

Subtest 4: Paragraph Comprehension

TIME: 13 minutes for 15 questions

DIRECTIONS: This test measures your ability to understand what you read. This section includes one or more paragraphs of reading material followed by incomplete statements or questions. Read the paragraph and select the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the following passage.

There is not a single town of any size within a distance of forty miles, yet already the rural population of this county is quite large. The whole country, within a wide circuit north, south, east, and west, partakes of the same general character; mountain ridges, half tilled, half wood, screening cultivated valleys, sprinkled with farms and hamlets, among which some pretty stream generally winds its way. The waters in our immediate neighborhood all flow to the southward, though only a few miles to the north of our village, the brooks are found running in an opposite course, this valley lying just within the borders of the dividing ridge. The river itself, though farther south it becomes one of the great streams of the country, cannot boast of much breadth so near its source, and running quietly among the meadows, half screened by the groves and thickets, scarcely shows in the general view.

1. According to this passage,
 - (A) the author lives in a large city.
 - (B) the author lives in the country.
 - (C) the author lives on the seashore.
 - (D) the author lives on Mars.
2. According to this passage, the brooks are running in which direction within the author's neighborhood?
 - (A) north
 - (B) south
 - (C) east
 - (D) west

The Panama Canal is a ship canal that cuts through the Isthmus of Panama, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Although several foreign companies tried to build the canal throughout the 19th century, none were successful. After the U.S. helped Panama revolt against Colombia, the U.S. was given rights to the land the canal occupied. The U.S. government finished the canal in 1914.

3. According to this passage,
 - (A) Panama and Colombia fought a war over the Panama Canal.
 - (B) the U.S. was given rights to the canal land.
 - (C) foreign companies built the canal before the U.S. stepped in.
 - (D) Panama built the canal in 1914.

Extreme care must be exercised to ensure proper handling and cleaning of soiled U.S. flags. A torn flag may be professionally mended, but a badly torn or tattered flag should be destroyed. When the flag is in such a condition that it's no longer a fitting emblem for display, destroy it in a dignified manner, preferably by burning.

4. According to this passage, torn flags should be
 - (A) mended.
 - (B) burned.
 - (C) destroyed.
 - (D) all of the above.

Medieval guilds were similar to modern-day labor unions. These groups of merchants or craftspeople set rules regarding economic activity in order to protect themselves. Some guilds held considerable economic power, but even small guilds protected members. Guilds also served a social purpose.

5. According to this passage, guilds
- (A) had only one purpose.
 - (B) had little in common with modern labor unions.
 - (C) exploited workers.
 - (D) held considerable economic power.

After a series of well-publicized failures by various inventors, Orville and Wilbur Wright succeeded in flying and controlling a heavier-than-air craft on December 17, 1903. The War Department, stung by its investment in a failed effort by Samuel Langley and compounded by the Wrights' own secretiveness, initially rejected the brothers' overtures toward the government to buy the aircraft. Prevailing sentiments held that the immediate future still belonged to the balloon. In August 1908, the two brothers delivered the first Army aircraft to the U.S. Government. That the U.S. government managed to purchase an airplane was a minor miracle. For more than four years after the Wright brothers' successful flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the government refused to accept the fact that man had flown in a heavier-than-air machine.

6. Which of the following statements is not supported by the above passage?
- (A) The U.S. Government felt that balloons were more practical than airplanes.
 - (B) The Wright brothers' own secretiveness contributed to their problems in getting the government interested in their aircraft.
 - (C) The historic flight took place on the East Coast.
 - (D) It took more than six years for the Wright brothers to interest the U.S. Government in their airplane.

If anyone should be inclined to overrate the state of our present knowledge of mental life, all that would be needed to force him to assume a modest attitude would be to remind him of the function of memory. No psychologic theory has yet been able to account for the connection between the fundamental phenomena of remembering and forgetting; indeed, even the complete analysis of that which one can actually observe has as yet scarcely been grasped. Today forgetting has perhaps grown more puzzling than remembering, especially since we have learned from the study of dreams and pathologic states that even what for a long time we believed forgotten may suddenly return to consciousness.

7. The primary subject of this paragraph is
- (A) bowling.
 - (B) puzzles.
 - (C) memory.
 - (D) government service.

Troy weight is based on a pound of 12 ounces and an ounce of 480 grains. Common, or avoirdupois, weight is based on a pound having 16 ounces and an ounce having 437.5 grains. A common pound has 7,000 grains while a troy pound has 5,760.

8. According to this passage,
- (A) in common weight, an ounce is less than 438 grains.
 - (B) a troy pound and a common pound are the same weight.
 - (C) common weight and avoirdupois weight are different measures.
 - (D) a troy ounce equals 437.5 grains.



Good leaders get involved in their subordinates' careers. People merely obey arbitrary commands and orders, but they respond quickly and usually give extra effort for leaders who genuinely care for them. An often neglected leadership principle in today's environment of technology and specialization is knowing the workers and showing sincere interest in their problems, career development, and welfare. Leadership is reflected in the degree of efficiency, productivity, morale, and motivation demonstrated by subordinates. Leadership involvement is the key ingredient to maximizing worker performance.

9. A key leadership principle that's often ignored is
- (A) leading by example.
 - (B) showing sincere interest in the problems of the workers.
 - (C) ensuring workers have access to the most modern technology.
 - (D) maximizing worker performance.

Leukemia is a blood disease in which white blood cells in the blood or bone marrow reproduce rapidly, interfering with the body's ability to produce red blood cells. Red blood cells are needed to perform vital bodily functions.

10. According to this passage,
- (A) white blood cells perform no vital function in the body.
 - (B) no treatment for leukemia exists.
 - (C) leukemia makes it hard for the body to produce red blood cells.
 - (D) white blood cells are found only in the blood.

Questions 11 and 12 are based on the following passage.

Any discussion of distinctive military capabilities would be incomplete without looking at their relationship to the Joint Service vision of the future. JV 2020 guides all the Services into the next century with its vision of future war fighting. JV 2020 sets forth four overarching operational concepts: dominant maneuver, precision engagement, focused logistics, and full-dimensional protection. Each of these operational concepts reinforces the others. The aggregate of these four concepts, along with their interaction with information superiority and innovation, allows joint forces to dominate the full range of military operations from humanitarian assistance through peace operations to the highest intensity conflict.

11. According to the passage above, which of the following is not an operational concept?
- (A) dominant maneuver
 - (B) focused logistics
 - (C) high intensity conflict
 - (D) precision engagement
12. The document discussed in the above passage is primarily about
- (A) military operations of the past.
 - (B) present military operations.
 - (C) military operations in the future.
 - (D) training for future military operations.