

Answer Explanations

SAT Practice Test #3

Section 1: Reading Test

QUESTION 1.

Choice B is the best answer. In the passage, Lady Carlotta is approached by the “imposingly attired lady” Mrs. Quabarl while standing at a train station (lines 32-35). Mrs. Quabarl assumes Lady Carlotta is her new nanny, Miss Hope: “You must be Miss Hope, the governess I’ve come to meet” (lines 36-37). Lady Carlotta does not correct Mrs. Quabarl’s mistake and replies, “Very well, if I must I must” (line 39).

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because the passage is not about a woman weighing a job choice, seeking revenge on an acquaintance, or disliking her new employer.

QUESTION 2.

Choice C is the best answer. In lines 1-3, the narrator states that Lady Carlotta “stepped out on to the platform of the small wayside station and took a turn or two up and down its uninteresting length” in order to “kill time.” In this context, Lady Carlotta was taking a “turn,” or a short walk, along the platform while waiting for the train to leave the station.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because in this context “turn” does not mean slight movement, change in rotation, or course correction. While Lady Carlotta may have had to rotate her body while moving across the station, “took a turn” implies that Lady Carlotta took a short walk along the platform’s length.

QUESTION 3.

Choice A is the best answer. In lines 10-14, the narrator states that some of Lady Carlotta’s acquaintances would often admonish, or criticize, Lady Carlotta for meddling in or openly expressing her opinion on other people’s affairs.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the narrator does not suggest that other people viewed Lady Carlotta as tactful, ambitious, or unfriendly.

QUESTION 4.

Choice A is the best answer. In lines 10-14, the narrator states that people often criticized Lady Carlotta and suggested that she not interfere in other people's affairs, which were "none of her business." The fact that people often were critical of Lady Carlotta's behavior provides evidence that Lady Carlotta was outspoken.

Choices B, C, and D do not provide the best evidence that Lady Carlotta was outspoken. Choices B, C, and D mention Lady Carlotta, but do not specify how others view her.

QUESTION 5.

Choice C is the best answer. The narrator notes that Lady Carlotta decided not to interfere when one of her "most eloquent exponents" was stuck in a tree because an angry boar was nearby (lines 14-22). This "eloquent exponent" was a woman who often criticized Lady Carlotta for interfering in other people's affairs. Lady Carlotta's decision to "put the doctrine of non-interference into practice" (to not help her female acquaintance who was "besieged" in a tree) suggests that Lady Carlotta has a sense of humor.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because the description of how she "put the doctrine of non-interference into practice" does not suggest that Lady Carlotta is deceptive or cruel, or explain a surprising change in her behavior.

QUESTION 6.

Choice A is the best answer. The narrator explains that Mrs. Quabarl told Lady Carlotta about the "nature of the charge" when she gave Lady Carlotta details about the Quabarl children (line 53-61). Since Lady Carlotta is pretending to be a governess, the term "charge" refers to her responsibilities, or job duties, when caring for the Quabarl children.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because in this context "charge" does not mean attack, fee, or expense.

QUESTION 7.

Choice A is the best answer. Lady Carlotta learns about Mrs. Quabarl's children Claude, Wilfrid, and Irene (lines 53-58). The narrator then describes Mrs. Quabarl's child Viola as "something or other else of a mould equally commonplace among children of that class and type in the twentieth century" (lines 58-61). This statement about Viola implies that all of the Quabarl children have skills typical, or "of a mould equally commonplace," to other peers in their social class.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the narrator does not indicate that all of the Quabarl children are unusually creative and intelligent, hostile to the idea of having a governess, or more educated than their peers.

QUESTION 8.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 62-69, Mrs. Quabarl explains to Lady Carlotta that she wants her children to actively participate in their education, and that Lady Carlotta should not create lessons that require her children to simply memorize historical figures and dates. Mrs. Quabarl emphasizes an education centered on active engagement when she states that her children should “not only be TAUGHT . . . but INTERESTED in what they learn.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because the narrator does not suggest that Mrs. Quabarl favors an education that emphasizes traditional values, artistic experimentation, or factual retention.

QUESTION 9.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 77-82, the narrator describes Mrs. Quabarl as appearing “magnificent and autocratic,” or outwardly domineering, but easily “cowed and apologetic” when someone challenges, or defies, her authority.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because the narrator does not describe Mrs. Quabarl as selfish, bitter, or frequently imprudent.

QUESTION 10.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 77-82, the narrator provides evidence that Mrs. Quabarl appears imposing, or autocratic, but is easily defied, or opposed: “She was one of those imperfectly self-assured individuals who are magnificent and autocratic as long as they are not seriously opposed. The least show of unexpected resistance goes a long way towards rendering them cowed and apologetic.”

Choices A, B, and C do not provide the best evidence that Mrs. Quabarl appears imposing but is easily defied. Choices A and B are incorrect because they present Mrs. Quabarl’s opinions on railway companies and education, and choice C is incorrect because it focuses on Lady Carlotta, not Mrs. Quabarl.

QUESTION 11.

Choice A is the best answer. While the author predominantly supports the use of public transportation, in the third paragraph he recognizes some limitations to the public transportation system: it is a “depressing experience” (lines 25-26) and “underfunded, ill-maintained, and ill-planned” (line 31).

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the third paragraph does not expand upon an argument made in the first two paragraphs, provide an overview of a problem, or advocate ending the use of public transportation.

QUESTION 12.

Choice C is the best answer. The author notes that in North America “hopping in a car almost always gets you to your destination more quickly” (lines 32-34). This statement suggests that speed is one advantage to driving in North America.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because the author does not cite environmental impact, convenience, or cost as advantages of driving in North America.

QUESTION 13.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 32-34, the author provides evidence that speed is one advantage to driving in North America, because driving “almost always gets you to your destination more quickly.”

Choices A, B, and C do not provide the best evidence that speed is one advantage to driving in North America. Choices A and B are incorrect because they offer general information about using public transportation. Choice C is incorrect because although these lines mention North America, they focus on the disadvantages of public transportation.

QUESTION 14.

Choice B is the best answer. The author argues in the fourth paragraph that public transportation “can be faster, more comfortable, and cheaper than the private automobile” (lines 36-37) and provides examples of fast and convenient public transportation systems.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because they focus on points made in the fourth paragraph rather than the paragraph’s central idea.

QUESTION 15.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 35-37, the author provides evidence that some public transportation systems are superior to driving, because public transportation “can be faster, more comfortable, and cheaper than the private automobile.”

Choices A, C, and D do not provide the best evidence that some public transportation systems are superior to driving, as they highlight points made in the fourth paragraph rather than the paragraph’s central idea.

QUESTION 16.

Choice C is the best answer. In the last paragraph, the author explains the trend that people who became adults around the end of the twentieth century are more willing to use public transportation than people from older generations. The author notes, “If you credit the demographers, this transit trend has legs” (lines 58-59). In this context, “credit” means to believe the demographers’ claims about the trend.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because in this context, “credit” does not mean endow, attribute, or honor.

QUESTION 17.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 59-63, the author explains the trend of people who became adults around the end of the twentieth century “tend[ing] to favor cities over suburbs.” In this context, these adults “favor,” or prefer, cities over suburbs.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because in this context “favor” does not mean indulge, resemble, or serve.

QUESTION 18.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 63-67, the author explains that while riding on public transportation, people can use personal electronic devices, such as “iPads, MP3 players, Kindles, and smartphones.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because they do not show that public transportation is compatible with the use of personal electronic devices.

QUESTION 19.

Choice A is the best answer. Figure 1 shows that 10.7% of public transportation passengers are students and 6.7% of public transportation passengers are retirees. Thus, more students than retirees use public transportation.

Choices B and C are incorrect because figure 1 shows that more employed than unemployed people use public transportation and that more employed people than homemakers use public transportation. Choice D is incorrect because figure 1 does not explain how frequently passengers use public transportation; it only identifies public transportation passengers by their primary occupation.

QUESTION 20.

Choice A is the best answer. Figure 1 shows that 72% of public transportation passengers are “employed outside the home,” and figure 2 indicates that 59.1% of public transportation trips are for “work.” It can be inferred from these figures that many public transportation passengers take public transportation to their place of employment.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because figure 1 and figure 2 do not indicate that public transportation passengers primarily use the system to run errands, use their own car on weekends, or are planning to purchase a car.

QUESTION 21.

Choice D is the best answer. The author explains that Ken Dial created an experiment to study the evolution of flight by observing how baby Chukars learn to fly. During the experiment, Dial noticed the unusual way Chukars use their “wings and legs cooperatively” to scale hay bales (lines 38-43), and he created “a series of ingenious experiments” (line 46) to study this observation. After his additional experiments, Dial determined that these baby birds angle “their wings differently from birds in flight” (lines 49-50).

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because they do not accurately reflect the sequence of events in the passage.

QUESTION 22.

Choice A is the best answer. In lines 6-9, the author explains that Dial was “challenged,” or dared, by graduate students to develop “new data” on a long-standing scientific debate (the “ground-up-tree-down” theory).

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because in this context “challenged” does not mean required, disputed with, or competed with.

QUESTION 23.

Choice A is the best answer. The author explains that Dial created his initial experiment to try and create “new data on the age-old ground-up-tree-down debate,” and that he looked for “clues” in “how baby game birds learned to fly” (lines 8-11). The note at the beginning of the passage explains the “age-old ground-up-tree down debate” and offers two different theories on how birds evolved to fly. Finally, the last paragraph of the passage discusses WAIR in an evolutionary context.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because they do not identify Dial’s central assumption in setting up his research.

QUESTION 24.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 6-11, the author provides evidence that Dial’s central assumption in setting up his research is that the acquisition of flight in young birds is linked to the acquisition of flight in their ancestors. The author notes that Dial created a project to “come up with new data on the age-old ground-up-tree-down debate.”

Choices A, C, and D do not provide the best evidence that Dial’s central assumption in setting up his research is that the acquisition of flight in young birds is linked to the acquisition of flight in their ancestors. Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because they focus on Dial’s experiment and his observations on ground birds.

QUESTION 25.

Choice C is the best answer. When a rancher observed Dial’s laboratory setup, he was “incredulous” that the Chukars were living on the ground, and he advised Dial to give the birds “something to climb on” (lines 16-23). This “key piece of advice” (line 14) led Dial to add hay bales to his laboratory. Dial later noticed that the Chukars were using their legs and wings to scale the hay bales, and this observation became the focal point of his research.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because the incident with the local rancher did not serve to reveal Dial’s motivation for creating the project, emphasize differences in laboratory and field research, or introduce a contributor to a scientific theory.

QUESTION 26.

Choice C is the best answer. The author explains that Dial’s “aha moment” came when he determined the Chukars used “their legs and wings cooperatively” to scale the hay bales (lines 40-42). Dial then created additional experiments to study how the birds dealt with gradually steeper inclines: “[he filmed] the birds as they raced up textured ramps tilted at increasing angles” (lines 46-48).

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because Dial’s “aha moment” was not followed by Dial teaching the birds to fly, studying videos to find out why the birds no longer hopped, or consulting with other researchers.

QUESTION 27.

Choice B is the best answer. Dial observed that as the Chukars raced up steep ramps, they “began to flap” and “aimed their flapping down and backward, using the force . . . to keep their feet firmly pressed against the ramp” (lines 49-53). Dial determined that the position of their flapping wings facilitated the baby Chukars’ traction on the steep ramps.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because the passage does not indicate that the Chukars’ speed, alternation of wing and foot movement, or continual hopping motions facilitated their traction on steep ramps.

QUESTION 28.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 61-63, the author explains that Dial named his scientific finding “WAIR, for wing-assisted incline running, and went on to document it in a wide range of species.” In this context, Dial “documented,” or recorded, the existence of WAIR in numerous bird species.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because in this context, “document” does not mean to portray, publish, or process.

QUESTION 29.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 70-74, the author explains that gliding animals do not use a “flapping flight stroke,” or WAIR, wing-assisted incline running. Since Chukars, a ground bird, use WAIR to help scale steep inclines, it can be reasonably inferred that gliding animals do not use WAIR to aid in climbing slopes.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because the passage does not include information on gliding animals’ offspring, their method of locomotion, or their feeding habits.

QUESTION 30.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 73-75, the author provides evidence that “the flapping flight stroke” is “something gliding animals don’t do.”

Choices A, B, and C do not provide the best evidence that gliding animals do not use a flapping stroke to aid in climbing slopes. These choices do not contain information about gliding animals.

QUESTION 31.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 21-24, the authors of Passage 1 state society’s “common happiness” is dependent on women never becoming involved in politics. In this context, the authors of Passage 1 are suggesting that all members of society can have a “common,” or shared, happiness.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because in this context, “common” does not mean average, coarse, or similar.

QUESTION 32.

Choice C is the best answer. In lines 25-30, the authors of Passage 1 state that women should seek “gentle occupations and the cares of the home” so they can avoid performing difficult, or “strenuous,” and unpleasant, or “onerous,” tasks.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because the authors of Passage 1 do not suggest that running a household and raising children are rewarding for both sexes, yield less value for society, or require professional or political skills.

QUESTION 33.

Choice C is the best answer. In lines 25-30, the authors of Passage 1 provide evidence that women should run households and raise children because these roles do not require “strenuous habits and onerous duties.”

Choices A, B, and D do not provide the best evidence that running a household and raising children entail very few activities that are difficult or unpleasant; rather, these lines offer general information about the differences between the sexes.

QUESTION 34.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 41-46, Wollstonecraft argues that if women do not receive an education “to become the companion of man,” or one that is comparable to men’s education, then society will not progress in “knowledge and virtue.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because Wollstonecraft does not suggest that society can progress only if women have happiness and financial security, follow societal rules, or replace men as figures of power.

QUESTION 35.

Choice C is the best answer. Wollstonecraft argues that women should be granted an education comparable to men’s so that truth is “common to all” (lines 41-46). Wollstonecraft states that education will “strengthen [women’s] reason till she comprehend her duty” (lines 49-50). In this context, Wollstonecraft is arguing that education will improve women’s “reason,” or intellect, and allow women to consider their role in society.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because in this context “reason” does not mean motive, sanity, or explanation.

QUESTION 36.

Choice A is the best answer. In lines 72-78, Wollstonecraft argues that the laws passed by society’s leaders allow men to “contend for their freedom” but serve to “subjugate women.” In this context, “subjugate” means to control. Wollstonecraft is arguing that society’s leaders grant men freedoms that are denied to women.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because Wollstonecraft does not claim that society’s leaders have granted freedoms that created a general reduction in individual virtue, caused arguments about happiness, or ensured equality for all people.

QUESTION 37.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 72-75, Wollstonecraft provides evidence that society’s leaders grant freedoms that privilege men. She argues that while society’s leaders believe they “are acting in the manner best calculated to promote [women’s] happiness,” their decisions don’t allow women to “contend for their freedom.”

Choices A, B, and C do not provide the best evidence that society’s leaders grant freedoms that privilege men over women.

QUESTION 38.

Choice C is the best answer. Wollstonecraft cites the statement made by the authors of Passage 1 that excluding women from political participation is “according to abstract principles . . . impossible to explain” (lines 61-65). Wollstonecraft then states that if the authors of Passage 1 can discuss “the abstract rights of man” they should be able to discuss the abstract rights of women (lines 66-69). In these lines, Wollstonecraft is developing her argument by highlighting a flaw in the reasoning presented by the authors of Passage 1.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because Wollstonecraft does not refer to the statement made in Passage 1 to call into question the authors’ qualifications, dispute the assertion that women are excluded by their own government (sentence one of Passage 1), or validate the authors’ conclusions on gender roles.

QUESTION 39.

Choice A is the best answer. The authors of Passage 1 argue that while restricting women’s freedoms may be “impossible to explain” (line 7), this restriction is necessary for society’s overall happiness (lines 13-17). Wollstonecraft, however, strongly challenges this argument, asking the authors of Passage 1, “Who made man the exclusive judge” of which freedoms are granted to women, and likening society’s male leaders to tyrants as they deny women their “civil and political rights” and leave them “groping in the dark” (lines 78-88).

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because they do not characterize the overall relationship between Passage 1 and Passage 2.

QUESTION 40.

Choice D is the best answer. The authors of Passage 1 admit that women are “excluded by the other half [men] from any participation in government” (lines 1-2), and Wollstonecraft states that society’s male leaders create laws that deny women “civil and political rights” (line 86).

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because the authors of both passages would not agree that women had the same preferences as men, required a good education, or were as happy as men.

QUESTION 41.

Choice A is the best answer. Wollstonecraft argues in the final paragraph of Passage 2 that society’s male leaders are like “tyrants” that deny women “civil and political rights” (lines 81-88). The authors of Passage 1 would most likely argue that allowing women these rights would be “a reversal of [society’s] primary destinies” as society’s leaders should only seek women’s interests as they pertain to the “wishes of nature,” such as women’s role as

mothers (lines 18-30). The authors of Passage 1 clarify that “nature” created two sexes for a particular reason, so while men can exercise civil and political rights, women are not naturally suited to these activities (lines 30-36).

Choices B and C are incorrect because they are not supported by information in Passage 1. Choice D is incorrect because the authors of Passage 1 do not mention “natural law,” only the “wishes of nature.”

QUESTION 42.

Choice C is the best answer. When discussing problems with bee colonies, the authors use phrases like “we suspect” (line 19) and “we postulate” (line 21) to show they are hypothesizing reasons for bee colonies’ susceptibility to mite infestations. The use of “can,” “may,” and “could” creates a tentative tone and provides further evidence that the authors believe, but are not certain, that their hypothesis is correct.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because the authors’ use of “can,” “may,” and “could” does not create an optimistic, dubious, or critical tone.

QUESTION 43.

Choice C is the best answer. In lines 24-28, the authors hypothesize that bee colonies will be susceptible to mite infestations if they do not occasionally feed on pyrethrum producing plants. In lines 42-46, they suggest creating a trial where a “small number of commercial honey bee colonies are offered a number of pyrethrum producing plants” to test their hypothesis.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because the authors do not hypothesize that honeybees’ exposure to both pyrethrums and mites will cause the honeybees to develop secondary infections, that beekeepers should increase their use of insecticides, or that humans are more susceptible to varroa mites.

QUESTION 44.

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 24-28, the authors provide evidence that a bee colony may be more resistant to mite infections if the bees eat pyrethrums because this diet may help prevent bees from becoming “immunocompromised or nutritionally deficient.” In lines 42-50, the authors suggest testing this hypothesis in a trial on honeybees.

Choices A, B, and C do not describe any of the authors’ hypotheses.

QUESTION 45.

Choice D is the best answer. The authors explain that when beekeepers use commercially produced insecticides to fight mite infections, they may “further weaken” bees that are “immunocompromised or nutritionally deficient” (lines 31-35).

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because the authors do not suggest that beekeepers' use of commercially produced insecticides increases mite populations, kills bacteria, or destroys bees' primary food source.

QUESTION 46.

Choice C is the best answer. In lines 31-35, the authors provide evidence that beekeepers' use of commercially produced insecticides may cause further harm to "immunocompromised or nutritionally deficient bees."

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because they do not provide the best evidence that beekeepers' use of commercially produced insecticides may be harmful to bees; choices A, B, and D focus on mite infestations' impact on honeybees.

QUESTION 47.

Choice B is the best answer. In lines 31-35, the authors argue that beekeepers' use of insecticides to control mite infestations may be harmful to some bees. The authors then state, "We further postulate that the proper dosage necessary to prevent mite infestation may be better left to the bees" (lines 35-37). In this context, the authors "postulate," or put forth the idea that the bees may naturally control mite infestations better than insecticides.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because in this context, "postulate" does not mean to make an unfounded assumption, question a belief or theory, or conclude based on firm evidence.

QUESTION 48.

Choice B is the best answer. In the fourth paragraph the authors propose a trial to study if honeybees' consumption of pyrethrum producing plants helps the honeybees defend against mite infestations. In the experiment, the authors plan to offer honey bee colonies both pyrethrum producing plants and "a typical bee food source such as clover" to determine if these different diets affect the bees' susceptibility to mite infestations.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because the main purpose of the fourth paragraph is not to summarize the results of an experiment, provide a comparative nutritional analysis, or predict an outcome of an unfinished experiment.

QUESTION 49.

Choice A is the best answer. In lines 43-45, the authors propose a scientific trial in which honeybees are "offered a number of pyrethrum producing plants, as well as a typical bee food source such as clover." Since the authors contrast the "pyrethrum producing plants" with clover, a "typical bee food source," it can be assumed that clover does not produce pyrethrums.

Choice B is incorrect because it is stated in the passage. Choices C and D are incorrect because they are not assumptions made by the authors.

QUESTION 50.

Choice B is the best answer. The table shows that 77 percent of the honeybee colonies with colony collapse disorder were infected by all four pathogens.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because they do not identify the percent of honeybee colonies with colony collapse disorder that were infected by all four pathogens as based on data in the table.

QUESTION 51.

Choice D is the best answer. The table shows that 81 percent of colonies without colony collapse disorder were affected by the pathogen *Nosema ceranae*.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because they do not identify the pathogen that infected the highest percentage of honeybee colonies without colony collapse disorder as based on data in the table.

QUESTION 52.

Choice D is the best answer. The table discusses pathogen occurrence in honeybee colonies, but it includes no information as to whether these honeybees were infected with mites. Because the table does not suggest mites infested the honeybee colonies, no conclusions can be made as to whether mites increased the honeybees' "susceptibility to secondary infection with fungi, bacteria or viruses" (lines 4-5).

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because the table provides no information about whether these honeybees were infected with mites.

Section 2: Writing and Language Test

QUESTION 1.

Choice A is the best answer because by providing the comparative adjective "healthier" and the word "more" to make "productive" comparative, it creates a parallel structure within the list that begins with "happier."

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none creates a parallel structure within the list of qualities.

QUESTION 2.

Choice B is the best answer. The ways in which exposure to natural light affects employees is the main subject of the passage.