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QUESTION 1

Fortunately, Ms. Mason has the unusual ability to transform a tedious legal contention into an account.

- A. arid
- B. erratic
- C. improbable
- D. absorbing
- E. interminable

Correct Answer: D

The use of the word "fortunately" shows that the unusual ability of Ms. Mason is a desirable one.

So, the result of the transformation of the tedious legal contention must have been something more desirable.

Among the choices, it is only the word "absorbing" that represents a desirable quality. So, "absorbing" is the answer.

QUESTION 2

The artistry of cellist Yo Yo Ma is essentially _____; the melodic line rises _____, imbued with feeling and totally lacking in apparent calculation.

- A. carefree; stiffly
- B. reserved; involuntarily
- C. lyrical; passionately
- D. detached; carefully
- E. deliberate; methodically

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 3

Precipitation (inches)			
Date	Albany	Coral Bay	Bunbury
6/1	0.01	0.02	0.02
6/2	0.25	0.35	0.00
6/3	0.55	0.75	0.20
6/4	0.00	0.45	0.10
6/5	0.90	1.01	0.50
6/6	2.00	2.15	1.90
6/7	0.95	1.05	1.15

Which statement best compares the precipitation between Albany and Coral Bay?

- A. Albany is usually slightly wetter than Coral Bay.
- B. Coral Bay is always much wetter than Albany.
- C. Coral Bay is usually slightly wetter than Albany.
- D. There is no difference between Albany and Coral Bay.

Correct Answer: C

By comparing the differences between Albany and Coral Bay, Coral Bay is typically a little wetter on average than Albany.

QUESTION 4

Until the mid-1800's, the occasional reports by European explorers of the existence of gorillas were generally disbelieved and swiftly _____ the realm of tall tales.

- A. extracted from
- B. confused with
- C. relegated to
- D. compared to
- E. exalted to

Correct Answer: C

Stories that are generally disbelieved would be pushed into the category of tall tales (meaning lies). Among the choices, it is phrase "relegated to" that has this meaning. So, "relegated to" is the answer.

QUESTION 5

Instances of reticence in the ancient chronicler's recording of calamitous events may simply be an indication of _____ to appear critical of the pharaoh's handling of such _____ situations.

- A. predisposition; stressful
- B. refusal; promising
- C. tendency; catastrophic
- D. reluctance; adverse
- E. aversion; trivial

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 6

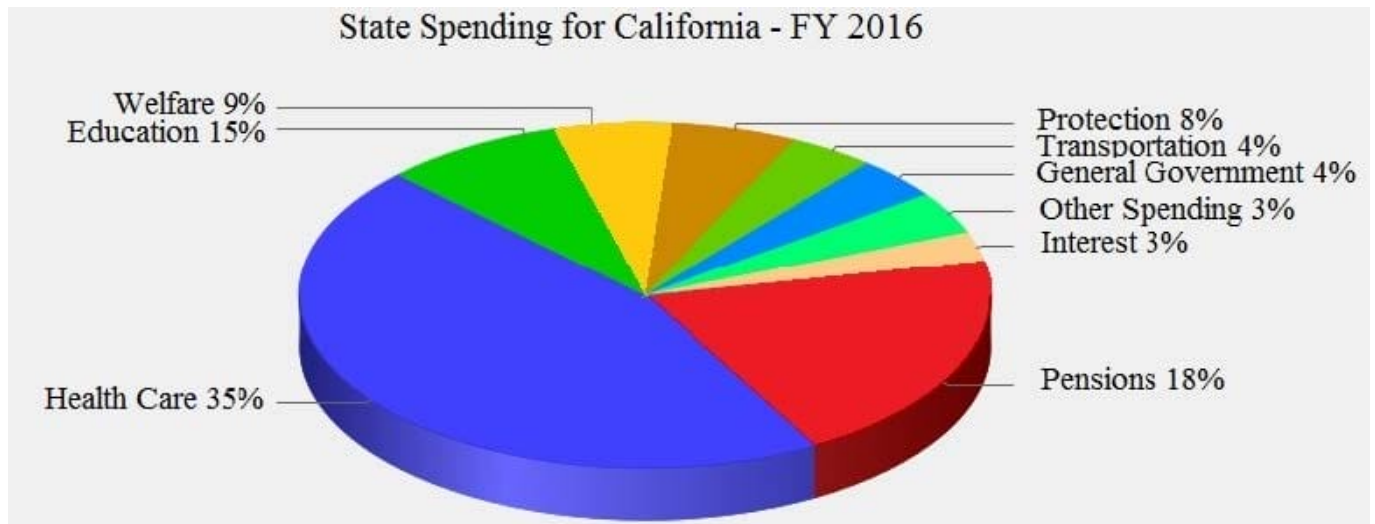
Based on the email, what is the relationship between Andrew and Sarah?

Andrew, This year, Mom and Dad will be traveling to Hawaii for Christmas. Dylan and I hoped we could still get together at the house for the sake of maintaining tradition for our kids. If you and Susan don't mind, we'd like to arrive two days before Christmas, as always, and uphold our typical schedules. Because Mom and Dad won't be here, we'll need help making Christmas dinner and desserts, and will also need help decorating the house for Christmas. Could you bring lights and ornaments? We will be providing the tree. Finally, we need help transporting all of our presents and decorations this year. Would you mind storing some of our decorations in your car for the drive to Mom and Dad's? Let me know! -Sarah

- A. brother and sister
- B. father and daughter
- C. best friends
- D. husband and wife

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 7



Using the graph, choose the answer that best depicts California's budgetary priorities.

- A. California prioritizes spending for health care above all other categories.
- B. California prioritizes spending for health care above most other categories.
- C. California finds transportation to be the least important budgetary item.
- D. California's budgetary allotments show that health care and pensions are equally important.

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 8

When looking at a dictionary page, Ellen noticed the words at the top left and top right were "measly" and "melancholy," respectively.

Which of the following words would be located within this page?

- A. meadow
- B. megalomania
- C. meniscus
- D. methane

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 9

Because they are _____ to take financial loss that results from providing drugs for _____ markets, pharmaceutical manufacturers often do not produce needed drugs for rare diseases.

- A. proud; small

- B. eager; known
- C. prone; nebulous
- D. loath; limited
- E. reluctant; expanding

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 10

The puzzles that physicists solve are usually those lying about in plain sight, often things so _____ that they are overlooked by all but the keenest observers.

- A. hidden
- B. vital
- C. ordinary
- D. vague
- E. small

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 11

Passage 1 "It is obvious that the legal driving age in the United States needs to be adjusted. Although the driving age has been sixteen for many years, studies show that kids of such a young age are not yet capable of understanding the deep responsibility that comes with operating a motor vehicle. Sixteen-year-olds, while old enough to see R-rated movies, are still children in many ways. Psychologists agree that people of this age do not have the cognitive awareness to make major life decisions, yet operating a vehicle on the road forces them to do just that. If the driving age were to be raised to eighteen, there would be far fewer accidents and casualties on the American roadways. People must understand that sixteen-year-old drivers are a danger to themselves and others when allowed to drive unsupervised."

Passage 2 "The legal driving age in the United States has remained the same for many years for one primary reason: it is fair and reasonable. While young, sixteen-year-olds are certainly old enough to undertake the responsibility of driving alone. Because these teenagers are made to practice for a year with a learner's permit and then to pass a test proving their skills, there is no reason to suggest that they cannot handle a motor vehicle effectively. Those that assume that sixteen is too young to drive often forget to consider the large number of responsibilities teenagers already handle on a day-to-day basis in today's world. Things like homework, after-school activities, family responsibilities, and social events all must be carefully maintained in order to make life work. If a sixteen-year-old can handle these daily responsibilities, they can certainly handle driving a car. The legal driving age is fair and should not be negotiated, now or ever."

Which of the following arguments were not made by the author of the second passage?

- A. Teenagers have shown that they can handle responsibility through school and social activities.
- B. Teenagers use a learning permit for a year to prepare for driving alone.

- C. Teenagers must pass a test before being allowed to drive.
- D. Teenagers learn from watching their parents drive for many years.

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 12

Read the list of words and follow the directions to rearrange the list.

dog mouse friendly light stocking elephant

1.

Put the words that are animals in order of animal size, largest to smallest.

2.

Following the animals, put the words representing non-living things in alphabetical order based on the last letter of the word.

3.

Put the two animal words containing one syllable first, in reverse-alphabetical order.

4.

Put the non-animal word with one syllable last.

After following the directions in the list, which word comes between dog and stocking?

- A. elephant
- B. mouse
- C. light
- D. friendly

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 13

What is the purpose of the passage?

To whom it may concern,

After a careful review of your submission, we have determined that your piece does not meet the requirements of the literary journal. We thank you for your interest in becoming a part of the journal and encourage you to review the guidelines and try again next year.

We look forward to seeing your work in the future. Good luck!

–

Claymont High School Review

A.

to inform a student that his work has not been selected for the student journal

B.

to discourage a student from submitting work in the future

C.

to announce a student's success in applying for a student journal internship

D.

to encourage a student to submit work to the student journal

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 14

Even the most insulated and _____ government has to be concerned today about the popular mind; some systems may be less _____ than others, but at some point all must pay attention.

A. parochial; vociferous

B. corrupt; theoretical

C. arbitrary; sensitive

D. obscure; reined

E. vibrant; responsive

Correct Answer: C

The last phrase in the sentence, "but at some point, all must pay attention" implies that the second missing word must mean attentive. Among the choices for this word, it is only "sensitive" and "responsive" which have this meaning. But an insulated (meaning with no touch with the people) government cannot be described as a "vibrant" one. So, "arbitrary; sensitive" is the answer.

QUESTION 15

People, being prisoners of _____, have made failing a basic metaphor for failure, from the fall of the stock market to the fall of government.

A. politics

- B. gravity
- C. greed
- D. turbulence
- E. emotion

Correct Answer: B

The author says that the use of the word "fall", as a metaphor to represent "failure", arises out of the people being prisoners of something. Among the given choices, it is "gravity" that is the best choice, because it is gravity that brings every physical object from a higher (success) to a lower (failure) level. So, "gravity" is the answer.

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