

Passage-17

Researchers compared the number of tooth fractures in present-day carnivores with tooth fractures in carnivores that lived 36,000 to 10,000 years ago and that were preserved in the Rancho La Brea tar pits in Los Angeles. The breakage frequencies in the extinct species were strikingly higher than those in the present-day species. In considering possible explanations for this finding, the researchers dismissed demographic bias because older individuals were not overrepresented in the fossil samples. They rejected preservational bias because a total absence of breakage in two extinct species demonstrated that the fractures were not the result of abrasion within the pits. They ruled out local bias because breakage data obtained from other Pleistocene sites were similar to the La Brea data. The explanation they consider most plausible is behavioral differences between extinct and present-day carnivores—in particular, more contact between the teeth of predators and the bones of prey due to more thorough consumption of carcasses by the extinct species. Such thorough carcass consumption implies to the researchers either that prey availability was low, at least seasonally, or that there was intense competition over kills and a high rate of carcass theft due to relatively high predator densities.

231. The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) present several explanations for a well-known fact
- (B) suggest alternative method of resolving a debate
- (C) argue in favor of a controversial theory
- (D) question the methodology used in a study
- (E) discuss the implications of a research finding

232. The passage suggests that, compared with Pleistocene carnivores in other areas, Pleistocene carnivores in the La Brea area

(A) included the same species, in approximately the same proportions

- (B) had a similar frequency of tooth fractures
- (C) populated the La Brea more densely
- (D) consumed their preys more thoroughly
- (E) found it harder to obtain sufficiency prey

233. According to the passage, the researchers believes that the high frequency of tooth breakage in carnivores found at La Brea was caused primarily by

- (A) the aging process in individual carnivores
- (B) contact between the fossils in the pits
- (C) poor preservation of the fossils after they were removed from the pits
- (D) the impact of carnivores' teeth against the bones of their prey
- (E) the impact of carnivores' teeth against the bones of other carnivores during fights over kills

234. The researchers' conclusion concerning the absence of demographic bias would be most seriously undermined if it were found that

- (A) the older as individual carnivore is, the more likely it is to have a large number of tooth fractures
- (B) the average age at death of a present-day carnivores is greater than was the average age at death of a Pleistocene carnivore

(C) in Pleistocene carnivore species, older individuals consumed carcasses as thoroughly as did younger individuals

(D) the methods used to determine animals' ages in fossil samples tend to misidentify many older individuals as younger individuals

(E) data concerning the ages of fossil samples cannot provide reliable information about behavioral differences between extinct carnivores and present-day carnivores

235. The passage suggests that if the researchers had not found that two extinct carnivore species were free of tooth breakage, the researchers would have concluded that

- (A) the difference in breakage frequencies could have been the result of damage to the fossil remains in the La Brea pits
- (B) the fossils in other Pleistocene sites could have higher breakage frequencies than do the fossils in the La Brea pits
- (C) Pleistocene carnivore species probably behaved very similarly to one another with respect to consumption of carcass
- (D) all Pleistocene carnivores species differed behaviorally from present-day carnivore species
- (E) predator densities during the Pleistocene era were extremely high

Passage - 18

During the nineteenth-century, occupational information about women that was provided by the United States census—a population count conducted each decade—became more detailed and precise in response to social changes. Through 1840, simple enumeration by household mirrored a home-based agricultural economy and hierarchical social order: the head of the household (presumed male or absent) was specified by name, whereas other household members were only indicated by the total number of persons counted in various categories, including occupational categories. Like farms, most enterprises were family-run, so that the census measured economic activity as an attribute of the entire household, rather than of individuals. The 1850 census, partly responding to antislavery and women's rights movements, initiated the collection of specific information about each individual in a household. Not until 1870 was occupational information analyzed by gender: the census superintendent reported 1.8 million women employed outside the home in —gainful and reputable occupations. In addition, he arbitrarily attributed to each family one woman —keeping house. Overlap between the two groups was not calculated until 1890, when the rapid entry of women into the paid labor force and social issues arising from industrialization were causing women's advocates and women statisticians to press for more thorough and accurate accounting of women's occupations and wages.

236. The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) explain and critique the methods used by early statisticians
- (B) compare and contrast a historical situation with a current-day one
- (C) describe and explain a historical change
- (D) discuss historical opposition to an established institution
- (E) trace the origin of a contemporary controversy

237. Each of the following aspects of nineteenth-century United States censuses is mentioned in the passage EXCEPT the

- (A) year in which data on occupations began to be analyzed by gender
- (B) year in which specific information began to be collected on individuals in addition to the head of the household
- (C) year in which overlap between women employed outside the home and women keeping house was first calculated
- (D) way in which the 1890 census measured women's income levels and educational backgrounds
- (E) way in which household members were counted in the 1840 census

238. It can be inferred from the passage that the 1840 United States census provided a count of which of the following?

- (A) Women who worked exclusively in the home
- (B) People engaged in nonfarming occupations
- (C) People engaged in social movements
- (D) Women engaged in family-run enterprises
- (E) Men engaged in agriculture

239. The author uses the adjective "simple" in line 5 most probably to emphasize that the

- (A) collection of census information became progressively more difficult throughout the nineteenth century
- (B) technology for tabulating census information was rudimentary during the first half of the nineteenth century
- (C) home-based agricultural economy of the early nineteenth century was easier to analyze than the later industrial economy
- (D) economic role of women was better defined in the early nineteenth century than in the late nineteenth century
- (E) information collected by early-nineteenth-century censuses was limited in its amount of detail

240. The passage suggests which of the following about the "women's advocates and women statisticians" mentioned in lines 27-28?

- (A) They wanted to call attention to the lack of pay for women who worked in the home.
- (B) They believed that previous census information was inadequate and did not reflect certain economic changes in the United States.
- (C) They had begun to press for changes in census-taking methods as part of their participation in the antislavery movement.
- (D) They thought that census statistics about women would be more accurate if more women were employed as census officials.
- (E) They had conducted independent studies that disputed the official statistics provided by previous United States censuses

Passage -19

In the seventeenth-century Florentine textile industry, women were employed primarily in low-paying, low-skill jobs. To explain this segregation of labor by gender, economists have relied on the useful theory of human capital. According to this theory, investment in human capital—the acquisition of difficult job-related skills—generally benefits individuals by making them eligible to engage in well-paid occupations. Women's role as child bearers, however, results in interruptions in their participation in the job market (as compared with men's) and thus reduces their opportunities to acquire training for highly skilled work. In addition, the human capital theory explains why there was a high concentration of women workers in certain low-skill jobs, such as weaving, but not in others, such as combing or carding, by positing that because of their primary responsibility in child rearing women took occupations that could be carried out in the home. There were, however, differences in pay scales that cannot be explained by the human capital theory. For example, male construction workers were

paid significantly higher wage than female taffeta weavers. The wage difference between these two low-skill occupations stems from the segregation of labor by gender: because a limited number of occupations were open to women, there was a large supply of workers in their fields, and this—overcrowding resulted in women receiving lower wages and men receiving higher wages.

265. The passage suggests that combing and carding differ from weaving in that combing and carding are

- (A) low-skill jobs performed by primarily by women employees
- (B) low-skill jobs that were not performed in the home
- (C) low-skill jobs performed by both male and female employees
- (D) high-skill jobs performed outside the home
- (E) high-skill jobs performed by both male and female employees

266. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the explanation provided by the human capital theory for women's concentration in certain occupations in seventeenth-century Florence?

- (A) Women were unlikely to work outside the home even in occupations whose house were flexible enough to allow women to accommodate domestic tasks as well as paid labor.
- (B) Parents were less likely to teach occupational skills to their daughters than they were to their sons.
- (C) Women's participation in the Florentine paid labor force grew steadily throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.
- (D) The vast majority of female weavers in the Florentine wool industry had children.
- (E) Few women worked as weavers in the Florentine silk industry, which was devoted to making cloths that required a high degree of skill to produce

267. The author of the passage would be most likely to describe the explanation provided by the human capital theory for the high concentration of women in certain occupations in the seventeenth-century Florence textile industry as

- (A) well founded though incomplete
- (B) difficult to articulate
- (C) plausible but poorly substantiated
- (D) seriously flawed
- (E) contrary to recent research

Passage -20

Maps made by non-Native Americans to depict Native American land tenure, resources and population distributions appeared almost as early as Europeans' first encounters with Native Americans and took many form: missionaries' field sketches, explorers' drawings, and surveyors' maps, as well as maps rendered in connection with treaties involving land transfers. Most existing maps of Native American lands are reconstructions that are based largely on archaeology, oral reports, and evidence gathered from observers' accounts in letter, diaries, and official reports; accordingly, the accuracy of these maps is especially dependent on the mapmakers' own interpretive abilities. Many existing maps also reflect the 150-year role of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in administering tribal lands. Though these maps incorporate some information gleaned directly from Native Americans, rarely has Native American cartography contributed to this official record, which has been compiled, surveyed, and authenticated by non-Native American. Thus our current cartographic record relating to Native American tribes and their migrations and cultural features, as well as territoriality and contemporary trust lands, reflects the origins of the data, the mixed purposes for which the maps have been prepared, and changes both in United States government policy and in non-Native Americans' attitudes toward an understanding of Native Americans.

Model Practice Set -1

268. Which of the following best describes the content of the passage?
- (A) A chronology of the development of different methods for mapping Native Americans
- (B) A discussion of how the mapmaking techniques of Native Americans differed from those of Europeans
- (C) An argument concerning the present-day uses to which historical maps of Native American lands are put
- (D) An argument concerning the nature of information contained in maps of Native American lands
- (E) A proposal for improving the accuracy of maps of Native American lands
269. The passage mentions each of the following as a factor affecting current maps of Native American lands EXCEPT
- (A) United States government policy
- (B) non-Native Americans' perspective on Native Americans
- (C) origins of the information utilized to produce the maps
- (D) changes in ways that tribal lands are used
- (E) the reason for producing the maps
270. The passage suggests which of the following about most existing maps of Native American lands?
- (A) They do not record the migrations of Native American tribes.
- (B) They have been preserved primarily because of their connection with treaties involving land transfers.
- (C) They tend to reflect archaeological evidence that has become outdated.
- (D) They tend to be less accurate when they are based on oral reports than when they are based on written documents.
- (E) They are not based primarily on the mapmakers' firsthand observations of Native American lands.
271. All of the following are examples of the type of evidence used in creating "Most existing maps" (line 7-8) EXCEPT
- (A) a nineteenth-century government report on population distribution of a particular tribe
- (B) taped conversations with people who lived on Native American tribal lands in the early twentieth century
- (C) aerial photographs of geological features of lands inhabited by Native Americans
- (D) findings from a recently excavated site once inhabited by a certain Native American people
- (E) a journal kept by a non-Native American explorer who traveled in Native American territory in the early nineteenth century

Passage -21

(The following is based on material written in 1996.)

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, signed in 1987 by more than 150 nations, has attained its short-term goals: it has decreased the rate of increase in amounts of most ozone-depleting chemicals reaching the atmosphere and has even reduced the atmospheric levels of some of them. The projection that the ozone layer will substantially recover from ozone depletion by 2050 is based on the assumption that the protocol's regulations will be strictly followed. Yet there is considerable evidence of violations, particularly in the form of the release of ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's), which are commonly used in the refrigeration, heating, and air conditioning industries. These violations reflect industry attitudes; for example, in the United States, 48 percents of respondents in a recent survey of subscribers to Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration News, an industry trade journal, said that they did not believe that CFC's damage the ozone layer. Moreover, some in the industry apparently do not want to pay for CFC substitutes, which can run five times the

cost of CFC's. Consequently, a black market in imported illicit CFC's has grown. Estimates of the contraband CFC trade range from 10,000 to 22,000 tons a year, with most of the CFC's originating in India and China, whose agreements under the Protocol still allow them to produce CFC's. In fact, the United States Customs Service reports that CFC-12 is a contraband problem second only to illicit drugs.

283. According to the passage, which of the following best describes most ozone-depleting chemicals in 1996 as compared to those in 1987?

- (A) The levels of such chemicals in the atmosphere had decreased.
- (B) The number of such chemicals that reached the atmosphere had declined.
- (C) The amounts of such chemicals released had increased but the amounts that reached the atmosphere had decreased.
- (D) The rate of increase in amounts of such chemicals reaching the atmosphere had decreased.
- (E) The rate at which such chemicals were being reduced in the atmosphere had slowed.

284. The author of the passage compares the smuggling of CFC's to the illicit drug trade most likely for which of the following reasons?

- (A) To qualify a previous claim
- (B) To emphasize the extent of a problem
- (C) To provide an explanation for an earlier assertion
- (D) To suggest that the illicit CFC trade, likely the illicit drug trade, will continue to increase
- (E) To suggest that the consequences of a relatively little-known problem are as serious as those of a well-known one
285. The passage suggests which of the following about the illicit trade in CFC's?
- (A) It would cease if manufacturers in India and China stopped producing CFC's.
- (B) Most people who participate in such trade do not believe that CFC's deplete the ozone layer.
- (C) It will probably surpass illicit drugs as the largest contraband problem faced by the United States Custom Services.
- (D) It is fostered by people who do not want to pay the price of CFC substitutes.
- (E) It has grown primarily because of the expansion of the refrigeration, heating, and air-conditioning industries in foreign countries

Passage -22

Extended debate concerning the exact point of origin of individual folktales told by Afro-American slaves has unfortunately taken precedence over analysis of the tales' meaning and function. Cultural continuities with Africa were not dependent on importation and perpetuation of specific folktales in their pristine form. It is in the place that tales occupied in the lives of the slaves and in the meaning slaves derived from them that the clearest resemblances to African tradition can be found. Afro-American slaves did not borrow tales indiscriminately from the Whites among whom they lived. Black people were most influenced by those Euro-American tales whose functional meaning and aesthetic appeal had the greatest similarity to the tales with deep roots in their ancestral homeland. Regardless of where slave tales came from, the essential point is that, with respect to language, delivery, details of characterization, and plot, slaves quickly made them their own.

17. The author claims that most studies of folktales told by Afro-American slaves are inadequate because the studies

- (A) fail to recognize any possible Euro-American influence on the folktales

- (B) do not pay enough attention to the features of a folktale that best reveal an African influence
- (C) overestimate the number of folktales brought from Africa by the slaves
- (D) do not consider the fact that a folktale can be changed as it is retold many times
- (E) oversimplify the diverse and complex traditions of the slaves ancestral Homeland
18. The author's main purpose is to
- (A) create a new field of study (B) discredit an existing field of study (C) change the focus of a field of study (D) transplant scholarly techniques from one field of study to another (E) restrict the scope of a burgeoning new field of study
19. The passage suggests that the author would regard which of the following areas of inquiry as most likely to reveal the slaves' cultural continuities with Africa?
- (A) The means by which Blacks disseminated their folktales in nineteenth-century America
- (B) Specific regional differences in the styles of delivery used by the slaves in telling folktales
- (C) The functional meaning of Black folktales in the lives of White children raised by slave
- (D) The specific way the slaves used folktales to impart moral teaching to their children
- (E) The complexities of plot that appear most frequently in the slaves' tales
20. Which of the following techniques is used by the author in developing the argument in the passage?
- (A) Giving a cliché a new meaning
- (B) Pointedly refusing to define key terms
- (C) Alternately presenting generalities and concrete details
- (D) Concluding the passage with a restatement of the first point made in the passage
- (E) Juxtaposing statements of what is not the case and statements of what is the Case

Passage -22

The whole biosphere, like the individual organisms that live inside it, exists in a chemically **dynamic state**. In this homeostatic system, a great number of organic compounds are synthesized, transformed, and decomposed continuously; together, these processes constitute the major parts of the carbon cycle. For the smooth operation of this cycle, degradation is just as important as synthesis: the green plants produce great quantities of polymers, such as cellulose, and innumerable other compounds like alkaloids, terpenes, and flavonoids, that green plants cannot use as sources of energy during respiration. The release of the carbon in these compounds for recycling depends almost entirely on the action of both aerobic and anaerobic bacteria and certain types of fungi. Some bacteria and fungi possess the unique and extremely important biochemical asset of being able to catalyze the oxidation of numerous inert products, thereby initiating reaction sequences that produce carbon dioxide and so return much carbon to a form that actively enters into life cycles once again.

25. The passage contains information that would answer which of the following questions about the carbon cycle?
- I. What are some of the compounds that are broken down in the carbon cycle?
- II. Why are some compounds that are involved in the carbon cycle less reactive than others?
- III. What role do bacteria and fungi play in the carbon cycle?
- (A) I only (B) II only (C) III only (D) I and II only (E) I and III only

26. The author implies that which of the following is the primary reason that degradation is as important as synthesis to the smooth operation of the carbon cycle?

- (A) Most of the polymers and organic compounds found in the plant kingdom are chemically unstable
- (B) The synthesis of some organic material deprives life processes of an energy source.
- (C) Decomposition permits the recycling of carbon that would otherwise be fixed in certain substances.
- (D) Many organisms cannot use plants as a source of food, but can feed on bacteria and fungi.
- (E) Bacteria and fungi could not survive if some carbon compounds were not degraded.
27. The author's contention about the importance of bacteria and fungi in the production of energy for life processes would be most clearly strengthened if which of the following were found to be true?
- (A) Both aerobes and anaerobes provide sources of energy through the decomposition of organic material.
- (B) Most compounds containing carbon are unavailable as energy sources except to some bacteria and fungi.
- (C) Bacteria and fungi break down inert material in ways that do not involve oxidation.
- (D) Many compounds remain inert, even in the presence of bacteria and fungi.
- (E) Bacteria and fungi assist in the synthesis of many organic compounds.