Reading Practice

Each of the following passages is followed by a series of questions to test reference and reasoning abilities. Referring questions are about material explicitly stated in a passage. Reasoning items test the ability to make appropriate inferences. In each case, select the best choice from the multiple-choice alternatives that follow the text.

Passage I - Practical Reading

How to Remove the Bones from Poultry

Many recipes for chicken, turkey, or duck require that the bones be removed from the bird, leaving the body as intact as possible so that it may be closed up, stuffed, and then cooked as a normal bird. De-boned poultry is particularly tender and is suitable for deep-frying as well as roasting. Many may find this requirement to be daunting, but it is, in fact, quite simple. Here, I present a very straightforward method for removing the bones from a whole bird. These are the basic steps:

First, place the bird breast side down on a cutting board or other suitable surface. Using a sharp paring knife, make a cut down the full length of the back.

Next, begin to cut the meat away from the bones on one side, working from the front of the bird to the back. Stay as close to the bone as possible, and scrape the meat free. As you get to the thigh and wing, cut the tendons and separate them from the skeleton. Take the bone out of the thigh, but leave the ones that are inside the drumsticks and wings. Then, repeat this step on the other side of the bird.

Continue until you are able to remove the breastbone. You will have to work this free of the surrounding meat until you can extract it from the body cavity. Be careful not to cut the skin.

Flatten the bird as much as possible on the cutting surface, skin side down; then season with salt and pepper.

Finally, close the back of the bird by sewing it up with a large gauge needle and thick cotton kitchen thread. Curved upholstery needles work well for this.

Now, you can stuff the bird and roast it just like a normal bird. When preparing the stuffing, keep in mind that there will be more room inside a de-boned bird than in one that has retained its skeleton, so more stuffing will be required. Alternatively, you can use this technique to prepare Turducken, where a de-boned chicken is placed within a duck, which is placed within a turkey. Turducken is a Thanksgiving specialty in many parts of the country.
Questions
1. What is the main purpose of the passage?
   a. To illustrate the use of a paring knife
   b. To instruct the reader in a method for de-boning poultry
   c. To teach the reader to prepare Turducken
   d. To provide a recipe
   e. To show the reader how to roast a chicken

2. What is the purpose of the first paragraph?
   a. To introduce the topic of the text by describing its purpose and uses
   b. To convince the reader that de-boned birds are better for deep-frying
   c. To convince the reader that de-boned birds are unnecessary for many recipes
   d. To give examples of recipes in which de-boned birds are used
   e. To establish the author’s credibility as a culinary authority

3. In the first paragraph, the word \textit{daunting} means
   a. horrible
   b. dastardly
   c. comparable
   d. disgusting
   e. formidable

4. Which of the following best describes the organization of the passage?
   a. Hypothesis, elaboration, and conclusion
   b. Arguments in favor of an opinion
   c. Step-by-step procedure
   d. Announcement and details
   e. Characterization

5. What is one advantage of removing the bones from a poultry bird?
   a. It prevents the bird from walking
   b. It cooks more rapidly
   c. You can add more stuffing
   d. It will be more tender
   e. It roasts to a darker color

6. Which part of the bird does one cut into to begin the procedure?
   a. The back
   b. The breastbone
   c. The gut
   d. The thigh and wing
   e. The drumstick
7. Why are the large tendons of the thighs and wings cut?
   a. To get at the breast meat
   b. To scrape the meat away from the skeleton
   c. To flatten the bird
   d. So that the thigh bones may later be extracted
   e. So that the thigh and wing bones may later be extracted

8. Are any bones left inside the bird?
   a. Only the thigh bones
   b. Only the wings and drumsticks
   c. Only the drumsticks
   d. Only the thighs, wings, and drumsticks
   e. All the bones are removed

9. Why are upholstery needles used to sew up the bird?
   a. Their shape is advantageous
   b. Upholstery is often stuffed with feathers
   c. Upholstery needles work best with cotton thread
   d. A de-boned bird resembles a chair
   e. Upholstery needles are long, straight and thick

10. Why is more stuffing required for a de-boned bird than for a normal bird?
    a. Larger birds are used for de-boning
    b. They are more loosely sewn than normal birds
    c. The space once taken up by the bones must also be filled
    d. The stuffing is packed more tightly
    e. The stuffing shrinks when you fry the bird

11. What are the components of Turducken?
    a. Turkey, chicken and duck
    b. Poultry and stuffing
    c. Chicken stuffing and cotton thread
    d. Cotton thread and upholstery needles
    e. Goose, duck and grouse

12. When is Turducken often eaten, according to the passage?
    a. After de-boning a bird
    b. In many parts of the country
    c. When there is a large crowd
    d. At Christmas
    e. At Thanksgiving
O'Rourke

I always did like O'Rourke, the crabby old round-shouldered news editor at The Sentinel. Of course Constantin was the real boss, but he lived in a lofty place from which he could perceive nothing smaller than an international crisis. Sometimes we saw him passing in lonely grandeur to his inner sanctum, his mind hovering over the Persian Gulf. He never saw us, but O'Rourke was his first lieutenant and it was he that we knew. The old man nodded and pushed his spectacles up on his bald forehead as I came in.

“Well Jenkins, you seem to be doing very well,” he said kindly. “The factory fire was excellent. So was the bus crash. What did you want to see me about?”

“To ask a favor.”

His brow furrowed warily.

“What is it?”

“Do you think, Sir, that you could possibly send me on some mission for the paper? I would do my best to get you some good copy.”

“What sort of mission had you in mind, Jenkins?”

“Well, Sir, anything that had adventure and danger in it. The more difficult, the better!”

“You seem very anxious to lose your life, Jenkins.”

“To justify my life, Sir!”

“Dear me, this is rather exalted. I’m afraid the day for this sort of thing is past. The expense of the special assignment business hardly justifies the result, and in any case only an experienced man with a name that could command public confidence would get such an order.”

My shoulders sank. O'Rourke looked at me kindly for a moment. But suddenly, his head bobbed up and he looked excited.

“Wait a moment,” said he. “What about exposing a fraud? There’s a fellow going about making ridiculous claims about a lost continent. You could show him up as the liar that he is. How does that appeal to you?”

“Anything, anywhere,” I cried. O'Rourke thought furiously for some minutes.
“I bet you could get friendly with this fellow,” he said at last. “You seem to be good with people. Animal magnetism or something. Why not try your luck with Professor Corval?”

I must have looked a little startled. “Corval,” I cried. “Corval, the famous anthropologist? Wasn’t he the man who broke Benson’s arm over that piece he wrote for The Telegraph?”

The news editor smiled grimly. “Didn’t you say it was adventures you were after?”
Questions

13. The description of O’Rourke as “round-shouldered” suggests that he is
   a. bookish
   b. unflappable
   c. strong
   d. malicious
   e. contentious

14. The “lofty place” in which Constantin lives, according to the first paragraph, is
   a. a hilltop home
   b. simile
   c. metaphor
   d. an indication that he deals only in important things
   e. an indication that he is in a precarious position

15. In the first paragraph, the term inner sanctum refers to
   a. a church
   b. the restroom
   c. a private office
   d. a state of mind
   e. an international crisis

16. In the first paragraph, Constantin’s mind is said to be “hovering over the Persian Gulf.” This means that
   a. Constantin is hallucinating
   b. Constantin is probably preoccupied with weighty matters
   c. Constantin is listening to the news on a headset
   d. Constantin is mentally ill
   e. Constantin has indigestion from a Persian meal

17. From the context of the passage, we can conclude that The Sentinel is
   a. a train
   b. an airplane
   c. a guardian
   d. an alarm system
   e. a newspaper

18. When O’Rourke says that the factory fire was excellent, he means that
   a. the factory had been an eyesore
   b. he is glad that it burned down
   c. not much damage was done
   d. Jenkins did a good job on the story
   e. everyone had a good time
19. Characteristics that would apply to Jenkins might be
   a. unseasoned and romantic
   b. experienced and determined
   c. resolute and unwavering
   d. bashful and deferring
   e. modest and beguiling

20. When O’Rourke describes Jenkins’ request as “exalted”, he is being
   a. modest
   b. reverent
   c. ironic
   d. assiduous
   e. regretful

21. When O’Rourke is said to have “thought furiously” after suggesting the assignment,
   this means that
   a. he was angry at Jenkins
   b. he was angry at himself
   c. he was angry at Corval
   d. he was thinking as quickly as possible
   e. he was trying to restrain himself

22. O’Rourke feels that “animal magnetism” is
   a. an ability to get along with people
   b. an ability to get along with animals
   c. something not very useful
   d. a way of exposing frauds
   e. a way of writing up a story

23. Upon first recognizing the name of Corval, Jenkins seems to think that he
   a. has a great story opportunity
   b. may be going on a trip
   c. may have bitten off more than he intended
   d. has animal magnetism
   e. has angered O’Rourke

24. Benson is
   a. a friend of Constanin
   b. another reporter
   c. a wrestler
   d. an anthropologist
   e. a friend of O’Rourke
Dance in America: San Francisco Ballet's Nutcracker Suite

With its recent production of the beloved Nutcracker Ballet, the San Francisco Ballet truly makes this dance its own. Dazzling performances by Maria Kochetkova and Davit Karapetyan complement astute choreography by the artistic director, Helgi Tomasson, and elegant sets and costumes by, respectively, Michael Yeargan and Martin Pakledinaz.

The Nutcracker is based on E.T.A. Hoffman's story "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice," which tells of a young German girl who dreams of a Nutcracker Prince and a fierce battle against a Mouse King with seven heads. It was first choreographed by Marius Petipa who actually used a revision of the story by the French author Alexander Dumas. The San Francisco Ballet has reset the story during the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exhibition.

Hoffman's story was set to music by Tchaikovsky and first presented in 1892. The composer selected eight of the numbers from the ballet for concert performance that preceded the dance premiere. The suite was first performed, under the composer's direction, on March 19th, 1892. It became instantly popular, although the complete ballet did not achieve its great popularity until around the mid-1950s.

Among other things, the score of The Nutcracker is noted for its use of the celesta, an instrument that the composer had already employed in his much lesser known symphonic ballad "The Voyevoda." In The Nutcracker, the celesta is best known as the featured solo instrument in the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" from Act II.

The ballet holds a special significance for the San Francisco ensemble, America's oldest professional ballet company. It had its U.S. premiere there in 1944. Since then, Tchaikovsky's beguiling score has become one of the most popular pieces of music ever written. Interestingly, the composer felt the ballet score was not among his best work. Some 115 years, countless performances, and myriad LPs and CDs later, many would disagree.
Questions
25. What is the main purpose of the first paragraph of this passage?
It tells who the dancers were.
It summarizes the author’s opinion of the performance
It introduces the San Francisco ballet
It introduces Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker ballet
It tells who designed the sets

26. What is the main purpose of this passage?
To review the ballet performance
To describe the costumes
To provide a history of the composition
To tell the story of Tchaikovsky’s life
To tell the story upon which the Nutcracker is based

27. In the first paragraph, the word “complement” means
a. an expression of praise
b. an expression of civility
c. to make complete
d. the entire cast of the ballet
e. to gratify the taste

28. The sets were designed by
a. Helgi Tomasson
b. Martin Pakledinaz
c. Maria Kochetkova and Davit Karapetyan
d. E.T.A. Hoffman
e. Michael Yeargan

29. According to the passage, Marius Petipa choreographed
a. a ballet performed in San Francisco
b. a ballet set in Panama
c. a story by E.T.A. Hoffman
d. a revision written by a French author
e. a story about a German prince

30. The San Francisco Ballet’s version of the ballet is set in
a. 1915
b. San Francisco
c. Germany
d. The Black Forest
e. 1892
31. In E.T.A. Hoffman’s story, the Nutcracker was a
   a. mouse
   b. king
   c. dancer
   d. prince
   e. girl

32. The music of the ballet was first performed
   a. without dancers
   b. with a French conductor
   c. at the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exhibition
   d. in 1944
   e. without a celesta

33. The ballet became very popular in
   a. France
   b. San Francisco
   c. 1892
   d. the 1950s
   e. 1915

34. Why is this ballet especially significant to the San Francisco Ballet?
   a. Tchaikovsky lived in San Francisco
   b. The Voyevoda is in San Francisco
   c. A lot of Russians live in San Francisco
   d. The San Francisco music director is Russian
   e. The ballet had its U.S. premiere in San Francisco.

35. The celesta is
   a. the place where the Nutcracker battled the Mouse King
   b. a mythological place in heaven
   c. a dance step
   d. a musical instrument
   e. a name for the German girl’s dream

36. When the music was first performed, the composer felt that it was
   a. his best work
   b. one of his best pieces
   c. not the best he’d written
   d. better than “The Voyevoda”
   e. too long
Passage IV - Social Science

The Railways of Egypt

Egypt was the second country in the world, after the United Kingdom, to develop a railway system. The first railway ran from Cairo to Alexandria, a distance of 209 kilometers, and was built by the British engineer Robert Stephenson from 1851 to 1856. Stephenson had been hired by the Khedive, or Viceroy, Abbas I to head the project. The British were particularly interested in the railway as a means of reaching India in the days prior to the construction of the Suez Canal.

Stephenson served as Engineer in Chief to the Egyptian State Railway Company, which eventually extended the line from Cairo onwards to Assuit and to Luxor in 1898. This was truly a massive undertaking for the times. It involved not only the laying of track, but also the construction of several bridges spanning the Nile and its tributaries. The Imbaba Bridge was constructed in 1891 to allow trains to cross the Nile near Cairo, a key step to connect Lower and Upper Egypt. The contemporary Imbaba Bridge was erected in 1924 and represents the only railway crossing of the Nile in Cairo.

A number of private companies, such as the Qena-Aswan Railway Company, were also formed during the nineteenth century and provided service to smaller cities and into the Sudan, supplying military campaigns into that region. The Palestine Railway linked El Kantara with Palestine and Lebanon. It was built in two phases during the First and Second World Wars. Commenced in 1916, it was extended to Rafah on the border with Palestine as part of campaigns against the Ottoman Empire. The route was extended along the Mediterranean coast to link with Turkish Railways in 1940 and became a vital part of the supply route for Egypt.

Today, Egyptian Railway is the backbone of passenger transportation in Egypt. It provides 800 million passenger miles each year. Air-conditioned passenger trains usually have 1st and 2nd class service, while a lower class of service is maintained at low fares as a social service. Most of the network connects the densely populated area of the Nile delta between Cairo and Alexandria, just as the first rail line did long ago.
Questions
37. What is the main purpose of this passage?
   a. To attract tourists to Egypt
   b. To compare Egyptian and British railroads
   c. To recount the history of railroads in Egypt
   d. To tell the reader about Egyptian Railway
   e. To describe the rail services available in Egypt

38. What is the purpose of the first paragraph?
   a. It tells the reader who Robert Stephenson was
   b. It tells the reader who Abbas I was
   c. It places Egypt on the way from Britain to India
   d. It provides an introduction and context for the early history of rail in Egypt
   e. It introduces the United Kingdom

39. The first country to build a railway was
   a. Norway
   b. Egypt
   c. The United States
   d. The United Kingdom
   e. India

40. According to the passage, what is the meaning of Khedive?
   a. Viceroy
   b. Abbas I
   c. Railroad
   d. Locomotive
   e. Engineer

41. Why were the British interested in building a railway in Egypt?
   a. As a means of reaching India
   b. Many of them vacation in Egypt
   c. To reach the Suez Canal
   d. To link up with the railway in Palestine
   e. So that Robert Stephenson could be Chief Engineer

42. When was the link from Alexandria to Cairo link completed?
   a. 1851
   b. 1856
   c. 209 kilometers
   d. 1891
   e. 1916
43. What are Assuit and Luxor?
   a. Locomotives
   b. Egyptian deities
   c. Viceroy
   d. Egyptian engineers
   e. Egyptian cities

44. According to the passage, the Imbaba Bridge was
   a. an obstacle to construction of the railway
   b. an early route to India
   c. rebuilt in 1924
   d. near Luxor
   e. made of steel

45. The Qena-Aswan Railway Company provided service to
   a. India
   b. Smaller cities
   c. The Cairo suburbs
   d. Affluent Egyptians
   e. British engineers

46. The purpose of the third paragraph is to
   a. describe the first railroad in Egypt
   b. describe the El Qantara railway
   c. show how Cairo was connected to Palestine
   d. show how the military campaigns in Sudan were supplied
   e. show how the railway system continued to develop

47. In the fourth paragraph, the word *backbone* is used to mean
   a. the spinal column
   b. strength of character
   c. a main trunk line
   d. a ridge
   e. firmness

48. What is the purpose of the final paragraph?
   a. To describe the modern rail system in Egypt
   b. To tell how many passengers are carried each year
   c. To tell the reader which trains have air conditioning
   d. To compare the modern system with the one built in the nineteenth century
   e. To describe military uses of the system
Passage V - Natural Science

Particle Accelerators

One of the most important tools in modern physics is the particle accelerator. Particle accelerators, which may also be called “atom smashers,” use strong electromagnetic fields to push streams of subatomic particles—usually protons or electrons—to tremendous speeds. The collisions of these particles with atoms or other subatomic particles can tell physicists a lot about the fundamental structure of matter.

In addition to their role in basic physics, thousands of accelerators are in use around the world performing more routine applications. The particle beams they generate are used in medicine to destroy tumors and aid in medical diagnosis, and in industry to study and control manufacturing processes. In specialized accelerators known as light sources, the particles race around a ring to generate bright X-rays that illuminate complex biological structures and other phenomena.

The most powerful accelerators are dedicated to basic research, advancing our knowledge of the structure of matter and the nature of the universe. These machines function as supermicroscopes and reveal the smallest constituents of matter. They may cause particles to smash stationary targets, or they may accelerate two beams to almost the speed of light and make the particles collide head-on. The particles instantly transform into energy in accordance with Einstein’s famous equation, $E=mc^2$. Then all the energy released by the collision converts back into matter, creating new particles that may never have been seen before. By studying these new particles, physicists learn more about the nature of matter.

The higher energy an accelerator achieves, the heavier the particles it can create, and the more detailed are its studies of the laws of physics at the smallest scales. At the Tevatron accelerator at Fermilab, collisions routinely take place at an energy corresponding to two trillion volts. In the near future, the Large Hadron Collider in Europe will explore matter with seven times the Tevatron energy.
Questions
49. What is the purpose of the first paragraph?
   a. To provide examples of the use of particle accelerators
   b. To give a nickname for particle accelerators
   c. To explain what a particle accelerator is
   d. To tell the reader what kinds of particles are accelerated in these devices
   e. To justify the amount of money spent on particle accelerators in science

50. What is the main purpose of the passage?
   a. To explain how particle accelerators work
   b. To explain what particle accelerators are used for
   c. To describe the Tevatron accelerator at Fermilab
   d. To justify the Large Hadron Collider in Europe
   e. To explain an application of Einstein’s famous equation

51. Subatomic particles are
   a. components of atoms
   b. usually found underwater
   c. convenient targets
   d. usually found standing still
   e. usually found in outer space

52. To accelerate particles, atom smashers make use of
   a. streams of subatomic particles
   b. internal combustion
   c. electricity
   d. strong electromagnetic fields
   e. high gravity

53. What is the purpose of the second paragraph?
   a. To provide examples of the use of particle accelerators
   b. To give a nickname for particle accelerators
   c. To explain what a particle accelerator is
   d. To tell the reader what kinds of particles are accelerated in these devices
   e. To justify the amount of money spent on particle accelerators in science

54. Which of the following is not a use of particle accelerators cited in the passage?
   a. medical diagnosis
   b. medical treatment
   c. manufacturing
   d. biological research
   e. basic physics
55. A light source is  
   a. a source of illumination  
   b. a specialized accelerator used by biologists  
   c. a device used for medical treatment  
   d. a device used for medical diagnosis  
   e. a tool used by physicists

56. What is the purpose of the third paragraph?  
   a. To describe how accelerators are used to study the structure of matter  
   b. To explain Einstein's equation  
   c. To explain how microscopes are used to study matter  
   d. To explain the nature of the universe  
   e. To show how accelerators are used in medicine

57. In the study of matter, particle accelerators first convert their targets into  
   a. subatomic particles  
   b. protons  
   c. electrons  
   d. energy  
   e. stationary targets

58. According to the passage, heavier particles are created by  
   a. binding smaller particles together  
   b. higher energy accelerators  
   c. protons and electrons  
   d. combining atoms  
   e. smashing stationary targets

59. The most powerful accelerator cited in the article is  
   a. The Tevatron accelerator at Fermilab  
   b. used for medical research  
   c. still under construction  
   d. used to generate bright X-rays  
   e. used to smash stationary targets

60. A unit of energy used in the passage is the  
   a. pound  
   b. joule  
   c. erg  
   d. volt  
   e. watt
Reading Practice Answers
Passage I - Practical Reading / How to Remove the Bones from Poultry
1. B. The passage gives a detailed method for de-boning a bird. Although it mentions Turducken, that is not the main application for the method.

2. A. The paragraph provides an introduction, mentioning types of recipe that call for de-boned bird and convincing the reader that the method is not difficult.

3. E. “Daunting” and “formidable” both describe things that test one’s courage or that are discouraging.


5. D. The passage informs us that de-boned birds are more tender after cooking. Although it also mentions that more stuffing will be required, this is not presented as an advantage.

6. A. The second paragraph informs us that the procedure is begun with a cut the length of the back.

7. D. The tendons are cut and the thigh bones are later removed. The wing bones, however, are left in place.

8. B. The tendons are cut and the thigh bones are later removed. The wing bones and drumsticks, however, are left in place.

9. A. The passage describes the curved shape of upholstery needles when indicating that they work well for this process.

10. C. Since de-boned birds have additional space within them that was once taken up by the bones, more stuffing is required to fill them.

11. A. The passage tells us that Turducken is made up of these three types of poultry.

12. E. The final sentence of the passage tells us that Turducken is a Thanksgiving specialty.

Passage II - Prose Fiction / O'Rourke
13. A. “Round-shouldered” suggests a bookish individual stooped from many years of office work.

14. C. The sentence goes on to say that Constantin cannot be bothered to notice anything less important than an international crisis.

15. C. This is an expression meaning a sanctuary, and in the passage it refers to Constantin’s private office.

16. B. While Constantin may not be thinking specifically of the Gulf, the passage tells us that he is usually preoccupied with things of great importance and the author is suggesting that this is the case as he walks through the outer office.

17. E. The passage describes the desire of a young reporter for a good assignment, so that The Sentinel is, no doubt, the name of his newspaper.

18. D. O’Rourke is talking about stories that Jenkins has covered recently when he mentions the factory fire and the bus crash.

19. A. Jenkins wants a mission with adventure and danger in it. He has covered minor stories for the paper. These details show him to be romantic and relatively new at the trade.

20. C. O’Rourke is mocking Jenkins’ romantic notions when he uses this word.

21. D. The expression “to think furiously” means to think fiercely or in an agitated manner. It does not imply anger.
22. A. The expression is used to describe an attraction to other people which is useful and, in this case, may help Jenkins get close to Corval.
23. C. Jenkins brings up the physical harm that Corval has done to Benson, and is suddenly concerned about the nature of the mission.
24. B. Benson is described as being associated with The Telegraph, which is apparently another newspaper.

Passage III – Humanities / The Nutcracker
25. B. This first paragraph is an introduction which, as in most reviews, provides a capsule summary of the author’s opinion of the production. In this case, the opinion is positive as the author says that the ballet company “truly makes the dance its own”.
26. C. The passage provides details of the short story upon which the ballet is based, and a brief history of the composer’s presentations of the piece.
27. C. To *complement* means to make something complete or to add to it. It should not be confused with the verb spelled with the letter *i*, to *compliment*, meaning to provide praise.
28. E. This detail is provided as part of the performance credits in the first paragraph.
29. D. Although the story was first written by Hoffman, the passage tells us that Petipa first choreographed a revision written by Alexander Dumas.
30. A. The passage tells us that the San Francisco Ballet has reset the story during the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exhibition.
31. D. The passage tells us that the story is about a girl who dreams about a Nutcracker Prince and a battle with the King of Mice.
32. A. The passage tells us that the music was first performed as a concert performance that preceded the dance premiere. Tchaikovsky, a Russian, was conducting.
33. D. Although the music became popular at its premiere in 1892, the passage tells us that the complete ballet did not achieve its great popularity until around the mid-1950s.
34. E. The passage tells us that the ballet holds a special significance for San Francisco ensemble it had its U.S. premiere there in 1944.
35. D. The passage tells us that the celesta is best known as the featured solo instrument in the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" from Act II.
36. C. The text tells us that Tchaikovsky did not feel that this was among his best work, although it has become one of the most performed works he ever wrote.

Passage IV - Social Science / The Railways of Egypt
37. C. Although the final paragraph describes Egyptian Railway and the services it provides, the main topic of the text throughout the passage is a description of the history of rail travel in the country.
38. D. The first paragraph gives some interesting facts about rail in Egypt, and establishes the importance of the subject as Egypt was the second country in the world to develop a rail system.
39. D. The first paragraph reveals that Egypt was the second country, after the United Kingdom, to develop rail.
40. A. The word is defined in passing, between commas, in the text.
41. A. The text tells us that the British needed a way to reach India before the Suez Canal was built.
42. B. The text tells us that the Cairo-to-Alexandria portion was built from 1851 to 1856.
43. E. Since the railway was extended from Cairo to Assuit and Luxor, these must be cities.
44. C. The text tells us that the contemporary Imbaba bridge was erected in 1924, and since it was first erected in 1891, this was a re-building.
45. B. According to the text, this and other private companies provided service to smaller cities and into the Sudan.
46. E. This paragraph describes a number of additional railroads that were built after the first line from Cairo to Alexandria.
47. C. Here, the word is used metaphorically and represents a main line with other lines branching off from it.
48. A. The paragraph describes the modern rail system. Only the last sentence includes a comparison to the early system.

Passage V - Natural Science / Particle Accelerators
49. C. The paragraph introduces the passage by explaining what particle accelerators are. It also provides a nickname and gives examples of the kinds of particles accelerated, but these are not the main purpose of the paragraph.
50. B. The passage provides a simple explanation of how accelerators work, but its main focus is on describing the various applications.
51. A. *Subatomic* means “smaller than the atom”. The text gives examples: protons and electrons.
52. D. The first paragraph informs us that atom smashers use strong electromagnetic fields to push streams of subatomic particles to tremendous speeds.
53. A. In this paragraph, various industrial, medical, and scientific uses of accelerators are identified.
54. E. Applications in basic physics are described subsequently in the passage, not in this paragraph.
55. B. The text tells us that the light source is a specialized accelerator used for the study of biological structures.
56. A. This paragraph describes how the most powerful accelerators are used to break matter into its component particles and how these are studied by physicists.
57. D. The third paragraph describes how colliding particles are first transformed into energy then converted back into new particles.
58. B. The text tells us that the higher energy an accelerator achieves, the heavier the particles it can create.
59. C. The article states that the Large Hadron Collider in Europe will explore matter in the near future. Therefore it must still be under construction.
60. D. The fourth paragraph describes the energy of the Tevatron accelerator in volts.