably too small to support the claim that no tendency toward right- handedness was found in that population.

16. Used in everything from food to cleaning products, emulsifiers are compounds that serve to stabilize an emulsion—a mixture of two or more liquids that otherwise would not easily blend together. The emulsifiers used by _____ like palmitic acid, allow these scientists to blend oil and water into homogeneous formulations such as lotions and perfumes.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- ① cosmetic chemists',
- ② cosmetic chemist's,
- ③ cosmetic chemists
- ④ cosmetic's chemists,

17. Many mechanical calculators were powered by a notched cylinder mechanism called the Leibniz wheel. Leibniz wheel calculators were popular in the first half of the twentieth _____ these ingenious devices were eventually replaced by electronic calculators.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- ① century,
- ② century
- ③ century, but
- ④ century that

18. Nigerian American artist Toyin Ojih Odutola uses black-ink pens to create highly detailed drawings of human figures. Her portrait of novelist Zadie _____ displayed in the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- ① Smith—
- ② Smith:
- ③ Smith,
- ④ Smith

19 ← screenshot missing

20. Between June 22 and July 2 each year, particles shed by comet 7P/Pons-Winnecke enter Earth's atmosphere at a velocity of 18 kilometers per second. Relatively few of these particles are likely to reach Earth's _____ since the meteoroids' compression of the air surrounding them causes the vast majority to burn up in the mesosphere, producing the June Boötid meteor shower.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- ① surface, however;
- ② surface, however,
- ③ surface: however,
- ④ surface. However,

21. While most animals prefer the safety of nighttime migration, many poisonous amphibians—a category that includes the red-bellied newt and the fire salamander—safely engage in migratory behavior during the day. _____ with the sun in the sky, the amphibians' striking color patterns deter visually oriented daytime predators by serving as a warning of toxicity.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- ① At that time,
- ② For example,
- ③ In other words,
- ④ However,

22. Residents of Cairo, Egypt, rely on its rapid transit system, the Cairo Metro, for millions of trips each year. _____ city officials strive to maintain the system's 71 stations to ensure each of these journeys is as smooth as possible.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- ① For this reason,
- ② However,
- ③ For example,
- ④ Alternatively,

23. Box modeling, used by digital artists to develop 3D assets for video games, yields objects with precise mathematical proportions. Granted, as they are formed from perfect geometric shapes, such 3D elements lack organic realism; _____ post-modeling processes such as VU surface mapping are needed to achieve the level of verisimilitude gamers expect.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- ① consequently,
- ② similarly,
- ③ in sum,
- ④ however,

24. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Lighthouses send out crucial light signals to help ships and other watercraft navigate at night.
- Before automation, lighthouses were run by lighthouse keepers.
- Betsy Morrow Humphrey was the lighthouse keeper at Monhegan Island Light in Maine.
- She held this position from 1862 to 1880.
- Thelma Austin was the lighthouse keeper at Point Fermin Light in California.
- She held this position from 1925 to 1941.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between the two lighthouse keepers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- ① As the lighthouse keeper at Point Fermin Light, Thelma Austin helped watercraft navigate at night.
- ② From 1862 to 1880, the nighttime waters of Maine were made more navigable thanks to Betsy Morrow Humphrey.
- ③ Betsy Morrow Humphrey worked as a lighthouse keeper in an earlier century than did Thelma Austin.
- ④ Betsy Morrow Humphrey and Thelma Austin both played crucial roles in ensuring safe navigation for watercraft in past centuries.

25. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- If a moon orbiting a planet comes close enough to that planet, tidal forces can cause the moon to break apart.
- In a 2022 study, researchers proposed that Saturn was once orbited by a large moon they named Chrysalis.
- Their simulations indicated that Chrysalis would likely have come very close to Saturn around 160 million years ago.
- At that distance, Chrysalis would have been broken apart by tidal forces.
- The researchers hypothesized that the resulting debris formed Saturn's rings.

The student wants to recount the sequence of events proposed by the researchers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- ① According to researchers' simulations, debris from Saturn's rings would likely have caused Chrysalis—a large moon orbiting Saturn—to break apart around 160 million years ago.
- ② In a 2022 study, researchers proposed that Saturn was once orbited by a large moon that broke apart.
- ③ Around 160 million years ago, a large moon (Chrysalis) may have come close enough to Saturn that tidal forces broke the moon apart; its debris then formed the planet's rings.
- ④ If a moon orbiting a planet (like Saturn) comes close enough to that planet, tidal forces can cause the moon to break apart.

26. • *Birds of Northern South America* is an identification guidebook by ornithologists Robin Restall, Clemencia Rodner, and Miguel Lentino.

- It lists the thirty-five hummingbird species found in Suriname.
- The brown violetear is a large hummingbird found in Suriname.
- It is identifiable by its dark violet ear patches and its short, black, straight bill.
- The little hermit is a small hummingbird found in Suriname.
- It is identifiable by its white central tail feathers and its long, black, curved bill.

Which choice most effectively uses information from the given sentences to emphasize a similarity between the two birds?

- ① While each exhibits unique traits of its own, the brown violetear and the little hermit both have black bills.
- ② The little hermit is a small hummingbird identifiable by its white central tail feathers and its long, black, curved bill.
- ③ Though they share several traits in common, the brown violetear is larger than the little hermit.
- ④ *Birds of Northern South America* is an expertly compiled guidebook by ornithologists Robin Restall, Clemencia Rodner, and Miguel Lentino.

27. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Little is known about the life of Wong Fei-hung (1847-1925).
- He was born near Foshan, China, and gained local recognition as a physician and Hung Ga (also known as Hung Gar) Kung Fu master.
- He achieved many incredible martial arts feats—some confirmed and some rumored.
- He has become an internationally known folk hero thanks to his depiction in over a hundred films, television shows, and other media.
- In the 1991 film *Once Upon a Time in China*, actor Jet Li portrays Wong Fei-hung using superhuman kung fu abilities to save his community.

The student wants to emphasize the effect media had on building Wong Fei-hung's legacy. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- ① Thanks to his depiction in over a hundred pieces of media, Wong Fei-hung was locally known as a successful physician and Hung Ga Kung Fu master.
- ② Wong Fei-hung's abilities as a kung fu master are depicted in many media, including the 1991 film *Once Upon a Time in China*.
- ③ Various media have depicted Wong Fei-hung, the successful physician and kung fu master who became an internationally known folk hero.
- ④ Though he was known locally during his lifetime, Wong Fei-hung's later depiction in television, film, and other media has turned him into an internationally known folk hero.

Module 1, Section 2: Reading and Writing

1. Possessing an outstanding collection of public art, Chicago has everything from monumental mosaics like Marc Chagall's *Four Seasons* at sites like Chase Tower to innovative street art like Kashink's mural *Be The Change You Wish To See* located on South Wabash Avenue. The _____ public art no display in the city can thus satisfy any art lover.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① breadth of
- ② controversy over
- ③ confusion about
- ④ apathy toward

2. In a 2018 article about films depicting the experiences of Black Americans, critics for the *New York Times* praise Madeline Anderson's 1970 film *I Am Somebody* as "galvanizing" and Carl Franklin's 1995 film *Devil in a Blue Dress* as "picture-perfect." Fans of the two films hope that such _____ will attract new audiences to these works.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① ambivalence
- ② acclaim
- ③ foresight
- ④ impartiality

3. The fossil remains of the individual known as Misliya-1, discovered in Israel in 2002, can help paleoanthropologists not only _____ steps in the evolution of hominids but also illuminate the Pleistocene epoch generally, revealing important details about the time in which Misliya-1 lived.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ① exploit
- ② yield
- ③ prioritize
- ④ discern

4. Companies are providing consumers with more opportunities to purchase customized products than ever before. Whether buying customized sneakers, jewelry, or clothing, consumers can participate in the design of products to meet their specific needs and tastes. In turn, companies profit too: studies have shown that consumers are willing to pay more and wait longer for a customized product. Still, it can be difficult for companies to offer customization while keeping costs low, as the standard methods of mass production may not be able to accommodate making a unique product each time.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- ① It describes a company's recent success with new products and then explains multiple factors that may have contributed to that success.
- ② It discusses several recent innovations in product manufacturing and then suggests some potential applications of those innovations.
- ③ It presents two contrasting product-marketing techniques and then provides examples of one of those techniques.
- ④ It introduces a trend in consumer products and then explains how the trend both benefits and poses a challenge to companies.

5. *HMS Surprise*, first published in 1973, is a novel in Patrick O'Brian's Aubrey/Maturin series, which includes twenty completed books. Some critics have found fault with the abrupt endings of *HMS Surprise* and other books in the series, saying that they do not finish conclusively but arbitrarily stop. But other critics argue that the books should not be thought of as discrete texts with traditional beginnings and endings but as a single