

ANSWER KEY

English Test			
1. A	21. B	41. B	61. A
2. J	22. H	42. J	62. G
3. C	23. B	43. C	63. C
4. H	24. H	44. G	64. G
5. C	25. D	45. D	65. B
6. G	26. J	46. G	66. F
7. B	27. A	47. D	67. B
8. J	28. H	48. G	68. F
9. A	29. A	49. B	69. D
10. F	30. F	50. F	70. F
11. C	31. C	51. A	71. C
12. F	32. F	52. F	72. G
13. C	33. D	53. D	73. C
14. G	34. J	54. F	74. H
15. D	35. B	55. D	75. C
16. H	36. J	56. H	
17. D	37. D	57. B	
18. J	38. F	58. F	
19. A	39. B	59. C	
20. G	40. J	60. F	

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS**English Test Explanations****PASSAGE I**

1. **The best answer is A.** Answer choices B, C, and D can be eliminated because of incorrect comma usage. Answer choice B separates the noun *result* from its complement, the prepositional phrase *of ingenuity*. Answer choice C separates the preposition *of* from its object, *ingenuity*. Answer choice D includes an unnecessary comma after *of*.
2. **The best answer is J.** *Charles Lindbergh* is the logical subject of this sentence and should, therefore, be the grammatical subject. The sentence as written, with the gerund *being* before *Charles Lindbergh*, is awkward grammatically and unclear in meaning. Eliminate answer choice F. Answer choice G can be eliminated because it uses the subject pronoun *he* when *Charles Lindbergh* already serves that purpose. Finally, answer choice H can be eliminated because the relative pronoun *which* and the verb *was* would be highly awkward in this position in the sentence.
3. **The best answer is C.** Neither of the introductory prepositional phrases *In 1918* and *with the United States in the throes of World War I* contains a verb, so the main clause begins after these phrases set apart by a comma. Eliminate answer choice B. Answer choices A and D can be eliminated for their awkwardness and wordiness. Answer choice C represents the clearest and most concise answer choice.
4. **The best answer is H.** In this sentence, *Minnesota*, although a noun, acts as a modifier of *farm*, so the two words should appear together. Eliminate answer choice J. Answer choices F and G can be eliminated for their incorrect comma usage. In answer choice F, the prepositional phrase *under his care* modifies the noun *farm*, so no comma must intervene between them. Similarly, in answer choice G, the prepositional phrase modifies the verb *thrived*, so no comma must intervene in this case either.
5. **The best answer is C.** The verb *encouraged* needs a subject, so the pronoun *they* (his parents) should be added. The dependent clause beginning with *when* is not a complete sentence, and therefore, should be separated only by a comma, not a period or semicolon.
6. **The best answer is G.** As written, this sentence is incomplete because it lacks a main verb. Eliminate answer choices F, H, and J because they do not provide a main verb. Only answer choice G contains a verb with tense, the simple past verb, *resulted*.
7. **The best answer is B.** The phrase *in pursuit of a degree* is obvious information considering *Lindbergh dropped out of college*. (You must finish college to earn a degree.) Therefore, eliminate answer choice A. Answer choices C and D are redundant in the same way, and can therefore be eliminated.
8. **The best answer is J.** No punctuation should separate the gerund *performing* from its complement *as a barnstormer, wing walker, parachutist, and skydiver*. Remember that colons and semicolons, in particular, have very specific usages. They should not interrupt the flow of a phrase.
9. **The best answer is A.** The introductory clause *Having found his true passion as a pilot* should be joined to the main clause with a comma.
10. **The best answer is F.** To maintain parallel structure within this sentence, the verb *focused* should agree in tense with the verb *learned*. As this is the case, no change is necessary.
11. **The best answer is C.** This question requires you to choose the most concise answer choice. Although all the answer choices are grammatically correct, answer choice C expresses the meaning in the shortest and clearest way. In addition, using the subject pronoun *he* is appropriate because *Lindbergh's* name is used in the preceding sentence.
12. **The best answer is F.** Answer choice G can be eliminated because *even though* requires a clause as a complement (*his disinterest in formal education* is a noun phrase). Answer choices H and J can be eliminated because they indicate a cause-effect relationship when a contradictory relationship exists. *Despite* properly indicates the apparent contradiction

between *disinterest in formal education* and *enjoyment of learning*.

13. **The best answer is C.** To describe the manner in which *Lindbergh displayed an enjoyment of learning throughout his life*, the gerund form of the verb is appropriate. Furthermore, the two verbs joined with the conjunction *and* must have parallel form. Therefore, only answer choice C is appropriate here.
14. **The best answer is G.** This question tests your ability to arrange phrases in the clearest order. In this case, the prepositional phrase *with surgeon Alexis Carrel* best modifies the noun *work* and not *development* or *perfusion pump*. The prepositional phrase should immediately follow what it modifies. Therefore, you can eliminate answer choices F and H. Answer choice J is wordy, awkward, and has incorrect meaning, so it can also be eliminated.
15. **The best answer is D.** The focus of the passage is on Lindbergh's intellectual growth and the untraditional ways in which he trained and used his intelligence. Only choice D sums up this message and provides an appropriate conclusion to the essay.

PASSAGE II

16. **The best answer is H.** The second sentence contains a contrast to what comes before. That is, the first sentence says Vikings were crude; the second appears to contradict that by saying they were advanced. The word *however* is the only choice to signal this contrast.
17. **The best answer is D.** Because the new sentence would follow an assertion that the Vikings were advanced, the logical choice would contain an example of some sort of accomplishment. Answer choice D is one such accomplishment, and it mirrors the next sentence, which elaborates on the Vikings' oceangoing superiority compared to *other European cultures even centuries later*, of which Christopher Columbus was a part.
18. **The best answer is J.** The adjective *seafaring* modifies the noun *traders*, so no comma must come between the two words. Eliminate answer choice F. The colon has very specific usages, and cannot be used in this position between a noun (*traders*) and a prepositional phrase (*with...ships*) that modifies it. Eliminate answer choice G. Answer choice H can be eliminated because no comma should separate a preposition (*with*) from its object (*purpose-built, wooden trading ships*).
19. **The best answer is A.** The sentence as it is written is the most concise statement of the information. Therefore, no change is necessary.
20. **The best answer is G.** The paragraph has a clear topic: Vikings. This sentence is giving more detailed information about the Vikings. Since there has been no change in subject from the previous sentence, and it has already been stated that the Vikings are from Scandinavia, a simple restatement of the antecedent is most clear and concise.
21. **The best answer is B.** The first step in answering this question is to recognize that you must use the possessive determiner *their*, not the contraction of *they are*. Eliminate answer choice D. The phrase "Regardless of whether Vikings arrived first" is not an independent clause. Therefore, it cannot be separated from the rest of the sentence by a semicolon. A colon would be used if what followed were an example or a list. Since it's not, a comma is the only punctuation necessary.
22. **The best answer is H.** It is idiomatic to say *sailed around*, *sailed over*, *sailed across*, and *sailed on* the sea in this context. It is not appropriate to say the Vikings *sailed into* the sea to obtain goods.
23. **The best answer is B.** In order to maintain parallel structure, the tense of *meet* has to match the tense of its paired verb, *trade*. Here, the author tells you that, in the past, Vikings traded often with Arabs. Since *met* is the past tense of *meet*, answer choice B is correct.
24. **The best answer is H.** Although all the answer choices have at least some merit, only answer choice H suits the rest of the paragraph. Moreover, the next sentence begins: *Similar craftsmanship . . .* Therefore, the underlined portion should speak to the craftsmanship exhibited in Viking sword and ax blades. Answer choice H contains the most specific details about the fineness of the blades.
25. **The best answer is D.** The phrase beginning *Making butter . . .* is not a complete sentence; it lacks a verb with tense. Therefore, you should not use any form of end punctuation before that phrase. It is appropriate to use a comma.
26. **The best answer is J.** The information included in answer choices F, G, and H is irrelevant. There is no need to further discuss fabrics — it will not add any useful information to the passage.

27. **The best answer is A.** The subject of this clause is *those who could*, which means *those who could read*. It is important to recognize that this whole noun phrase is the subject, and that *could* does not affect the verb that follows. Because the subject is plural and “receives” the action of the verb *consider*, the plural passive-voice construction *were considered* is the best answer.
28. **The best answer is H.** Like periods, semicolons are used to separate independent clauses. *These runes* is not an independent clause. Therefore, the semicolon should be removed. *These runes* is the subject of the sentence and *were* is the verb. So, no punctuation should come between them.
29. **The best answer is A.** In order to maintain parallel structure within the paragraph, this verb needs to be in the simple past tense. It also needs to be plural because the subject, *runes*, is plural. The plural simple past tense of *to be* is *were*. Note that the other main verbs are also in the simple past tense: *was*, *were*, *believed*, *wrote*, and so on.
30. **The best answer is F.** The information given in answer choice F directly reflects the information provided in the third paragraph. Answer choice G is too vague. Answer choice H contradicts information in the last paragraph (the Vikings wrote down little of their history). Answer choice J is not mentioned in the passage.

PASSAGE III

31. **The best answer is C.** It is idiomatic in this context to say *one of*.
32. **The best answer is F.** The sentence as written is concise and grammatically correct. No change is needed.
33. **The best answer is D.** The sentence already has a main verb, *make*. Therefore, additional verbs, like *has* or *is* in *She's* and *It's*, are unnecessary.
34. **The best answer is J.** If two related independent clauses are linked by a coordinating conjunction (in this case *and*), a comma is used before the conjunction. The connecting words *so* and *with* are not appropriate.
35. **The best answer is B.** To answer this question correctly, look ahead to the next paragraph to see what direction the essay is going to take. In this case, the author shifts from a description of Kari to a description of the Girls State convention. Answer choice B not only provides an introduction to the idea of Girls State, but it links Kari to it through her participation in the convention. Answer choice B is an effective transitional sentence.
36. **The best answer is J.** In English idiom, the noun *opportunity* takes a verb in the infinitive (to + base form) form as its complement (*opportunity to eat / dance / sing / participate / etc*). It does not take a prepositional phrase as in answer choices F, G, and H.
37. **The best answer is D.** Answer choices A and C can be eliminated because they would place a comma between the verb phrase *was chosen* and its complement *to be one of her state's senators*. Similarly, answer choice B can be eliminated because the colon cannot interrupt a clause in that way. Besides not having punctuation after *chosen*, answer choice D is best because it correctly sets apart the interrupting phrase *of course* from the passive verb construction *was chosen* using commas.
38. **The best answer is F.** After the definite determiner *the*, a singular or plural noun phrase may be used. Together, they form the subject of the verb that comes next. First, answer choices G and H can be eliminated because by omitting a form of *be*, *packed* becomes the main verb, which does not make sense. Second, the form of *be* must agree in number with the subject. Eliminate answer choice J because *schedules* is plural and *was* is singular. In answer choice F, *schedule* and *was* are both singular.
39. **The best answer is B.** To describe a completed action in the past (meeting a cadet) that interrupted another action (sightseeing), the appropriate sequence of tenses (in either order) is the simple past, which describes completed events, and the past perfect progressive, which emphasizes the duration of an event that was interrupted in the past. Answer choices A and C do not follow this sequence of tenses and, therefore, make the sentence awkward. Answer choice D has a slight difference in meaning (suggesting that perhaps the meeting was planned), and it is not as concise as answer choice B, so eliminate it.
40. **The best answer is J.** The sentence has the relative subject pronoun *who* beginning the relative clause modifying *cadet*, so it is appropriate to use a comma after *cadet*. No punctuation should be used between the subject *who* and the verb *offered*, so eliminate answer choice G. Similarly,

no punctuation should come between the verb *offered* and its complement beginning *to show*; therefore, eliminate answer choices F and H.

41. **The best answer is B.** Between the similar answer choices A and B, answer choice B is best because the plural verb *promise* agrees with the plural antecedent *people* of the relative subject pronoun *who*. Answer choice C can be eliminated for wordiness. Answer choice D is awkward in structure and meaning, so it can be eliminated.
42. **The best answer is J.** Roman numeral II is easy to eliminate; words are italicized to emphasize their significance, not insignificance. Therefore, eliminate answer choice H. Roman numeral I is more subtle, but Sentence 5 makes a distinction between what Kari told her friend and what she told the cadet in the other letter. Roman numeral I makes sense, so eliminate answer choice G. The italics indicate that something significant has been communicated. You can assume (and it turns out to be the case) that this information *is* significant to what comes next, so roman numeral III also makes sense.
43. **The best answer is C.** The first half of the paragraph focuses on Kari's letter to her girlfriend. At Sentence 6, however, the author begins to talk about Kari's letter to the cadet and his response to what he actually received. This shift in focus marks the most appropriate place to begin a new paragraph.
44. **The best answer is G.** The main idea of this essay is a description of an extremely popular girl who, every now and again, gets in trouble despite herself. Answer choice G reminds the reader that Kari is very popular, while still acknowledging that not everyone feels positively about her. It also says this in a lighthearted way. The other answer choices don't sum up the essay and are much more serious in tone.
45. **The best answer is D.** The essay reflects the author's personal reminiscence of a cousin, Kari, and includes details about certain events in Kari's life. While the essay mentions Girls State, it is not the main focus of the essay. Therefore, eliminate the two *yes* answer choices, A and B. Answer choice C can be eliminated because the passage does indeed show how Girls State provides opportunities to high school juniors. The focus of the passage is the writer's cousin Kari. Therefore, answer choice D is best.

PASSAGE IV

46. **The best answer is G.** Commas are used to separate adjectives in a list like this one. However, a comma must not separate the verb *be* from the predicate. Only answer choice G is correct.
47. **The best answer is D.** The sentence as it is written lacks a main clause, and thus is incomplete. Answer choice D puts the main idea of the sentence first ("I grew up on a farm in Iowa"). The descriptive clause follows, giving additional information. This order is the most concise and logical of any of the answer choices.
48. **The best answer is G.** The verb phrase after the comma (*and took great pains . . .*) is not an independent clause, meaning it could not stand on its own as a complete sentence. Therefore, a comma should not be used to separate it from the preceding clause.
49. **The best answer is B.** Answer choices A and D (*Therefore* and *Hence*) indicate that the following sentence is a result of what's come before. In this case, the sentences are not connected causally, so neither answer choice is correct. Also, the last sentence of the paragraph is not a restatement of the previous sentences. Therefore, answer choice C is incorrect. Answer choice B, however, implies that a change has occurred and that this will be significant later in the essay. This implication best matches the sense of the essay.
50. **The best answer is F.** It is idiomatic in this context to say that genetic engineering had been *applied in the field of agriculture* to fully explain why corn stalks now produce two ears of corn instead of one.
51. **The best answer is A.** Answer choice A is written in the active voice, which means that the subject is the one performing the action of the verb. The active voice is almost always better than the passive voice. Answer choice B is also in the active voice, but it has non-standard word order and unnecessary commas.
52. **The best answer is F.** The sentence as it is written is clear and concise. The other answer choices are wordy.
53. **The best answer is D.** Any mention of where Clint and his friends are on the golf course is irrelevant to the main idea of the passage. The best option is to omit the underlined portion, answer choice D. Likewise, it makes sense that if they are teeing off, they are on the golf course.

54. **The best answer is F.** Clint's next words refer to gambling — he bets his friends ten dollars based on information given to him by the author. While the information itself is about corn, the implication is that he wouldn't bet ten dollars on that information if he was not sure he would win. Only answer choice F contains this implication.
55. **The best answer is D.** The idiom *on the other hand* is an interrupting phrase, so it must be set apart with commas. Only answer choice D does this correctly.
56. **The best answer is H.** The directions require you to select the answer choice that expresses the idea most clearly and simply. Answer choices F, G, and J are awkward and should be eliminated.
57. **The best answer is B.** Since the gerund *reminding* is associated with Clint, it is correct to use the possessive determiner *his*. The other answer choices are awkward and do not convey the clear meaning of the sentence.
58. **The best answer is F.** Paragraph 6 discusses the bet about the ear of corn that Clint made with his friends. Therefore, it makes sense that Clint challenged his friends because he enjoys making small bets with them. The other answer choices are not specifically supported by the passage.
59. **The best answer is C.** The first sentence in Paragraph 4 includes mention of the author "sharing occasional anecdotes and bits of trivia." It seems most appropriate to insert a sentence here that gives more information about the stories that the author tells. The sentence does not make sense placed elsewhere in the passage.
60. **The best answer is F.** The passage is about making untrue statements and having a difficult time living them down. The passage is not about genetic engineering, so eliminate answer choices H and J. Answer choice F is supported by Paragraph 2.
63. **The best answer is C.** Signs, *flyers*, sheets of paper, and so on are *posted*, meaning attached to some vertical surface such as a wall. Answer choice C uses this adjective clearly.
64. **The best answer is G.** The underlined pronoun in this sentence refers back to the noun *opportunities*. Because *opportunities* is plural, its pronoun must be plural, too. Therefore, the pronoun *they* is correct.
65. **The best answer is B.** The focus of the paragraph is how the author found her job. The actual amount of the stipend is irrelevant and should be deleted.
66. **The best answer is F.** It is necessary to use a comma after *acting experience* and before the conjunction *and* because it separates the two main clauses of the sentence. Eliminate answer choice G. Answer choice H can be eliminated because the gerund *requesting* is not appropriate after the determiner *the*. Eliminate answer choice J because a comma separates the compound *acting experience* into distinct nouns.
67. **The best answer is B.** A comma is the simplest punctuation to use here. Eliminate answer choice A because semicolons divide only independent clauses. Eliminate answer choice C because colons can introduce descriptive detail or a list, neither of which is the case here. Eliminate answer choice D because the phrase beginning with *Not* lacks a verb and is thus not a complete sentence.
68. **The best answer is F.** The noun *subjects* refers to the people on which the experiment is being performed. Eliminate answer choices H, which uses the singular noun *subject*, and J, which uses the adjective *subjective*. Of answer choices F and G, only answer choice F is idiomatic, using the correct pronoun *of*.
69. **The best answer is D.** In order to maintain parallel structure, the verb forms must be consistent. In this sentence, the author *read* (a past tense) to the subjects, therefore she must have *provided* (also past tense) varying levels of feedback. Answer choice B is also in the past tense, but it is in the passive voice, which is not consistent with the rest of the sentence.
70. **The best answer is F.** The underlined portion is correct as written. It clearly indicates the contrast between the first and second clauses of the sentence. Omitting the underlined portion creates a comma splice.

PASSAGE V

61. **The best answer is A.** It is idiomatic in this context to say *interfered with* to suggest that the author could not take a job that would not allow her to attend classes.
62. **The best answer is G.** In order to maintain parallel structure, pronoun use must be consistent. The rest of the paragraph is in the first-person singular; that is, the story is told from the point of view of the narrator, using the pronoun *I*.

71. **The best answer is C.** In this example, *verbal* and *nonverbal* are adjectives modifying the noun *responses*. Because there are only two of them, there is no need to separate them by using commas.
72. **The best answer is G.** The question asks you to find a phrase that would explain why the author would like to continue her work. This implies something positive, like answer choice G (“fascinating and fun”). Answer choices F and J are clearly negative, and the author has already stated that answer choice H, babysitting, is underpaid. Eliminate these answer choices.
73. **The best answer is C.** Sentence 3 describes the end of the experiments. The subject, *experiments*, is obviously plural — this gives us a clue for its proper placement. The paragraph still makes logical sense with Sentence 3 in this new position. Therefore, answer choice C is correct.
74. **The best answer is H.** This question asks that you identify the main idea of the essay. The main idea is indicated at the end of the first paragraph: a description of “the perfect part-time job.” Since this is the case, the additional sentence does not belong anywhere in the passage because it does not contribute meaningful information to the essay. Eliminate answer choices F and G. Answer choice H is the best selection because it responds to the main idea of the passage.
75. **The best answer is C.** This question also relies on identifying the main idea of the essay. The main idea is stated at the end of the first paragraph: a description of “the perfect part-time job.” The author’s perfect job is in psychology, not sociology. In fact, there is no indication that the author is even a sociology major. Therefore, the essay would not be appropriate for the magazine article because its content is off-topic.