Precise Language and Sensory Details

Question 1.

Jawaharlal is writing an introduction to a school report about Jim Thorpe. Below is the passage he's reporting.

"America has claim to who in addition to being its greatest athlete may be called the world's greatest athlete. Jim Thorpe is an American who went on to be an accomplished college football player, pro football player, major league baseball player, and Olympic champion.

His college football career started at Carlisle Indian Industrial School. One example of his athletic greatness came during a game against Army in 1912. He scored on a 92-yard run; however, there was a penalty on the play, and it was recalled. On the very next play, Thorpe scored on a 97-yard run. This score was so totally sweet."

Which part of Jawaharlal's introduction contains inappropriate language for a school assignment?

- A. "His college football career started at Carlisle Indian Industrial School."
- B. "One example of his athletic greatness came during a game against Army in 1912."
- C. "This score was so totally sweet."
- D. "On the very next play, Thorpe scored on a 97-yard run."

Veganism totally rocks! A person who follows a vegan diet avoids consumption of all animal products including meat, eggs, dairy products such as milk, cheese, cottage cheese, and yogurt, and also honey. Substitutes for these food items include soy, soy milk, almond milk, tofu, fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and cereals.

Veganism is not just restricted to food choices. Vegan philosophy¹ is the coolest philosophy today. It is based on compassion toward animals. Believers of veganism do not believe in ill-treating animals for their benefit. Following a vegan lifestyle requires a person to give up animal-based products such as silk, leather, and wool. Although followers of veganism avoid consumption of animal-based products, the nutrition value of their diet is not compromised. Numerous studies prove that a vegan diet is rich in proteins, fiber, minerals, and other essential nutrients.

Though many people are going bananas over veganism, some people argue that veganism is an over-hyped fad. Opponents of veganism believe that a vegan diet is not suitable for pregnant women, nursing mothers, and infants as this diet is lacking in necessary nutrients such as vitamin B12 and iron. They are of the opinion that a vegan diet may work for some but not for everyone. They also think that since veganism has become the in-thing, prices of animal-free substitutes have jacked up.

However, people who have been following a vegan diet and lifestyle say that they do not suffer any nutritional insufficiency. Going vegan is awesome! It not only boosts one's resistance against diseases, but also keeps one energetic. Adopting a vegan lifestyle can prove to be challenging at first, but the rewards are long lasting and plenty.

¹a set of ideas about how to do certain things

Jessica has written an argumentative essay on veganism that she was assigned for her nutrition class.

What would be a better way to write the following sentence to make the language more appropriate for the assignment?

Veganism totally rocks!

- A. Veganism will just rock your life.
- B. Veganism has numerous health benefits.
- C. Veganism is quite a huge trend these days.
- D. This is the best sentence to use.

Question 3.

Camden is writing a letter to the city council to ask what could be done about drivers who consistently speed through his neighborhood. Which is the **most** appropriate sentence to include in his letter?

- A. You people need to move this problem to the top of your agenda before someone gets hurts or even worse, and then the city will have a really big problem on their hands.
- B. The increasing multitude of drivers exceeding the speed limit in our neighborhood has become intolerable, and it is imperative that the city council address this issue at the earliest convenience.
- C. The city council's fiduciary responsibility with the residents' property taxes makes it imperative that the council do everything in their ability to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our city's residents.
- D. We have many children playing and people walking their dogs around our peaceful neighborhood, and we feel the increasing number of speeding vehicles is making it unsafe to be outside.

Question 4.

Directions: Type the correct answer in each box. Spell all words correctly. Not every word will be used.

Fill in each blank with the most precise word from the following list:

- geographical
- good
- logical
- tremendous

Let's say you've been handed an envelope full of postage stamps from around the world stretching back 100 years or more. Someone is encouraging you to start a stamp collection.		
And why not? It is a way to learn world geography and history. In order to organize		
and display your stamps in an album, you would have to begin by recognizing what country each stamp is from. In many cases, this is easy—stamps from India or Hong Kong, for		
example, are printed in English. In other cases, you can rely on a guess—		
Belgique is Belgium, Republique Francais is France, and Espana is Spain. But many others you simply have to learn like a foreign language. Without referring to a guide, how would you know, for example, that Helvetia is Switzerland or Magyar is Hungary? Over time, you will come to		
recognize any stamp with relative ease and become a expert!		

Question 5.

The following is a draft of a student report. It may contain errors.

Recycling Should Be a Requirement

Recycling is a process that everyone should adopt. It should not be restricted to only certain people or certain countries. In fact, recycling should be enforced for everyone as it does not require much effort and is inexpensive. It helps protect the environment and natural resources and helps save money.

When waste products are burned, they release gases, which are harmful to public health, and when garbage is disposed of in large bodies of water, such as oceans, it harms marine life. That is why every time someone recycles waste or reuses old products, they prevent the air and water from being contaminated. Secondly, recycling decreases the need to send garbage to landfill sites, which helps avoid soil contamination.

Goods that we use on a day-to-day basis are often made with raw materials and require more energy for production. Research has proven that making goods with recycled material costs less and doesn't require a lot of energy either. This helps save raw materials, energy, and money.

In addition, recycling will not only benefit the environment but also the economy. Companies can save money on production cost and the government can save on fees associated with trash disposal.

Read the sentence from the draft.

Research has proven that <u>making goods</u> with recycled material costs less and doesn't require a lot of energy either.

Which word would best replace the underlined words to make the meaning more precise?

- A. resourcing
- B. inventing
- C. preparing
- D. manufacturing

Question 6.

Jawaharlal is writing an introduction to a school report about Jim Thorpe. Below is the passage he's reporting.

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His college football career started at Carlisle Indian Industrial School. One example of his athletic greatness came during a game against Army in 1912. He scored on a 92-yard run; however, there was a penalty on the play, and it was recalled. On the very next play, Thorpe scored on a 97-yard run. This score was so totally sweet."

What would be a good way to change the sentence, "This score was so totally sweet," to better fit with the rest of Jawaharlal's report?

- A. This score was totally awesome.
- B. This touchdown was an amazing feat because he ran nearly the length of the field.
- C. This score was sweet.
- D. This touchdown did not impress anyone because Thorpe did not run very quickly.

Question 7.

Directions: Select the correct answer from the drop-down menu.

Which verb in the passage is the most descriptive?

Picking Peaches

Last Saturday, I went to a farm with my dad and my younger brother to pick peaches. The farmer taught us how to choose the best fruit from the trees because we had never picked peaches before. After we climbed onto ladders and started picking the fruit, I reached for a peach that was hanging at the very end of a nearby branch. When I squeezed the peach to pull it off the branch, it burst open and all over my face and T-shirt. My dad and my brother laughed very hard, and I smelled like a sticky peach for the rest of the day.

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What would be a better way to write the following sentence to make the language more appropriate for the assignment?

They also think that since veganism has become the in-thing, prices of animal substitutes have jacked up.

- A. They think that animal substitutes are insanely expensive these days because people are going crazy over veganism.
- B. People are worried about the increasing prices of animal substitutes as the whole world has jumped into the vegan movement.
- C. This is the best sentence to use.
- D. They think that prices of animal substitutes have increased greatly as veganism has become a popular trend.

Question 9.

Directions: Select the correct answer from the drop-down menu.

What is the most precise word to use in the passage?

Mammals

Animals can be classified and grouped based on similarities in their characteristics. One
example of an animal classification is a mammal. Mammals are warm-blooded
that breathe air with their lungs. Mammals have fur or hair, and they have
sweat glands. They also produce milk to feed their young. Most mammals have babies that
are born alive. Dogs, cats, bears, elephants, dolphins, whales, and people are all examples
of mammals.

Question 10

Choose the paragraph that gives the most vivid description of an iceberg.

- A. The iceberg is blue and pointy.
- B. The iceberg is roughly the shape of a triangle and sits in ocean water with no waves. The sky is filled with clouds.
- C. The iceberg is made of frozen water. It is floating in the ocean with other big pieces of ice.
- D. The lonely iceberg is cold and frosty blue. It has many angles and peaks and sits under a cloudy purple sky in calm, flat ocean water.

Question 11.

Choose the paragraph below that gives the most engaging description.

- A. Garrett wasn't a big kid, but he could run fast. He ran fast because he thought it was going to rain. He did not want to get stuck in the rain. He wanted to make it back to his house before the rain started falling.
- B. Garrett's small frame flew across the field like a comet. The sky was getting darker as the grey clouds floated across the bright yellow sun. He knew a storm was coming, and he wanted to make it home before buckets of rain began falling.
- C. Garrett ran really fast. It looked like it was going to rain. He did not want to get stuck in the rain. He hated getting wet. He wanted to get to his house before it started raining. He was not sure if he would make it.
- D. It was about to rain, so Garrett ran home really fast.

Question 12.

Sonia is writing about her trip to the beach. Which of the following sentences with sensory details helps the reader imagine the setting?

- A. A girl my age wore a yellow polka-dotted sundress and white flip-flops.
- B. I wore a straw hat and sunglasses to protect my face and eyes from the sun.
- C. White seagulls screamed long, fading alarms as they streaked across the sky.
- D. My mom and dad were very excited to take my family on a trip to the beach.

Question 13.

Jason is writing a report about the film Frankenstein. A part of his report is found below:

Frankenstein is a 1931 film that is based on Mary Shelley's book of the same name. It was directed by James Whale and produced by Carl Laemmle Jr., both of whom worked on a number of horror films during their careers. The film features Boris Karloff in the role of Dr. Frankenstein's monster. When people talk about the film Frankenstein, they usually talk about Karloff's character, and for good reason. Dr. Frankenstein makes the monster out of various body parts that were collected from graves, so the monster is really gross-looking.

What part of this paragraph is inappropriate for a report?

- A. The monster is really gross-looking.
- B. Dr. Frankenstein made the monster out of various body parts.
- C. The film features Boris Karloff in the role of Dr. Frankenstein's monster.
- D. It was directed by James Whale and produced by Carl Laemmle Jr.

Question 14.

Which of the following paragraphs is the most descriptive?

- A. A girl was in the grass, and she smelled it. She rolled over and grabbed the grass with her hands. It felt soft and stuff. The girl could taste something sweet in the summer's night air. The girl thought that it seemed like it was going to rain. She closed her eyes, and she listened to some rumbling sounds.
- B. Casey inhaled the fresh scent of grass and dirt. She rolled onto her stomach and grabbed handfuls of thick, green strands. The grass felt cool and soft in her hands. The summer's night air was warm and moist, and Casey could taste the sweet rain that was about to fall. She closed her hazel eyes and listened to the low rumbles of approaching thunder.
- C. A girl lay down on the grass. She smelled it and something else. The girl grabbed the grass with her hands. The grass in her hands felt good. It was summer, and it was nighttime. Also, it was warm and stuff. The girl pretty much knew that it was going to rain. She closed her eyes and heard some thunder.
- D. Casey smelled grass and dirt. She rolled onto her stomach and grabbed handfuls of grass. It felt very, very nice. It was a humid summer's night, and Casey knew that it was probably going to rain soon. She closed her eyes and heard something in the distance.

Question 15.

Julian is writing a report about the Constitution for his Social Studies teacher. His report is below.

When the U.S. adopted the Constitution as the standard by which the nation would be run, it was unique. It based the government on a voting body instead of government based on the right of a king.

The U.S. Constitution went on to be the model document for many other governments. What does make it unique is that it is the oldest document of its kind that is still in use and still works. This may seem totally screwed up since some others are basically copies of the U.S. Constitution. In the end, the model for a successful constitution takes more than just copying a piece of paper.

Which part of Julian's report contains language that is inappropriate for a school assignment?

- A. "This may seem totally screwed up since some others are basically copies of the U.S. Constitution."
- B. "What does make it unique is that it is the oldest document of its kind that is still in use and still works."
- C. "It based the government on a voting body instead of government based on the right of a king."
- D. "In the end, the model for a successful constitution takes more than just copying a piece of paper."

Question 16.

Roni is writing a cover letter to accompany her job application. Which is the **most** appropriate sentence to include in her letter?

- A. This job looks adequate, but I would prefer a better position immediately.
- B. My parents are making me apply for this job, so please help me out.
- C. If you need more references, I guess I can come up with somebody else to include.
- D. I look forward to scheduling an interview to further discuss my resume.

Question 17.

Marcus is giving a speech arguing the school board president hasn't been doing his job properly. Which would be the **most** appropriate sentence to include in his speech?

- A. Despite the rocky relationship, I do think our president does really care about what we care about, you know?
- B. We like, need a better computer lab and larger laboratories, so that we can be better at school and stuff.
- C. How dare you only think of yourself while the school continues to suffer, clearly believing the world only revolves around your wants at the expense of our schools!
- D. Furthermore, the bonus you gave yourself, despite the tight school budget, proves you are unconcerned with maintaining our state-of-the-art facilities.

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Jessica has written an argumentative essay on veganism for her nutrition class.

What would be a better way to write the following sentence to make the language more appropriate for the assignment?

Going vegan is awesome!

- A. This is the best sentence to use.
- B. Going vegan is the way forward.
- C. Veganism is the perfect way to live a healthy and stress-free life.
- D. Going vegan can transform your health and lifestyle to a great extent.

Question 19.

James is writing an introduction for a school report about Machiavelli for his social studies class. His report is below.

Machiavelli's *The Prince* was a book on political science that Machiavelli wrote in 1513 and dedicated to Lorenzo de Medici. He wrote the book hoping to impress Lorenzo and curry enough favor for Lorenzo to offer Machiavelli a job. Ultimately, Lorenzo ignored the book. But you guys should totally check it out sometime; it's pretty neat, and I think it's at the school library.

In Florence, *The Prince* became a classic, and its popularity led to widespread publication. One of the things that many critics point out in Machiavelli's work is the way they examine politics.

What would be a good way to change the sentence, "But you guys should totally check it out sometime; it's pretty neat, and I think it's at the school library," to better fit with the rest of the report?

- A. You guys should read it sometime.
- B. The Prince is really good, I thought. I got it at the library.
- C. The Prince is totally interesting, and you people should really read it sometime.
- D. The Prince can be checked out at the school library.

Question 20.

Prabin is writing a story about a hobbit named Larry. Which sensory detail could he add to help the reader visualize Larry?

- A. the climate where Larry lives
- B. the salty flavor of Larry's soup
- C. the smell of Larry's flower garden
- D. the color of Larry's hair

Question 21.

Kevin has to give his friend directions to his house. Which of the following is the most precise?

- A. Get on Anza Avenue, and drive north after you've been on highway 151 for about twenty minutes. My house is number 611.
- B. Exit Highway 151 at Anza Ave. Take a left at the lights, and drive for 2 miles. My house is number 611, across the street from the neighborhood pool.
- C. My house is green; you'll see it by the neighborhood pool.
- D. Exit the highway, and go down Anza for a long time. Look for the pool; you'll see my house near it.

Question 22.

Carlie waded awkwardly into the clear saltwater. With her snorkel mask and her breathing tube in place, she leaned forward and put her face in the water as she floated.

Which of the following sensory details should the writer add to this passage to help readers imagine how Carlie physically feels?

- A. Carlie swallowed a bit of salted water that had leaked around the mouthpiece she was wearing.
- B. Carlie relaxed as the water's light pressure lifted her body, and the sunshine covered her back with warm kisses.
- C. Carlie marveled at a group of anemones as they waved their colorful petals like ballet dancers.
- **D.** Carlie drifted through the water as she listened to the steady pattern of her breath going in and out of the tube.

Question 23.

Directions: Type the correct answer in each box. Spell all words correctly. Not every word will be used.

Fill in each blank with the most precise word from the following list:

- · astronomers
- · effects
- glare
- stars
- · telescopes

,	rstem orbit around the sun. Planets that orbit around other anets are very hard to see directly with . They
are hidden by the bright	of the stars they orbit.
Therefore, use	other ways to detect and study these distant planets. They
search for exoplanets by looking a orbit.	t the these planets have on the stars they

Question 24.

Go Vegan!

Veganism totally rocks! A person who follows a vegan diet avoids consumption of all animal products including meat, eggs, dairy products such as milk, cheese, cottage cheese, and yogurt, and also honey. Substitutes for these food items include soy, soy milk, almond milk, tofu, fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and cereals.

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Jessica has written an argumentative essay on veganism that she was assigned for her nutrition class.

What would be a better way to write the following sentence to make the language more appropriate for the assignment?

Vegan philosophy is the coolest philosophy today.

- A. This is the best sentence to use.
- B. Other philosophies are so uncool.
- C. No other philosophy is as nice as vegan philosophy.
- D. Vegan philosophy is gaining popularity all over the world.

Question 25.

How Gravity Works

The amount of gravity by an object is proportional to the mass of the object. In other words, objects with more mass will exert more gravity than objects with less mass. Distance also affects gravity. The amount of gravity decreases as the distance between two objects increases. These changes in the amount of gravity occur even on Earth. The farther away you are from the center of the Earth, the less gravity there is between you and the Earth. If you were on the Moon, the amount of gravity between you and the Earth would be even less.

Which word would best replace the underlined word to make the meaning more precise?

- A. movements
- B. inequalities
- C. variations
- D. departures

Question 26.

Maya is writing a story about an archaeologist looking for artifacts in Antarctica. Which of the following descriptive details would help the reader imagine what the archaeologist physically feels?

- A. how cold the wind is when it blows through the camp
- B. what kinds of tools the archeologist uses
- C. what the archeologist wears while he digs for artifacts
- D. how the sun glistens off the snow and ice

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What would be a better way to write the following sentence to make the language more appropriate for the assignment?

Though many people are going bananas over veganism, some people argue that veganism is an overhyped fad.

- A. Though many people are excited about veganism, some people think that it is a passing phase and this excitement will not last long.
- B. Even though a lot of people are getting hooked to veganism, others believe that it is not a foolproof way of eating and is a crazy idea.
- C. Some people think bananas are a crucial part of a vegan diet, but others think that it is not sustainable.
- D. This is the best sentence to use.

Question 28.

Shawna is writing a conclusion for a school report about author Ralph Ellison for her English class. Her conclusion is below:

As I've shown above, Ralph Ellison's work had an impact on the Civil Rights movement. It also changed the way that writers approached writing novels. Ellison encouraged other writers to blend artistic ideas and social statements into their works. He showed them they could do it without worrying about losing their audiences. For this reason, Ellison should be ranked among the most important American authors. Any person who does not appreciate his work is a loser who is not capable of understanding how important literature is.

What would be a good way to change, "Any person who does not appreciate his work is a loser who is not capable of understanding how important literature is," to better fit with the rest of the conclusion?

- A. I think people would be happier and smarter if they spent time reading Ellison's work.
- B. Ellison is my favorite writer, and I cannot believe that so few people read his work.
- C. By not reading Ellison, people are allowing themselves to remain ignorant, and, chances are, they will raise ignorant kids.
- D. If people do not read Ellison's work they will not benefit from his knowledge of racerelations in the United States, nor will they understand the impact his work can have on their lives.

Question 29.

Jeremy is writing a report for his science teacher about the octopus. Part of his report is below.

The ability to change its color instantly is one of the many weapons an octopus uses against its prey. Another tactic the octopus uses is to camouflage itself against the sandy ocean floor. When a totally clueless fish or crab wanders by, the octopus strikes, it jets out from its hiding place and grabs its prey.

What would be a good way to change the wording of the sentence, "When a totally clueless fish or crab wanders by," to better fit with the rest of the report?

- A. when an unsuspecting fish or crab wanders by
- B. when a fish without a prayer wanders by
- C. when a totally basic fish or crab wanders by
- D. when a totally doomed crab or fish wanders by

Question 30.

Sally has to give her mom directions to a school in another city, so her mom can pick Sally up after a soccer game. Which of the following is most precise?

- A. Travel on Highway 41 for a while. Exit on Brown St and turn. Drive on Brown and turn on School St. The name of the school starts with an "N," I think.
- B. Travel on the highway. You'll pass a Target store and a Wal-Mart and a car dealership. Exit and turn right. Go 4 blocks and take a left. Drive one mile. It's on the right side of the road.
- C. Travel north on Highway 41 for about 17 miles. Exit on Brown St and turn right. Go 4 blocks on Brown and take a left on School St. Drive one mile. The name of the school is Nicolet Intermediate. It's on the right side of the road.
- D. The school is in Green Bay off Brown St.