

QUESTION 52.

Choice A is the best answer. The figure shows that the greatest cooling period of the Little Ice Age occurred between 1500 and 1700 CE; it also shows that the greatest warming period of the Medieval Warm Period occurred between 1150 and 1250 CE. Therefore, the Little Ice Age’s greatest cooling occurred a couple of centuries, or “hundreds of years,” after the temperature peaks of the Medieval Warm Period.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the figure does not focus on equatorial volcanic eruptions, pyroclastic flows, or radiocarbon analysis.

Section 2: Writing and Language Test

QUESTION 1.

Choice B is the best answer because the relative clause appropriately modifies the noun “work” in the preceding independent clause.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each creates a comma splice.

QUESTION 2.

Choice B is the best answer because it creates the appropriate contrasting transition from the fact that the first two panels were painted during the day to the fact that the third panel was painted at night.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each creates an inappropriate transition from the previous sentence. Choice A and choice D imply addition rather than contrast. Choice C results in an incomplete sentence.

QUESTION 3.

Choice B is the best answer because it creates an appropriate appositive to the subject “mural,” and is correctly set off by commas on both sides.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each is incorrectly punctuated. Choice A lacks a comma after “centerpiece,” choice C unnecessarily introduces an independent clause, and choice D contains an em dash that has no parallel earlier in the sentence.

QUESTION 4.

Choice A is the best answer because it explicitly introduces the explanation for the behavior (painting at night) described in the previous paragraph.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none alludes to the artist’s painting at night, which is described at the end of the previous paragraph and explained in this paragraph.

QUESTION 5.

Choice D is the best answer because it refers to an action that can be performed on a physical object such as a mural.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each refers to an action that is performed on information rather than on a physical object.

QUESTION 6.

Choice B is the best answer because it creates a past tense construction consistent with the verb “was dominated.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none is consistent with the verb tense established earlier in the sentence.

QUESTION 7.

Choice D is the best answer because it is the most precise choice, specifying the noun that the demonstrative pronoun “this” refers to.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each provides a vague, nonspecific pronoun that does not concretely define a referent.

QUESTION 8.

Choice B is the best answer because it correctly places and punctuates the appositive phrase that describes the “Chicano mural movement.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each contains awkward syntax that obscures the relationship between the key noun phrases “an explosion of mural painting” and “the Chicano mural movement.”

QUESTION 9.

Choice C is the best answer because it creates parallel construction within the list of locations (“*in* abandoned lots, *on* unused buildings, or *on* infrastructure”).

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because none follows the construction established within the list of locations.

QUESTION 10.

Choice A is the best answer because it alludes to the uniquely high level of investment, described in the next sentence, that the new group of artists is making in restoring and publicizing “América Tropical.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each fails to express the connection between the general restoration efforts mentioned in the previous sentence and the specific role of “América Tropical” in these efforts, which is described in the next sentence.

QUESTION 11.

Choice C is the best answer because details of the initial reaction to Siqueiros’s mural and its subsequent rediscovery are given previously in the passage and are not needed to set up the forward-looking sentence that follows.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each provides an inaccurate interpretation of the sentence that the writer is considering adding.

QUESTION 12.

Choice D is the best answer because without the underlined portion, the sentence contains an appropriate parallel contrast between the phrases “organically grown crops” and “conventionally grown counterparts,” each of which describes crops.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each creates an illogical comparison: crops to “people,” crops to “purchase,” and crops to “purchasing.”

QUESTION 13.

Choice B is the best answer because it provides the subject “consumers,” creating a complete sentence and providing a referent for the pronoun “they” that appears later in the sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each lacks the subject that the sentence requires and none provide a referent for “they.”

QUESTION 14.

Choice D is the best answer because it efficiently creates a contrast with “organically grown.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because they are unnecessarily wordy and repeat information given in previous sentences.

QUESTION 15.

Choice C is the best answer because it sets up the contrast between the added expense of organic food and the evidence that suggests a lack of benefits from eating organic food.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each fails to acknowledge the contrast between the last sentence in the paragraph and the previous sentences.

QUESTION 16.

Choice C is the best answer because “maintain” is commonly used to describe advocating a position in an argument.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because none is appropriate in the context of describing an opinion advocated by a group of people.

QUESTION 17.

Choice A is the best answer because the transitional phrase “For instance” sets up an example supporting the point, made in the previous sentence, that organic food may not contain more vitamins and minerals than conventionally grown food.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none indicates that the sentence is providing an example supporting the point made in the previous sentence.

QUESTION 18.

Choice C is the best answer because it accurately identifies the reason that the writer should not add the proposed sentence: the paragraph is about evidence of nutritional content, not the availability of organic food.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each provides an inaccurate interpretation of the proposed sentence’s relationship to the passage.

QUESTION 19.

Choice A is the best answer because the plural verb “have” is consistent with the plural subject “amounts.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each is a singular verb, which is inconsistent with the plural subject “amounts.”

QUESTION 20.

Choice C is the best answer because the example it supplies, that pesticides can be minimized by washing or peeling produce, supports the claim that nonorganic food is safe.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because none supports the paragraph’s claim about the safety of nonorganic food.

QUESTION 21.

Choice B is the best answer because the plural noun phrase “numerous other reasons” must be preceded by a plural verb and a pronoun that does not indicate possession: “there are.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each contains the singular verb “is,” the possessive pronoun “their,” or both.

QUESTION 22.

Choice D is the best answer because a nonrestrictive clause must be preceded by a comma; in addition, “such as” is never followed by a comma.

In this case, the list of reasons supporting the claim that there are benefits to buying organic food is nonrestrictive; the list tells the reader something about organic food but does not restrict or place limits on organic food.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each places erroneous punctuation after the phrase “such as.” Choices B and C also lack the necessary comma preceding “such as.”

QUESTION 23.

Choice C is the best answer because “intriguing” conveys a realistic level of interest for the entertaining but ultimately inconsequential question of regional differences in words for carbonated beverages.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each mocks the topic of regional words for carbonated beverages.

QUESTION 24.

Choice C is the best answer because “but also” is the appropriate transition to complete the correlative pair “not only . . . but also,” which begins earlier in the sentence.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each fails to complete the phrase “not only . . . but also.”

QUESTION 25.

Choice B is the best answer because it is consistent with the fact that there remains a “veritable army of trained volunteers traveling the country” and because it uses “still” to contrast this method with the “new avenues.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none is consistent with the information contained later in the passage.

QUESTION 26.

Choice D is the best answer because it uses the relative pronoun “who” to avoid needless repetition of the word “scholars.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each unnecessarily repeats the word “scholars.”

QUESTION 27.

Choice C is the best answer because the new sentence provides a logical transition from sentences 3 and 4, which describe the data collection, to sentence 5, which explains that completing the dictionary took far longer than expected.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each fails to create a logical transition between the preceding and subsequent sentences.

QUESTION 28.

Choice A is the best answer because the singular verb “requires” agrees with the singular subject “research.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because they do not create subject-verb agreement.

QUESTION 29.

Choice D is the best answer because a colon is the correct punctuation to introduce the elaborating phrase that follows the word “army.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because none provides the appropriate punctuation.

QUESTION 30.

Choice B is the best answer because it contains both the correct word to refer to an Internet location—“site”—and the correct preposition to complete the collocation “in search of.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each contains a word that does not refer to an Internet location, and choices C and D contain the wrong preposition.

QUESTION 31.

Choice C is the best answer because it correctly associates each beverage term with the region described in the sentence according to the information contained in the map.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each contradicts the information contained in the map.

QUESTION 32.

Choice B is the best answer because it contains the two plural possessive pronouns needed to refer to the subject “findings”—“their” and “their.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each contains a word frequently confused with “their.”

QUESTION 33.

Choice A is the best answer because it provides a summary and evaluation of gathering data from the Internet, which is the focus of the paragraph.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each is either irrelevant to the main point of the paragraph or unnecessarily repeats information.

QUESTION 34.

Choice C is the best answer because it uses the present tense, which is consistent with the verbs that appear later in the sentence.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because they create awkward shifts in tense.

QUESTION 35.

Choice C is the best answer because the em dashes correctly bracket the examples of the types of elements.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each uses either inconsistent or incorrect punctuation to set off the types of elements.

QUESTION 36.

Choice B is the best answer because a period is an appropriate way to separate the two independent clauses that meet at the underlined text.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each either creates a comma splice or lacks necessary punctuation.

QUESTION 37.

Choice D is the best answer because the proposed sentence to be added is a paraphrase of the sentence before it, containing the same ideas.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because none fully acknowledges the relationship between the proposed sentence to be added and the other sentences in the paragraph.

QUESTION 38.

Choice A is the best answer because it highlights the importance of the game designer's communication with others, which is the paragraph's main point.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none describes communication originating with the game designer, which is the main focus of the paragraph.

QUESTION 39.

Choice C is the best answer because the importance of communication is established in the previous sentences. The transition "consequently" best captures the fact that the designer must be skilled in this area.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each contains a transition that either repeats information or creates an illogical relationship between this sentence and the previous sentences.

QUESTION 40.

Choice B is the best answer because it provides the singular nouns “writer” and “speaker” to agree with the singular pronoun “anyone.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none creates pronoun-referent agreement.

QUESTION 41.

Choice D is the best answer because it expresses in the clearest, simplest way the idea that many game designers start out as programmers.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each is unnecessarily wordy and obscures meaning.

QUESTION 42.

Choice D is the best answer because it logically and appropriately modifies the phrase “collaboration skills.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because none appropriately describes the value of collaboration skills.

QUESTION 43.

Choice A is the best answer because it provides a logical subject for the modifying phrase “demanding and deadline driven.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each creates a dangling modifier.

QUESTION 44.

Choice B is the best answer because sentence 5 expresses the main point upon which the paragraph elaborates.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none places sentence 5 in the appropriate position to set up the details contained in the paragraph.

Section 3: Math Test — No Calculator

QUESTION 1.

Choice A is correct. The expression $|x - 1| - 1$ will equal 0 if $|x - 1| = 1$. This is true for $x = 2$ and for $x = 0$. For example, substituting $x = 2$ into the expression $|x - 1| - 1$ and simplifying the result yields $|2 - 1| - 1 = |1| - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$. Therefore, there is a value of x for which $|x - 1| - 1$ is equal to 0.

Choice B is incorrect. By definition, the absolute value of any expression is a nonnegative number. Substituting any value for x into the expression