

Verbal

Question 1

Laurence Sterne's *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* is an eighteenth-century novel renowned for its unconventional structure and narrative techniques. Rather than adhering to a linear, chronological plot, the novel is characterized by frequent digressions, interruptions, and a self-conscious narrator who directly addresses the reader and comments on the process of writing itself. This departure from traditional storytelling methods creates a fragmented and often non-linear narrative that reflects the subjective and associative nature of memory and thought. The protagonist's life story, which the title suggests is the central focus, is often sidetracked by extended philosophical musings, anecdotes about other characters, and reflections on various topics, demonstrating how the "opinions" of Tristram Shandy often overshadow the events of his life. The innovative approach significantly influenced later literary movements, particularly modernism and postmodernism, by challenging established norms of narrative and encouraging experimental forms.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A Laurence Sterne's *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* is a pioneering work that distinguishes itself from conventional eighteenth-century novels through its fragmented and self-aware narrative structure, a characteristic that highlights the subjective nature of human thought and significantly impacted subsequent literary styles.

- B** Although *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* is known for its digressions and unconventional elements, it ultimately maintains a discernible plot that follows the significant events and philosophical development of the protagonist's life, offering a complex but ultimately coherent narrative for the attentive reader.
- C** *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* is an eighteenth-century novel that, despite its initial reception as chaotic and difficult to follow, has been reevaluated by modern critics who appreciate its early use of techniques that would become central to twentieth-century literary theories such as postmodernism and deconstruction.
- D** The extensive use of digressions in *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* serves primarily to explore the eccentric personalities and "hobby-horses" of its various characters, such as Uncle Toby's obsession with military matters and Walter Shandy's philosophical fixations, rather than to contribute to a larger commentary on narrative form.

Question 2

Brevibacillus bacteria, a genus of Gram-positive, spore-forming bacteria, are widely distributed in various environments and have attracted significant scientific interest due to their diverse metabolic capabilities and production of a wide array of bioactive compounds, including antimicrobial peptides and enzymes. Research has explored their potential in numerous applications, such as biological control of plant pathogens, degradation of environmental pollutants, and production of industrial enzymes. For instance, studies have demonstrated the efficacy of *Brevibacillus* species in suppressing fungal diseases in crops and breaking down complex organic molecules. The multifaceted nature of these microorganisms underscores their ecological importance and their promising utility in biotechnological processes.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A** The *Brevibacillus* genus of Gram-positive, spore-forming bacteria is primarily being researched for its ability to produce industrial enzymes that can break down complex organic molecules.
- B** *Brevibacillus* bacteria are a ubiquitous and scientifically significant group of microorganisms with diverse capabilities that make them valuable for various biotechnological and environmental applications.
- C** While *Brevibacillus* bacteria show promise in biological control and environmental remediation, their full potential cannot be realized until the specific mechanisms of their antimicrobial peptide production are thoroughly understood.
- D** The production of antimicrobial peptides by *Brevibacillus* species is the most important characteristic that distinguishes them from other Gram-positive, spore-forming bacteria and makes them useful in suppressing fungal diseases in crops.

Question 3

In a study conducted by Diaz et al. (2018), the team investigated the foraging behavior of the *Formicidae* family, commonly known as ants, in varying environmental conditions. Specifically, the research aimed to delineate the impact of humidity levels on the distance traveled by *Atta cephalotes*—leafcutter ants—during their nocturnal foraging expeditions. The study revealed a statistically significant inverse correlation between environmental humidity and foraging distance, suggesting that as humidity increased, the distance covered by *A. cephalotes* decreased, which might be due to the reduced need to find water sources. Conversely, lower humidity levels correlated with an increase in foraging distances, potentially as ants expanded their search to compensate for water loss and desiccation risks.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a common biological classification, then describes the specifics of a research study focused on a particular species within that classification, and concludes by stating that the results disprove a long-standing theory regarding insect behavior.
- B** It presents a broad question regarding the behavior of a specific animal, then describes a study that attempts to address this question by manipulating the animal's environment, and ends with a hypothesis that explains the observations.
- C** It mentions a study on insect behavior, then outlines the specific focus of the study regarding a particular species' response to environmental factors, and concludes by interpreting the correlational findings related to humidity and foraging distance.
- D** It introduces a debate in the field of environmental science, then provides background on the methods used by researchers to address the central question, and ends by stating that the results confirm previous studies on similar insect species.

Question 4

Passage 1:

Research by E. O. Wilson and others in the 1960s focused on chemical communication in social insects, particularly ants. This work demonstrated that ants use complex systems of chemical signals, or pheromones, for various social behaviors like trail marking, alarm signaling, and nestmate recognition. The studies highlighted how the physical and chemical properties of these pheromones govern their function and range, forming a chemical language essential to ant societies.

Passage 2:

Studies by Peggy Hill and colleagues in the 1990s explored vibrational communication in insects. This research revealed that many insect species, including those that live on plants or in the soil, use substrate-borne vibrations for communication. These vibrations, produced by mechanisms like stridulation or drumming, can be used for mate finding, predator avoidance, and social interactions. This work underscored the importance of vibrations as a widespread but often overlooked communication channel in the animal kingdom.

Based on the texts, both Text 1 and Text 2 discuss which of the following aspects of insect communication?

- A** The use of chemical signals to attract mates over long distances.
- B** The role of physical signals in facilitating social interactions within insect species.
- C** The challenges insects face in distinguishing communication signals from environmental noise.
- D** The evolutionary history and ancient origins of insect communication methods.

Question 5

Passage 1:

The availability heuristic, a cognitive bias identified by Tversky and Kahneman (1973), describes how people estimate the likelihood of an event based on the ease with which instances come to mind. This mental shortcut, while often efficient, can lead to systematic errors when easily recalled information is not representative of actual frequency. For instance, vivid or emotionally charged events are more readily remembered, potentially causing an overestimation of their probability.

Passage 2:

Subsequent research on the availability heuristic has explored factors influencing the ease of recall. Studies indicate that media coverage significantly impacts availability; frequently reported events, regardless of their actual prevalence, are more easily retrieved from memory. The emotional impact of an event also plays a crucial role, with emotionally charged experiences being more available for recall and thus perceived as more likely.

Based on the texts, both Text 1 and Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement?

- A** The availability heuristic is the only factor influencing human decision-making.
- B** The ease with which an event comes to mind affects how likely people judge it to be.
- C** Emotional impact is the primary driver of the availability heuristic.
- D** Media coverage is the sole external factor influencing the availability heuristic.

Question 6

Bacillus anthracis, the causative agent of anthrax, poses a significant threat to livestock and, occasionally, humans globally. This gram-positive, rod-shaped bacterium is particularly resilient due to its ability to form endospores, allowing it to survive in soil for extended periods. While anthrax can manifest in various forms, including cutaneous and gastrointestinal, a particularly devastating presentation in livestock is the peracute form, characterized by rapid onset and high mortality. Diagnosis in deceased animals often involves the microscopic examination of stained blood smears to detect the presence of encapsulated *B. anthracis*, as well as bacterial culture or PCR assays for definitive confirmation. Strict biosecurity measures and vaccination are crucial for controlling outbreaks in endemic areas.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- ☐ A It explains the process by which *Bacillus anthracis* forms endospores in the environment.
- ☐ B It details the various clinical manifestations of anthrax in livestock.
- ☐ C It describes methods used to identify *Bacillus anthracis* in deceased animals suspected of having anthrax.
- ☐ D It highlights the importance of vaccination and biosecurity in preventing anthrax outbreaks.

Question 7

Human cooperation, especially with non-relatives in large, one-time interactions, presents an evolutionary enigma, as it defies explanation by mechanisms such as kin selection, signaling theory, or reciprocal altruism. Research by Ernst Fehr and Simon Gächter published in *Nature* in 2002 proposes that *altruistic punishment* is a critical factor. This refers to individuals incurring costs to punish non-cooperators, receiving no material benefit themselves. Their experiments demonstrated that cooperation thrives when altruistic punishment is possible, but collapses without it. Negative emotions toward defectors appear to be the proximate cause. These findings suggest that the evolution of human cooperation warrants further study with a focus on altruistic punishment.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- ☐ A To discuss research suggesting a key motivation for explaining human cooperation.
- ☐ B To detail the experimental procedures used to study altruistic punishment.
- ☐ C To argue that negative emotions are the primary driver of altruistic punishment in humans.
- ☐ D To compare and contrast different evolutionary theories of cooperation with altruistic punishment.

Question 8

Deep-sea gigantism is a phenomenon where marine invertebrates in the deep sea grow significantly larger than their shallower-water counterparts. While several hypotheses have been proposed to explain this, including increased dissolved oxygen levels and colder temperatures, the evolutionary trajectory of deep-sea mussels, specifically those in the genus *Bathymodiolus*, offers a compelling case study. Initially, researchers hypothesized a gradual evolution towards specialization from shallow water to cold seeps and then to deep-sea vents. However, subsequent molecular phylogenetic analyses incorporating data from smaller mussels found on organic remains in the deep sea challenged this linear progression, suggesting a more complex evolutionary history involving a "wooden step" predating colonization of seeps and vents.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a widely accepted scientific theory, then presents a study that provides additional support for that theory, and concludes by discussing the broader implications of the findings.
- B** It outlines a long-standing biological mystery, then describes an initial hypothesis regarding a specific group of organisms related to that mystery, and finally summarizes the most recent findings that confirm the initial hypothesis.
- C** It defines a biological phenomenon, then presents an early hypothesis about a specific manifestation of that phenomenon, and finally explains how later research revised that initial hypothesis.
- D** It describes a newly discovered deep-sea species, then details the unique characteristics of this species, and concludes by suggesting potential avenues for future research on related organisms.

Question 9

In the realm of urban sociology, the phenomenon of residential self-selection posits that individuals are not merely passive occupants of their built environment but actively choose residential locations that align with their socioeconomic characteristics, lifestyle preferences, and perceived access to opportunity structures. This elective residential mobility, particularly evident in metropolitan areas undergoing significant demographic and economic shifts, contributes to the spatial sorting of populations. For instance, research by Dr. Eleanor Vance in 2018 on post-industrial cities demonstrated a clear tendency for higher-income households with specific *lifestyle preferences* to gravitate towards areas with perceived superior *opportunity structures*, thereby reinforcing existing sociospatial inequalities and neighborhood-level resource disparities.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A** The spatial distribution of socioeconomic groups within metropolitan areas is primarily a consequence of historical industrial development patterns rather than contemporary individual residential choices.
- B** Research by Dr. Eleanor Vance in 2018 provided the first empirical evidence supporting the long-debated concept of residential self-selection in urban sociology, fundamentally altering the field's understanding of sociospatial dynamics.
- C** The concept of residential self-selection, where individuals' active choices of where to live are influenced by their attributes and desired access to resources, plays a significant role in shaping the spatial organization and inequalities observed in urban environments.
- D** While residential self-selection contributes to spatial sorting, its impact on neighborhood-level resource disparities is less significant than other factors such as municipal zoning regulations and infrastructure investment patterns.

Question 10

Megachile sculpturalis, commonly known as the giant resin bee, is a large-bodied, non-native bee species first documented in the United States in North Carolina in 1994. This solitary bee, originally from East Asia, has since rapidly expanded its range across the eastern United States. *M. sculpturalis* females construct nests in pre-existing cavities, often utilizing those created by native carpenter bees (*Xylocopa virginica*), as their mandibles are not adapted for excavating wood. This nesting behavior, coupled with their preference for pollen and nectar from introduced plant species, has raised concerns about their potential ecological impact on native bee populations and flora.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A** The giant resin bee (*Megachile sculpturalis*), an invasive species from East Asia, has spread throughout the eastern United States and may negatively affect native ecosystems due to its nesting and foraging habits.
- B** The nesting habits of the giant resin bee (*Megachile sculpturalis*), which involve using cavities created by native carpenter bees (*Xylocopa virginica*), demonstrate a unique interspecies relationship.
- C** Since its arrival in North Carolina in 1994, the giant resin bee (*Megachile sculpturalis*) has become the most dominant bee species in the eastern United States, displacing many native pollinators.
- D** Researchers are primarily concerned with the potential for the giant resin bee (*Megachile sculpturalis*) to outcompete native carpenter bees (*Xylocopa virginica*) for nesting sites in wooden structures.

Question 11

A study published in the *Journal of Workplace Behavioral Health* in 2025 investigated the pervasive issue of financial stress among full-time employees in the United States. The researchers surveyed over 200 individuals to understand the relationship between money management worries and workplace outcomes, specifically burnout and job satisfaction. Their findings indicated a significant correlation: employees reporting higher levels of current money management stress experienced increased rates of burnout. This suggests a "spillover" effect, where difficulties in one life domain, personal finances, negatively influence another, the work environment. Consequently, this heightened burnout was also associated with reduced job satisfaction.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A** It highlights an unexpected result that contradicts the initial hypothesis of the study.
- B** It introduces a term that is then defined and explained in the subsequent sentences.
- C** It presents a key finding from the study that supports the overall claim about the impact of financial stress.
- D** It provides a specific example of how financial stress manifests in the workplace.

Question 12

In his seminal work, *The Interpretation of Dreams*, Sigmund Freud posits a groundbreaking theory regarding the symbolic nature of dreams, asserting that manifest dream content serves as a veiled representation of latent, repressed thoughts and desires. Freud's psychoanalytic framework, introduced in 1899, suggests that these hidden meanings can be accessed through the process of dream analysis, which involves deciphering the complex symbolism and narrative structure of the dream. He argues that the unconscious mind employs various mechanisms, such as condensation and displacement, to transform the latent content into the seemingly nonsensical manifest content, thereby protecting the individual from confronting disturbing truths. This theoretical model fundamentally reshaped the understanding of dreams, shifting the focus from purely physiological explanations to a psychological perspective rooted in the dynamics of the unconscious.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces a theorist's hypothesis about a phenomenon, explains the key concepts of that hypothesis, and discusses the broader impact of that hypothesis on the field.
- B** It presents a historical overview of a field of study, details the methodologies used in that field, and then critiques the limitations of those methodologies.
- C** It describes a scientific experiment conducted by a researcher, presents the data collected from that experiment, and concludes by suggesting future research directions based on the findings.
- D** It outlines a debate between different schools of thought, provides evidence to support one side of the debate, and then summarizes the current consensus within the field.

Question 13

A 2001 article by Astrid Lindenlauf examines ancient Greek burial practices, particularly those that might be seen as undignified or "rubbish-like." Lindenlauf analyzes both literary sources and archaeological evidence to understand methods such as exposing corpses, disposal in pits or fissures, and the exhumation of graves. She explores the relation of these practices to social status and group identity, as well as the perceived dangers associated with improperly handled remains, including the transformation of the deceased's soul. The analysis is situated within the context of previous scholarship, such as Ian Morris's influential concept of "non-formal burial" (1987).

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To argue that certain burial practices in ancient Greece were more common than previously thought due to new archaeological findings.
- B** To compare and contrast ancient Greek burial customs with those of other contemporary cultures.
- C** To discuss a scholarly analysis of unconventional methods of disposing of the dead in ancient Greece.
- D** To highlight the dangers and superstitions associated with the improper handling of human remains in ancient Greek society.

Question 14

In the 1950s, Solomon Asch conducted a series of experiments demonstrating the power of social pressure. Participants were asked to match the length of lines, a seemingly simple task. However, when confederates (actors) in the group unanimously gave an incorrect answer, a significant percentage of real participants conformed, yielding to the majority influence despite the clear perceptual evidence to the contrary. These studies revealed how individuals can _____, even when presented with unambiguous information.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ☐ A deviate
- ☐ B acquiesce
- ☐ C object
- ☐ D persevere

Question 15

Luca Pacioli, an Italian mathematician and Franciscan friar, published *De Divina Proportione* in 1509, a work that delves into mathematical and artistic proportion, particularly the golden ratio, and its applications. This book, famously illustrated by Leonardo da Vinci, examines the golden ratio from a mathematical standpoint, drawing on Euclid's work and assigning mystical and religious significance to the ratio. The second part, *Trattato dell'architettura*, discusses the application of mathematics, specifically Vitruvius's ideas on architectural proportions, and compares the proportions of the human body to artificial structures, referencing classical Greco-Roman architecture. Pacioli's work significantly influenced the Renaissance by merging art, science, and mathematics.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A** Luca Pacioli's *De Divina Proportione* explored the mathematical and artistic implications of the golden ratio and architectural proportions, influencing the integration of mathematics and art during the Renaissance.
- B** The collaboration between Luca Pacioli and Leonardo da Vinci on *De Divina Proportione* was a primary example of how artists and mathematicians worked together during the Renaissance to advance scientific understanding.
- C** *Trattato dell'architettura*, the second part of Luca Pacioli's *De Divina Proportione*, was primarily concerned with presenting Vitruvius's ideas on applying mathematics to architectural design through comparisons with the human body and classical structures.
- D** Luca Pacioli's *De Divina Proportione* is a comprehensive treatise that not only examines the mathematical properties and mystical significance of the golden ratio but also provides a detailed historical account of its use in classical Greco-Roman architecture.

Question 16

In *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*, philosopher Michel Foucault examines the shift in punitive measures from public torture to incarceration, arguing that this change was not solely driven by humanitarian concerns but by a fundamental transformation in the mechanisms of power. Foucault introduces the concept of "panopticism," inspired by Jeremy Bentham's design for a prison called the *Panopticon*. This architectural model, with a central observation tower surrounded by cells, allows guards to potentially observe all inmates at all times without being seen themselves. The power of the *Panopticon* lies in the inmates' internalization of this constant potential surveillance, leading to self-regulation and docility. Foucault posits that this disciplinary model extends beyond prisons, becoming a pervasive feature of modern society, influencing institutions like schools, hospitals, and factories, and contributing to the development of a "carceral" society where individuals are increasingly subject to mechanisms of observation and control.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It presents a historical argument about a change in societal power structures, introduces a key concept illustrating this change, and then discusses the broader implications of that concept for modern institutions.
- B** It describes a specific architectural design, explains the intended function of this design, and then critiques the ethical considerations raised by its implementation in various societal contexts.
- C** It outlines a philosophical theory regarding punishment, provides a historical example that challenges this theory, and then offers an alternative interpretation based on recent research findings.
- D** It discusses the work of a prominent philosopher, compares two different models of social control, and then evaluates the effectiveness

of one model over the other in achieving desired societal outcomes.

Question 17

Passage 1:

The availability heuristic, as described by Kahneman and Tversky (1973), posits that individuals estimate the frequency or probability of an event based on the ease with which instances come to mind. Highly memorable or vivid occurrences, even if statistically rare, can be readily recalled, leading to an overestimation of their likelihood. This cognitive shortcut, while often efficient, can introduce systematic biases in judgment formation.

Passage 2:

Research on media influence and the availability heuristic suggests that media coverage significantly impacts perceived event frequency. Sensationalized or frequent media reports of specific events, such as plane crashes or particular crimes, enhance their memorability and retrievability. Consequently, individuals exposed to such coverage may overestimate the actual prevalence of these events, demonstrating the heuristic's operation in shaping public perception.

Based on the texts, both Text 1 and Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement?

- A** The availability heuristic primarily affects judgments about rare or unusual events.
- B** Cognitive biases, such as the availability heuristic, are entirely detrimental to sound decision-making.
- C** The ease with which instances of an event are recalled is unrelated to media exposure.
- D** The availability heuristic can lead individuals to misjudge the actual frequency of events.

Question 18

Literary theorist Stanley Fish (1980) challenged the premise of inherent textual meaning, asserting that a text's significance emerges from the dynamic interplay between the reader and the work. This perspective contrasted sharply with formalist criticisms, which often sought objective truths embedded solely within the text. Fish's reader-response theory thus underscored the fundamentally _____ nature of literary interpretation.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- ☐ A impartial
- ☐ B static
- ☐ C experiential
- ☐ D dogmatic

Question 19

Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* is one of the most analyzed artworks in history, yet scientific inquiry continues to reveal previously unknown aspects of its creation. A recent study published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* in 2023, led by Victor Gonzalez, utilized high-angular resolution synchrotron X-ray diffraction and micro Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy to examine a microsample from the painting's ground layer. This analysis revealed the presence of plumbonacrite, a rare lead compound, in the ground layer, a finding that suggests da Vinci may have deliberately modified his paint mixture with lead(II) oxide to achieve a thicker, faster-drying base layer suitable for the poplar wood panel. The discovery provides empirical evidence supporting the idea that Leonardo da Vinci was an experimental painter, constantly refining his techniques beyond traditional methods.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A** The *Mona Lisa* is one of the most famous paintings in the world and has been subjected to numerous scientific studies to understand Leonardo da Vinci's painting process.
- B** Recent scientific analysis of the *Mona Lisa*'s ground layer has provided evidence that Leonardo da Vinci experimented with adding lead(II) oxide to his paint to alter its properties.
- C** Victor Gonzalez's study, published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* in 2023, was the first to use high-angular resolution synchrotron X-ray diffraction and micro Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy to analyze the *Mona Lisa*.
- D** The presence of plumbonacrite in the ground layer of the *Mona Lisa* conclusively proves that Leonardo da Vinci intentionally added lead compounds to his paint to make it dry faster when painting on poplar wood panels.

Question 20

The Lesser Antillean iguana (*Iguana delicatissima*), a large arboreal lizard endemic to the Lesser Antilles, faces severe decline and is listed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN. Historically ranging from Anguilla to Martinique, it has disappeared from several islands and is vulnerable on the remaining ones. Primary threats include habitat destruction and fragmentation due to agriculture and development. However, the most significant factor is hybridization with the invasive Common Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*), which outcompetes *I. delicatissima* for resources and mates, leading to genetic swamping. *I. iguana* is more reproductively vigorous and aggressive, and its introduction, often through human activity, poses a major challenge to the survival of the native species.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- ☐ A To argue for increased conservation efforts to protect the *Iguana delicatissima* from habitat loss.
- ☐ B To compare the reproductive strategies of *Iguana delicatissima* and *Iguana iguana* in the Lesser Antilles.
- ☐ C To explain the historical distribution of the *Iguana delicatissima* across the Lesser Antilles.
- ☐ D To describe the primary threats leading to the decline of the *Iguana delicatissima*.

Answers

Question 1

Correct Answer: A

The passage describes *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman* as a novel that breaks from tradition with its fragmented and self-aware narrative, focusing on the subjective nature of thought and influencing later literary movements. This aligns with choice (A), which states the novel is a pioneering work notable for its structure and influence, reflecting subjective thought. Choices (B), (C), and (D) present aspects of the novel discussed in the passage but are too narrow or misinterpret the main purpose of the novel's structure and techniques.

Question 2

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about how *Brevibacillus* bacteria are found everywhere and are important to science because they can do many different things. It also says they are useful for things like helping plants and cleaning up the environment. This matches choice (B). Choice (A) is too specific; the passage mentions industrial enzymes but also other applications. Choice (C) talks about understanding mechanisms, which isn't the main point of the passage. Choice (D) focuses too much on antimicrobial peptides and suppressing fungal diseases, when the passage discusses a wider range of capabilities.

Question 3

Correct Answer: C

The passage is about the study of foraging behavior of ants in relation to humidity.

- The correct answer should mention the study, the focus of the study, and the conclusion.
- (C) matches the prediction because it mentions the study, the environmental factors, and the correlation findings.
- (A) is incorrect because the passage did not disprove any long-standing theory.
- (B) is incorrect because the study did not manipulate any environment. Also, the study resulted in correlational findings instead of hypothesis.
- (D) is incorrect because the passage did not introduce any debate or confirm any previous studies.

Question 4

Correct Answer: B

Text 1 talks about ants using chemical signals for social things like trail marking and recognizing friends. Text 2 talks about insects using vibrations for social things like finding a mate and talking to each other. Both texts talk about how insects use signals (chemicals or vibrations) to do social things together. So, they both discuss how physical signals help insects interact with each other. (A) is wrong because Text 1 mentions chemical signals but doesn't specifically focus on attracting mates over long distances, and Text 2 is about vibrations, not chemicals. (C) is not mentioned in either text. (D) is not discussed in either text.

Question 5

Correct Answer: B

Text 1 states that the availability heuristic describes how people estimate likelihood based on the ease with which instances come to mind. Text 2 discusses factors influencing the ease of recall, further supporting the idea

that how easily an event is remembered impacts perceived likelihood. Therefore, both texts agree that ease of recall affects judged probability. (A) is incorrect because the passages discuss the availability heuristic as one factor, not the only one. (C) is incorrect because while emotional impact is mentioned as a factor, neither text claims it is the primary driver. (D) is incorrect because Text 2 mentions emotional impact as another factor besides media coverage.

Question 6

Correct Answer: C

The underlined sentence discusses how scientists identify *Bacillus anthracis* in animals that have died from suspected anthrax. It mentions specific techniques like looking at blood smears, growing bacteria in a lab, and using PCR tests. Therefore, its main purpose is to describe the ways to diagnose anthrax in dead animals.

Choice (A) is incorrect because the sentence does not explain how the bacteria form spores.

Choice (B) is incorrect because the sentence focuses on diagnosis, not the different ways anthrax can appear in animals.

Choice (D) is incorrect because while the passage mentions prevention, the underlined sentence is specifically about identifying the bacteria after death.

Question 7

Correct Answer: A

The passage is about a study by Ernst Fehr and Simon Gächter that proposes altruistic punishment as a key reason why humans cooperate.

Choice (A) says the passage discusses research suggesting a key motivation for explaining human cooperation, which matches the main idea.

Choice (B) is incorrect because the passage does not describe the specific steps of the experiments. Choice (C) is too specific; the passage mentions

negative emotions as a likely immediate cause but not necessarily the primary driver. Choice (D) is incorrect because while the passage briefly mentions other theories, its main focus is on presenting the research on altruistic punishment, not comparing it extensively with other theories..

Question 8

Correct Answer: C

The passage starts by defining deep-sea gigantism. Then, it talks about an early idea (hypothesis) about how deep-sea mussels got so big. Finally, it explains how newer research changed that first idea. This matches the structure described in choice (C). Choice (A) is incorrect because the passage presents an initial hypothesis that is later revised, not a widely accepted theory that is supported. Choice (B) is incorrect because the most recent findings *challenged* the initial hypothesis, they did not confirm it. Choice (D) is incorrect because the passage discusses a phenomenon and a genus of mussels, not a newly discovered species, and it doesn't focus on unique characteristics or future research avenues.

Question 9

Correct Answer: C

The passage discusses the idea of residential self-selection. It states that people choose where to live based on who they are and what they want to access. This choosing where to live affects how different groups of people are spread out in cities and leads to unequal distribution of resources.

(A) is incorrect because the passage emphasizes individual residential choices, not historical industrial patterns, as the primary driver of spatial distribution.

(B) is incorrect because the passage presents Dr. Vance's research as an example supporting the concept, not the first evidence of it.

(D) is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that residential self-selection reinforces neighborhood-level resource disparities.

Question 10

Correct Answer: A

The passage introduces the giant resin bee, stating it is an invasive species from East Asia that has spread in the eastern United States. It also discusses its nesting and foraging habits and how these might negatively affect native ecosystems. Therefore, the main idea is about the giant resin bee's invasion and potential negative impacts. (A) correctly captures all these points. (B) is too narrow, focusing only on the nesting habits. (C) is too extreme; the passage does not say the giant resin bee is the "most dominant" or has displaced "many" native pollinators. (D) is also too narrow, focusing only on competition for nesting sites with carpenter bees, when the passage mentions foraging habits and impacts on flora as well.

Question 11

Correct Answer: C

The passage discusses a study about financial stress and its effects on employees. The underlined sentence states a main finding of the study: more financial stress leads to more burnout. The sentences after explain that this finding supports the idea that problems in personal finances can hurt work life. Therefore, the underlined sentence gives a main result from the study that helps show what the passage is about, which is how financial stress affects work. (A) is wrong because the finding supports the idea presented, it doesn't go against a hypothesis. (B) is wrong because no term is introduced and then defined. (D) is wrong because the sentence talks about a general link found in the study, not a specific story or case of financial stress at work.

Question 12

Correct Answer: A

The passage begins by introducing Sigmund Freud's hypothesis about the symbolic nature of dreams. It then explains concepts like manifest and latent content, condensation, and displacement, which are key parts of his hypothesis. Finally, it discusses how Freud's model changed the understanding of dreams. This matches the structure described in choice (A).

(B) is incorrect because the passage focuses on one theorist's idea, not a historical overview of a field. It also doesn't detail methodologies or critique limitations.

(C) is incorrect because the passage discusses a theoretical model, not a scientific experiment with data.

(D) is incorrect because the passage focuses on one theory rather than outlining a debate between different schools of thought.

Question 13

Correct Answer: C

The passage is about a scholarly analysis of ancient Greek burial practices that were considered undignified. It mentions the researcher, Astrid Lindenlauf, and her examination of literary and archaeological evidence. It also notes that her analysis is within the context of existing scholarship. Therefore, the main purpose is to discuss this scholarly analysis. (A) is incorrect because the passage does not focus on arguing for the prevalence of these practices or mention new archaeological findings. (B) is incorrect because the passage only focuses on ancient Greek practices, not comparing them to other cultures. (D) is incorrect because while the passage mentions dangers and superstitions, it's presented as part of Lindenlauf's broader analysis, not the main focus.

Question 14

Correct Answer: B

The passage describes how participants in Asch's experiments yielded to majority influence and conformed to incorrect answers, even when the correct answer was obvious. This means they gave in to the group pressure. The word that means to give in or comply with something, often reluctantly, is "acquiesce".

(A) "Deviate" means to depart from an established course or standard. This is the opposite of what the participants did; they followed the group.

(C) "Object" means to express opposition to or disapproval of something. The participants conformed, they did not object.

(D) "Persevere" means to continue in a course of action despite difficulty or delay. The participants changed their answers to match the group, they did not stick to their original, correct judgment.

Question 15

Correct Answer: A

The passage introduces Luca Pacioli's book *De Divina Proportione* and describes its contents. It states that the book discusses the golden ratio's mathematical and artistic applications and architectural proportions, linking mathematics and art during the Renaissance. Therefore, the main idea is that Pacioli's book explored these concepts and influenced the Renaissance.

(A) correctly summarizes this main idea.

(B) is too narrow; while the collaboration is mentioned, it's not the main focus.

(C) is also too narrow; it focuses only on the second part of the book and doesn't encompass the discussion of the golden ratio.

(D) is incorrect because the passage doesn't state that the book provides a detailed historical account of the golden ratio's use in classical architecture.

Question 16

Correct Answer: A

The passage first introduces Michel Foucault's argument about the historical shift in punishment and power structures. Then, it introduces the concept of "panopticism" and the *Panopticon* as a key illustration of this change. Finally, it discusses how this disciplinary model extends to various modern institutions. This matches the structure described in option (A). Option (B) is incorrect because the passage does not primarily critique ethical considerations. Option (C) is incorrect because the passage doesn't present a historical example that challenges Foucault's theory or offer recent research findings. Option (D) is incorrect because while it discusses Foucault and compares models, it doesn't evaluate the effectiveness of one over the other in achieving desired outcomes.

Question 17

Correct Answer: D

Text 1 explains that the availability heuristic makes people guess how often something happens based on how easily they can remember examples. It says this can lead to mistakes in judging how likely something is. Text 2 says that the media makes some events easy to remember, which makes people think those events happen more often than they do. Both texts agree that this shortcut can make people wrong about how often things really happen.

(A) is wrong because while the heuristic can affect judgments about rare events, the texts do not say it *primarily* affects only rare events.

(B) is wrong because Text 1 says the heuristic is often efficient, implying it's not entirely detrimental.

(C) is wrong because Text 2 explicitly states that media exposure *impacts* the ease of recall.

Question 18

Correct Answer: C

The passage describes Stanley Fish's theory, which argues that a text's meaning is "constructed by the reader's engagement" and emerges from "dynamic interplay between the reader and the work," rather than being "inherent" or "objective." This indicates that interpretation is based on the reader's personal involvement and experience. Therefore, the blank should be filled with a word that means "relating to experience." (C) "experiential" means relating to or based on experience. (A) "impartial" means treating all rivals or disputants equally, which contradicts the idea of reader involvement. (B) "static" means lacking in movement, action, or change, which contradicts "dynamic interplay." (D) "dogmatic" means asserting opinions as facts, which is unrelated to how meaning is derived.

Question 19

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about a recent scientific study of the *Mona Lisa*'s ground layer which found plumbonacrite. This finding suggests that Leonardo da Vinci might have added lead(II) oxide to his paint to make it thicker and dry faster. Therefore, the main idea is that a recent study shows evidence of da Vinci experimenting with his paint by adding lead(II) oxide.

Choice (A) is too broad; while the passage mentions the *Mona Lisa* is famous and studied, this is not the central focus.

Choice (C) is incorrect because the passage does not state that this was the *first* study to use these specific techniques on the *Mona Lisa*.

Choice (D) is too strong; the passage states the finding *suggests* or provides *evidence* for the modification, not that it conclusively proves the intention and effect.

Question 20

Correct Answer: D

The passage talks about the *Iguana delicatissima* and the things that are causing its population to decrease. It mentions habitat loss, but it focuses more on the problem of the invasive *Iguana iguana* and how it competes and hybridizes with the native iguana. The passage lists the main reasons why the *Iguana delicatissima* is in danger.

(A) is wrong because while the passage mentions conservation challenges, its main focus is describing the threats, not arguing for more conservation efforts.

(B) is wrong because although it mentions that *Iguana iguana* is more reproductively vigorous, it does not compare their reproductive strategies in detail.

(C) is wrong because while the passage briefly mentions the historical range, it does not focus on explaining the entire historical distribution.