

Verbal

Question 1

At 3,020 years old, Patriarca da Floresta, a jequitibá-rosa (*Cariniana legalis*) located in Brazil, is one of the oldest known trees in the world. With over three millennia of climate data in its tree rings, a single tree like this, claims _____ Valerie Trouet, can tell the history of the world.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A dendrochronologist,
- B dendrochronologist—
- C dendrochronologist:
- D dendrochronologist

Question 2

Joel Brown and colleagues showed that high moonlight intensity inhibits the activity of the Arizona pocket mouse (*Perognathus amplus*), a result explicable in terms of benefits and costs: greater lunar intensity may not enable the mice to increase foraging success enough to offset the higher chance of detection by predatory owls or hawks. Most other nocturnal mammals respond to lunar intensity variations similarly to Arizona pocket mice, but Azara's night monkeys (*Aotus azarae*) display the opposite pattern, as their heavy reliance on visual foraging results in a different balance of reward and risk.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It introduces an observation of a behavioral pattern, presents an explanation for the pattern, and then describes an exception to the pattern that casts doubt on that explanation.
- B** It describes and accounts for a finding, characterizes the finding as representative of a general pattern, and then describes and accounts for an exception to that pattern.
- C** It discusses two different responses to the same natural phenomenon, explains why one of those responses occurs, and then suggests that the other response still needs to be explained.
- D** It presents and explains a study result, indicates that the result is similar to the results of many other studies, and then attributes a conflicting study result to a difference in that study's methods.

Question 3

Cognitive Load Theory (CLT), developed by John Sweller in the late 1980s, posits that the human working memory has a limited capacity for processing novel information. This theory has significant implications for instructional design. According to CLT, learning is most effective when instructional methods align with the known limits of working memory. When teaching new concepts or skills, explicit guidance, practice, and feedback are more effective than requiring students to discover information independently. A key aspect of CLT is the idea of "element interactivity," which refers to the complexity of information that must be processed in working memory to build new knowledge structures in long-term memory.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To advocate for the adoption of explicit instructional methods based on Cognitive Load Theory.
- B** To explain the core principles of Cognitive Load Theory and its relevance to effective instruction.
- C** To argue that understanding human cognitive architecture is essential for educators designing learning materials.
- D** To summarize the historical development and key experimental findings supporting Cognitive Load Theory.

Question 4

Mycorrhizal fungi form a symbiotic relationship with the roots of most terrestrial plants. These fungi extend their hyphae into the soil, vastly increasing the surface area for nutrient and water absorption beyond what the plant roots alone can access. This extended network is particularly effective at acquiring relatively immobile nutrients like phosphorus, which are otherwise difficult for plants to obtain. In exchange for these nutrients and water, the fungi receive carbohydrates produced by the plant through photosynthesis. This mutualistic exchange enhances plant growth, improves resistance to environmental stresses, and contributes to overall ecosystem health.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To describe the mutually beneficial relationship between mycorrhizal fungi and plants.
- B** To argue that mycorrhizal fungi are more important for plant survival than previously thought.
- C** To explain the process by which mycorrhizal fungi absorb phosphorus from the soil.
- D** To compare the nutrient absorption capabilities of mycorrhizal and non-mycorrhizal plants.

Question 5

Echolocation is a sophisticated biological sonar used by many animals, notably bats, for navigation and foraging in darkness. Bats emit high-frequency sound pulses and interpret the returning echoes to determine the size, shape, distance, and movement of objects. A key structure in this process for many bat species is the tragus, a flap of skin in front of the ear canal. The tragus is thought to play a crucial role in directing sounds into the ear and aiding in the vertical discrimination of objects, which is essential for locating prey and obstacles in three-dimensional space. Studies have shown that manipulating the tragus can significantly impair a bat's ability to capture prey and navigate.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To argue that the bat's tragus is the most important factor in its ability to use echolocation effectively.
- B** To compare and contrast the echolocation abilities of different bat species and the role of the tragus in each.
- C** To explain the function of the tragus in bat echolocation and its importance for navigation and foraging.
- D** To describe the process of echolocation in bats and argue for the need for further research into the tragus.

Question 6

In her 2018 book, *Feel Free*, Zadie Smith explores the capacity of both literature and music to elicit profound emotional responses. Smith argues that while literary analysis often focuses on deciphering meaning, the emotional impact of a text or song can often bypass conscious understanding, directly affecting the reader or listener. She examines the phenomenon through the lens of “*lost cause*” partisans, who claim to appreciate Confederate monuments despite disagreeing with the ideology behind them. Smith posits that the appeal lies not in ideology, but in the emotional experience the artworks evoke. She extends this idea to musical compositions, suggesting that a song's power resides less in its lyrical content and more in its capacity to stir feelings, regardless of intellectual assent.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A** Zadie Smith's *Feel Free* analyzes how the emotional impact of art, particularly literature and music, can supersede conscious understanding and ideological agreement.
- B** Zadie Smith argues that literary analysis should focus less on deciphering meaning and more on understanding the emotional impact of a text or song.
- C** Zadie Smith's examination of “*lost cause*” partisans reveals that people appreciate Confederate monuments for their artistic value rather than their ideological implications.
- D** Zadie Smith's *Feel Free* primarily discusses the capacity of music to evoke emotional responses, suggesting that lyrical content is less important than feeling.

Question 7

In his seminal 1936 essay, "*The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*", Walter Benjamin explores the impact of new technologies, such as photography and film, on the nature of art. Benjamin argues that mechanical reproduction fundamentally alters the relationship between the artwork and the viewer, primarily through the loss of the artwork's "aura." He defines aura as the unique presence of a work of art in time and space, its historical testimony, and the sense of authenticity that arises from its singularity. This aura, according to Benjamin, is intrinsically linked to the artwork's embeddedness in tradition and ritual. With mechanical reproduction, the original's unique existence is no longer paramount, and the countless copies circulate freely, detached from their origin. This detachment, Benjamin contends, diminishes the aura and transforms the social function of art.

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

- ☐ A It clarifies why mechanical reproduction is detrimental to the art market.
- ☐ B It provides a definition of a key term used throughout the passage.
- ☐ C It offers an alternative perspective on the concept of authenticity in art.
- ☐ D It explains the historical context in which Benjamin developed his theories.

Question 8

Plant hormones, also known as phytohormones, are crucial for regulating various aspects of plant growth and development. Among the most well-studied are auxins, gibberellins, abscisic acid, and ethylene. Auxins, produced primarily in shoot and root tips, are known for promoting cell elongation and are involved in phototropism and gravitropism. Gibberellins stimulate stem elongation and play a key role in seed germination and flowering. Abscisic acid is often associated with inhibiting growth, promoting dormancy in buds and seeds, and mediating responses to stress like drought by inducing stomatal closure. Ethylene, a gaseous hormone, is involved in fruit ripening, leaf senescence, and abscission. The intricate balance and interaction between these hormones dictate a plant's life cycle and its adaptation to environmental cues.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To argue for the preeminence of auxins among all plant hormones due to their diverse roles in plant growth and development.
- B** To provide an overview of several major plant hormones and their primary functions.
- C** To explain the complex biochemical pathways by which plant hormones exert their effects on cellular processes.
- D** To discuss the historical discovery and classification of the four main types of plant hormones.

Question 9

Photosynthesis, the process by which plants convert light energy into chemical energy, relies on pigments that absorb specific wavelengths of light. Chlorophylls are the primary pigments, absorbing strongly in the blue-violet and red regions of the spectrum. Chlorophyll a is directly involved in light-dependent reactions, while chlorophyll b acts as an accessory pigment, broadening the range of light captured. Carotenoids are another group of accessory pigments; they absorb light mainly in the blue-violet and blue-green regions and appear yellow, orange, or red because they reflect those colors. These pigments work together to maximize light absorption for photosynthesis.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To argue that chlorophyll a is the most important pigment in photosynthesis due to its direct role in light-dependent reactions.
- B** To describe the roles of different pigments in capturing light for photosynthesis.
- C** To explain how the absorption spectra of chlorophylls and carotenoids are measured.
- D** To compare the chemical structures of chlorophylls and carotenoids and relate them to their functions.

Question 10

Perceived value, a core concept in consumer behavior, significantly influences purchasing decisions. According to research by Zeithaml (1988), perceived value is a cognitive trade-off between the benefits a consumer receives from a product or service and the sacrifices they make to acquire it. Benefits can be multifaceted, encompassing functional, emotional, and social aspects. Sacrifices primarily involve monetary cost but also include time and effort. Subsequent studies, such as those by Dodds et al. (1991) and Grewal et al. (1998), further explored this relationship, demonstrating that factors like price and quality directly impact perceived value. (Dodds et al., 1991; Grewal et al., 1998; Zeithaml, 1988)

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- ☐ A It introduces a concept, defines it, and then discusses factors that influence it.
- ☐ B It presents a hypothesis, describes an experiment that tested it, and then states the results.
- ☐ C It identifies a problem, explains the causes of the problem, and then proposes a solution.
- ☐ D It outlines a historical development, details a key event in that development, and then analyzes its consequences.

Question 11

In her 2017 book, *Replenish: The Virtuous Cycle of Water and Prosperity*, water expert Sandra Postel examines the intricate relationship between human societies and freshwater ecosystems. Postel argues that centuries of attempting to control the water cycle through massive engineering projects like dams and diversions have led to significant financial and environmental costs. Instead of fighting against nature's rhythms, she proposes that the solution lies in repairing and replenishing freshwater resources. She highlights various global examples of successful water projects that collaborate with nature, such as forest restoration for safeguarding drinking water and "sponge cities" that capture rainwater. These initiatives, Postel suggests, are crucial for adapting to climate change and ensuring future water security.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- ☐ A To advocate for specific water engineering projects mentioned in Sandra Postel's book *Replenish*.
- ☐ B To criticize historical approaches to water management and their negative consequences.
- ☐ C To summarize Sandra Postel's background as a water expert and her previous publications.
- ☐ D To present Sandra Postel's argument for a new approach to water management and its supporting evidence.

Question 12

Passage 1:

Scholar A. L. Rowse proposed in the 1970s that the "Dark Lady" of Shakespeare's sonnets was Emilia Bassano Lanier, a woman of Venetian ancestry married to a court musician. Rowse based this on his interpretation of astrologer Simon Forman's diaries, which mentioned Lanier. Rowse argued Lanier's Italian background suggested a dark complexion fitting the sonnets' description and interpreted Forman's notes as evidence of her promiscuity, aligning with his view of the Dark Lady's character.

Passage 2:

Many scholars have contested A. L. Rowse's identification of Emilia Bassano Lanier as the "Dark Lady." They argue there's no definitive proof Lanier knew Shakespeare. Furthermore, critics note that Rowse's interpretation of Forman's diaries was flawed and his portrayal of Lanier potentially misogynistic. An opposing theory, supported by recent archival research by Duncan Salkeld, suggests a strong candidate is "Black Luce," a woman who ran a brothel in Clerkenwell and had ties to the London theater world.

Based on the texts, which statement about the identification of Shakespeare's "Dark Lady" would most likely be endorsed by the author of Text 2 but not by the author of Text 1?

- A** Archival research is not a reliable method for identifying historical figures like the "Dark Lady."
- B** Alternative candidates for the "Dark Lady," other than Emilia Bassano Lanier, warrant consideration.
- C** Simon Forman's diaries offer conclusive proof regarding the "Dark Lady's" historical identity.
- D** The "Dark Lady" is likely a composite figure or purely a creation of

Shakespeare's poetic imagination.

Question 13

Building on research on plants like *Nicotiana attenuata* by Ian T. Baldwin (1997), studies show that when attacked by herbivores, plants release volatile organic compounds. These airborne chemicals are perceived by neighboring plants, thereby _____ information about the presence of a threat, enabling them to initiate defensive measures proactively.

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

- ☐ A inhibiting
- ☐ B disrupting
- ☐ C absorbing
- ☐ D conveying

Question 14

Archaeologists use various scientific techniques to understand ancient populations. One powerful method involves analyzing strontium isotopes in human teeth and bones. The ratio of strontium-87 to strontium-86 ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$) in these tissues reflects the local geology where an individual grew up and lived, because strontium from weathered rocks enters the food chain and is absorbed into the body. Since tooth enamel mineralizes during childhood and doesn't change significantly afterward, its $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio provides a signature of a person's childhood environment. Bone, however, remodels throughout life, so its strontium isotope ratio reflects the environment of the last few years. By comparing the strontium isotope ratios in tooth enamel and bone, archaeologists can reconstruct migration patterns and determine if individuals lived their entire lives in one place or moved between different geological regions.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To advocate for the use of strontium isotope analysis as the primary method for studying ancient human migration.
- B** To explain how strontium isotope analysis of human remains is used in archaeology to understand past human mobility.
- C** To compare the effectiveness of strontium isotope analysis with other scientific techniques used in archaeology.
- D** To provide a detailed history of the development and application of strontium isotope analysis in archaeological studies.

Question 15

Studies on social influence often examine conformity, where individuals align their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors with group norms. Solomon Asch's 1951 and 1956 experiments are foundational in this area. In his studies, participants were asked to match the length of a line segment to one of three comparison lines. Unbeknownst to the true participant, the others in the group were confederates instructed to give incorrect answers. Asch found that a significant percentage of participants conformed to the majority's wrong answers, even when the correct answer was obvious, demonstrating the powerful effect of social pressure on individual judgment. His work highlighted the distinction between public compliance and private acceptance.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It defines a social phenomenon, then discusses a historical challenge to understanding that phenomenon.
- B** It introduces a psychological concept, then explains how two different researchers studied that concept.
- C** It describes a social science concept, then presents a classic study that illustrates that concept.
- D** It outlines the results of an experiment, then offers an alternative interpretation of those results.

Question 16

In their 2017 study published in *Psychological Science*, researchers Arul Mishra, Himanshu Mishra, and Hao Zhao investigated the "disaster syndrome" phenomenon, where prosocial behavior paradoxically decreases following large-scale crises. They hypothesized that this decline isn't due to a decrease in altruistic sentiment but rather a consequence of *decision paralysis* caused by an overwhelming number of aid appeals. To test this, participants were presented with either a single charity or multiple charities soliciting donations after a simulated natural disaster. The results supported their hypothesis: participants were significantly less likely to donate when faced with numerous options compared to a single, clear choice. This suggests that during crises, the cognitive load of evaluating multiple donation opportunities can impede helping behavior.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- ☐ A It introduces a common belief, then presents a study that refutes that belief.
- ☐ B It describes a psychological phenomenon, then discusses a study that explains its underlying cause.
- ☐ C It outlines a research study, then explores the broader societal implications of its findings.
- ☐ D It presents a puzzling phenomenon, then details a study designed to explain it.

Question 17

Late eighteenth-century Japanese literature, particularly works by Ihara Saikaku, demonstrates a fascinating interplay between prose and visual elements. Saikaku's *ukiyo-zōshi* (tales of the floating world) often integrated detailed illustrations with the narrative, challenging the Western notion of a rigid separation between text and image. These illustrations were not mere supplements but active participants in conveying meaning, sometimes offering parallel narratives or ironic commentary that enriched the reader's understanding. This multimodal approach was characteristic of popular fiction of the period, suggesting a different mode of literary consumption than that typically assumed in studies of European literature.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A** To describe a feature of late eighteenth-century Japanese literature that distinguishes it from a characteristic of Western literature.
- B** To argue that illustrations in Ihara Saikaku's *ukiyo-zōshi* are more significant than the written text in conveying meaning.
- C** To suggest that the integration of text and image in Japanese literature of the late eighteenth century influenced European literary practices.
- D** To provide an overview of Ihara Saikaku's *ukiyo-zōshi* and their place within the history of Japanese popular fiction.

Question 18

In their 2006 study, "The Pigeons of St. Mark's Square: A Risk-Benefit Analysis of a Human-Wildlife Conflict," Danaë M. de Castro and colleagues investigated the ecological and social dynamics of the large pigeon population in Venice, Italy. The study aimed to understand the factors contributing to the pigeons' abundance and the resulting conflicts with humans, particularly concerning public health and the preservation of historical architecture. The researchers employed a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data collection on pigeon demographics and distribution with qualitative data from interviews and surveys regarding human perceptions and behaviors. Their findings revealed a complex interplay of readily available food sources, habitat suitability, and human tolerance influencing the pigeon population size. Furthermore, the study highlighted the economic costs associated with managing the pigeon population and the diverse perspectives among residents and tourists regarding the issue.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- ☐ A It presents a widely accepted theory and then provides evidence that challenges that theory.
- ☐ B It discusses a historical overview of a problem and then proposes a potential solution.
- ☐ C It describes a research study and then summarizes the study's findings.
- ☐ D It outlines a debate between different researchers and then takes a side in that debate.

Question 19

In her 2012 book, *Myths of the Mummy*, Dr. Jasmine Day explores the cultural narratives surrounding mummies in Western imagination. Day argues that mummies are not merely historical artifacts, but figures onto which Western societies have projected anxieties about death, otherness, and the passage of time. She traces the evolution of the mummy figure from the exoticized object of early archaeological expeditions to the monstrous antagonist of horror literature and film. Day contends that these fictional portrayals reveal more about Western cultural preoccupations than they do about ancient Egyptian beliefs or practices.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- ☐ A Day's analysis reveals a shift in Western understanding of mummies, focusing on anxieties rather than historical accuracy.
- ☐ B Day's *Myths of the Mummy* is a comprehensive study of ancient Egyptian beliefs and practices regarding mummification.
- ☐ C Mummies have evolved from being figures of historical interest to becoming antagonists in horror literature and film.
- ☐ D Western societies' fascination with mummies reflects a deep-seated fear of death and the unknown, as argued by Day.

Question 20

Research by child psychologist Jean Piaget (1952) on cognitive development in children proposed that children progress through four distinct stages of intellectual development. He theorized that children actively construct their understanding of the world through interaction and experience. Subsequent research has largely supported Piaget's stages, while also offering refinements and elaborations. For example, later studies have suggested that cognitive development may be more continuous than stage-like, and that environmental factors play a more significant role than Piaget initially proposed. However, the foundational idea that children's thinking changes qualitatively as they mature remains influential in developmental psychology.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- A** It presents a controversial hypothesis, then offers evidence that refutes it.
- B** It summarizes a foundational theory, then discusses how later research has built upon it.
- C** It outlines a problem in a field of study, then proposes a new solution to that problem.
- D** It describes a series of experiments, then explains the practical applications of their findings.

Answers

Question 1

Correct Answer: D

This question tests the punctuation of titles and names. The phrase "dendrochronologist Valerie Trouet" functions as a subject with an essential title. "Dendrochronologist" is the profession of Valerie Trouet and is essential information that cannot be removed. Therefore, no punctuation is needed between the title and the name.

Question 2

Correct Answer: B

The overall structure question asks how the information in the passage is organized. The passage first describes a specific finding about Arizona pocket mice and explains why it occurs. It then broadens this finding to a general pattern observed in most other nocturnal mammals. Finally, it presents an exception to this pattern (Azara's night monkeys) and explains the reason for this exception.

Question 3

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about what Cognitive Load Theory is and how it is useful for teaching. Choice (B) says the passage explains the main ideas of the theory and why it matters for good teaching. This matches what the passage does. Choices (A) and (C) focus on only small parts of the passage, not the main point. Choice (D) is wrong because the passage does not talk about the history of the theory or the results of experiments.

Question 4

Correct Answer: A

The passage talks about how mycorrhizal fungi and plants help each other. The fungi get sugar from plants, and plants get nutrients and water from fungi. This helps both of them. (A) talks about this helpful relationship. (B) is wrong because the passage doesn't say fungi are *more* important than thought before. (C) is too specific; it only talks about phosphorus, but the passage mentions other benefits too. (D) is also too specific; it focuses only on comparing nutrient absorption, not the whole relationship.

Question 5

Correct Answer: C

The passage explains how bats use echolocation and highlights the role of the tragus in this process, specifically mentioning its importance for navigation and finding food.

(A) is incorrect because the passage does not claim the tragus is the *most* important factor.

(B) is incorrect because the passage focuses on the tragus in general, not on comparing different species.

(D) is incorrect because while it describes echolocation, the main focus is on the tragus's function, and it does not argue for further research.

Question 6

Correct Answer: A

The passage is about Zadie Smith's book, *Feel Free*, and how Smith discusses the emotional impact of art. The main idea should include these two points.

(A) correctly includes these two points.

(B) is incorrect because it is too extreme. The passage never mentions that literary analysis *should* focus less on meaning.

(C) is incorrect because it is too narrow. It only focuses on one example that Smith uses.

(D) is incorrect because it is half-right and half-wrong. Smith discusses both literature and music, but (D) only mentions music.

Question 7

Correct Answer: B

The underlined sentence defines the term "aura," which is central to Benjamin's argument discussed in the passage. Therefore, the sentence's main purpose is to provide a definition.

(A) is incorrect because while the passage discusses the impact of mechanical reproduction on art, it does not focus on the art market.

(C) is incorrect because the sentence defines Benjamin's concept of aura rather than offering an alternative perspective.

(D) is incorrect because the sentence focuses on defining "aura" and not on the historical context of Benjamin's theories.

Question 8

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about different plant hormones and what they do. It lists auxin, gibberellin, abscisic acid, and ethylene and describes their main jobs in the plant. (B) says the text gives an overview of plant hormones and their main jobs, which is exactly what the passage does. (A) is wrong because the passage does not say auxin is the most important hormone. (C) is wrong because the passage does not explain how the hormones work inside the plant cells. (D) is wrong because the passage does not talk about

when or how these hormones were found or put into groups.

Question 9

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about different pigments like chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b, and carotenoids. It explains how each helps capture light for photosynthesis. Therefore, the main purpose is to describe the roles of these pigments.

(A) is incorrect because while the passage mentions chlorophyll a's role, it doesn't argue it's the *most* important.

(C) is incorrect because the passage describes what wavelengths are absorbed, not how the measurements are taken.

(D) is incorrect because the passage mentions the functions but does not discuss the chemical structures of the pigments.

Question 10

Correct Answer: A

The passage starts by introducing the concept of "perceived value". It then defines what perceived value is. Finally, it talks about different things that affect perceived value, like benefits, sacrifices, price, and quality. This matches the structure described in choice (A). Choice (B) is incorrect because the passage doesn't talk about a specific experiment or its results. Choice (C) is incorrect because the passage doesn't present a problem and then offer solutions. Choice (D) is incorrect because the passage doesn't describe a historical development or analyze consequences.

Question 11

Correct Answer: D

The passage talks about Sandra Postel's book *Replenish* and her idea that

we should work with nature to manage water instead of fighting it. It also mentions examples from her book that show how this approach works. Therefore, the main point is to present her idea and the examples that support it. (A) is wrong because the passage does not tell you to support those projects. (B) is wrong because criticizing is not the main point; the main point is to suggest a new way. (C) is wrong because her background is only mentioned to show she is an expert, but her background is not the main topic.

Question 12

Correct Answer: B

Text 1 supports the idea that Emilia Bassano Lanier is the Dark Lady. Text 2 disagrees with Text 1 and thinks that other people, like Black Luce, should be considered as the Dark Lady. (B) says that other people besides Emilia should be thought of as the Dark Lady. This matches what Text 2 says but not Text 1. (A) is wrong because Text 2 talks about archival research helping to find the Dark Lady. (C) is wrong because Text 2 says the use of Forman's diaries by Text 1 was flawed. (D) is wrong because while Text 2 talks about other possible people, it does not say the Dark Lady is just made up.

Question 13

Correct Answer: D

The passage states that plants release airborne chemicals that are "perceived by neighboring plants" and provide "information about the presence of a threat." This means the chemicals are sending or communicating the information from one plant to another. The word that best fits this meaning is "conveying," which means to communicate or transmit. (A) "Inhibiting" means blocking or hindering. (B) "Disrupting" means interfering with something. (C) "Absorbing" means taking something in. None of these words accurately describe the action of sending information about a threat. Therefore, (D) is the correct answer.

Question 14

Correct Answer: B

The passage talks about how archaeologists use strontium isotopes in teeth and bones to learn about how ancient people moved around. It explains that teeth show where a person grew up, and bones show where they lived later. This helps archaeologists figure out if people stayed in one place or moved. So the main point is to explain this method used in archaeology. That matches choice (B). Choice (A) is wrong because the passage doesn't say it's the *primary* method. Choice (C) is wrong because it doesn't compare strontium analysis to other methods. Choice (D) is wrong because it doesn't give a history of the method.

Question 15

Correct Answer: C

The passage starts by defining conformity, which is a concept in social science. It then describes the Asch experiments as a classic study that illustrates this concept. Therefore, the structure is describing a concept and then presenting a study that illustrates it.

(A) is incorrect because the Asch experiments didn't challenge the understanding of conformity; they provided evidence for it.

(B) is incorrect because only one researcher, Solomon Asch, and his studies are discussed in detail.

(D) is incorrect because the passage does not offer an alternative interpretation of the results; it presents Asch's findings and their significance.

Question 16

Correct Answer: D

The passage starts by introducing the puzzling phenomenon of "disaster syndrome" where helping behavior decreases after a crisis. It then describes a study conducted by researchers to explain this phenomenon. Therefore, the structure is presenting a puzzling phenomenon and then detailing a study designed to explain it. (A) is incorrect because the passage presents a phenomenon, not a common belief that is then refuted. (B) is too narrow; while it describes a phenomenon and a study, it misses the specific nature of the phenomenon as "puzzling" or paradoxical. (C) is incorrect because while the study is outlined, the passage does not explore broader societal implications.

Question 17

Correct Answer: A

The passage talks about how Japanese literature in the late 1700s mixed words and pictures, and how this was different from how books were made in the West. So, the main point is to show a difference between Japanese and Western books back then. That is what choice (A) says.

Choice (B) is wrong because the passage says the pictures added to the words, not that they were more important. Choice (C) is wrong because the passage says Japanese literature was different from Western literature, not that it changed it. Choice (D) is wrong because the passage only talks about one specific thing about Ihara Saikaku's books, not everything about them or all of Japanese popular fiction.

Question 18

Correct Answer: C

The passage describes a research study conducted by Danaë M. de Castro and colleagues regarding the pigeon population in Venice. It then summarizes the key findings of this study, including the factors influencing the pigeon population and the human perspectives on the issue. Therefore, the structure is a description of a study followed by a summary of its

findings.

(A) is incorrect because the passage does not present a theory and then challenge it.

(B) is incorrect because the passage focuses on a research study and its findings, not a historical overview or proposed solution.

(D) is incorrect because the passage describes one study, not a debate between different researchers.

Question 19

Correct Answer: A

The passage is about Dr. Jasmine Day's book and her idea about how Western societies see mummies. She thinks mummies are used to show Western fears.

The main idea is likely about Day's book and how it explains the Western view of mummies.

(A) correctly says Day's book looks at how the Western understanding of mummies has changed. This is the main idea.

(B) is wrong because Day's book actually focuses on Western views of mummies, not Egyptian practices.

(C) is incorrect because it is too narrow, only focusing on one aspect of Day's argument.

(D) is incorrect because while it is true, the passage states that it is Day who argues it, not necessarily something that is already known or stated.

Question 20

Correct Answer: B

The passage starts by presenting Piaget's theory of cognitive development, which is a foundational idea in the field. It then explains how later research has expanded and modified this theory. This matches the structure

described in choice (B).

Choice (A) is incorrect because the passage does not present Piaget's theory as controversial, nor does the later research completely refute it; it builds upon it. Choice (C) is incorrect because the passage does not outline a problem and then propose a new solution; it discusses a theory and subsequent research. Choice (D) is incorrect because while research and studies are mentioned, the passage doesn't detail a series of experiments or focus on practical applications.