SAT

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SECTION 4

Time — 25 minutes

24 Questions

Turn to Section 4 of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

Directions: For each question in this section, select the best answer from among the choices given and fill in the corresponding circle on the answer sheet.

Each sentence below has one or two blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Beneath the sentence are five words or sets of words labeled A through E. Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted in the sentence, best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

Example:

Hoping to ------- the dispute, negotiators proposed a compromise that they felt would be ------- to both labor and management.

(A) enforce . . useful
(B) end . . divisive
(C) overcome . . unattractive
(D) extend . . satisfactory
(E) resolve . . acceptable Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ ●

1. Pennsylvania earned its nickname, the Keystone State, because of its natural position as a geographical axis ------- several Northeast states.

   (A) financing (B) surpassing (C) adjoining (D) buttressing (E) epitomizing

2. Some would argue that one acclaimed and popular album is sufficient for a musician to be known as a -------, but others contend that, unless a musician has a ------- track record of stellar albums, such a claim is premature at best.

   (A) triumph . . conditional
   (B) disappointment . . longstanding
   (C) success . . dependable
   (D) pioneer . . profound
   (E) star . . mercurial

3. Bugs in the tropics are -------; in warm climates, one can see mosquitoes and spiders nearly everywhere one looks.

   (A) virulent (B) vexing (C) scarce (D) omnipresent (E) lively

4. Even when yoga appears focused wholly on ------- development, it is also focused on quieting the mind.

   (A) mental (B) corporeal (C) ephemeral (D) cognitive (E) lyrical

5. Proponents of the bill ------- it to cover only foreign entities, since opponents had threatened to ------- any measure imposed on U.S. businesses.

   (A) subsidized . . fund
   (B) restricted . . invigorate
   (C) supported . . annul
   (D) exhumed . . bury
   (E) amended . . quash

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The passages below are followed by questions based on their content; questions following a pair of related passages may also be based on the relationship between the paired passages. Answer the questions on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passages and in any introductory material that may be provided.

Questions 6-9 are based on the following passages.

Passage 1

Myths of America abounded nearly as soon as the continent was "discovered." Initially, the New World figured largely as a foil to the corruption and disappointments of the Old World. Born during Europe's years of internal warfare, religious instability, and class division, America's image emerged as a land free from the taint of civilization, an unblemished "Garden of Eden" peopled by "noble savages." In response to the volatility of their lives, Americans cultivated stories of great people who tamed the land: the myth of lumberjack Paul Bunyan, the icon of the maverick cowboy, and the rags-to-riches stories of Horatio Alger.

Passage 2

The familiar lore of the Wild West brings to most minds images of brave lawmen, rugged cowboys, and rollicking frontier towns. However, the real American West wasn't all that picturesque. Mid-nineteenth century America was still forging a national identity that did not yet include the elaborate mythology of other, older societies. The media of the time helped create heroes and myths; the shootout towns of Tombstone and Dodge City, for example, had fewer killings in their heyday than most modern U.S. cities have in a year. But facts like these are not the stuff of fables.

6. The use of quotation marks in the phrases "Garden of Eden" (lines 7-8) and "noble savages" (line 8) is intended to

(A) underscore the extent of an intentional falsehood
(B) reflect the author's disapproval of America's myths
(C) suggest that the European image of the New World was largely fictional
(D) lay the foundations for a counterstatement on American lore
(E) further differentiate the imagery of the New World from that of the Old World

7. The words "cultivated" in Passage 1 (line 9) and "forging" in Passage 2 (line 17) both indicate

(A) that Americans created a more colorful image of America than actually existed
(B) that America was without a national identity for many years
(C) the need for heroes in the development of any modern society
(D) a lack of stability in establishing a country's heroes and myths
(E) the degree to which Americans participated in the creation of America's mythology

8. Which of the following best describes the relationship between the two passages?

(A) Passage 2 makes an argument that fits within the broader historical context given by Passage 1.
(B) Passage 1 further develops an example used to support the argument of Passage 2.
(C) Passage 1 explicitly attacks a position that is defended in Passage 2.
(D) Passage 2 gives an alternate solution to the problem described in Passage 1.
(E) Passage 2 provides a specific explanation for a phenomenon detailed in Passage 1.

9. In the context of Passage 2, the phrase "shootout towns" in line 20 is intended as

(A) a reluctant compliment
(B) a literal description
(C) a measured endorsement
(D) an ironic comment
(E) a stinging indictment

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SECTION 4 (Answers)

1. **C** The words *Keystone* and *axis* both indicate a center of importance. A good word for the blank would be "connecting" or "joining." (C) is the best answer choice. (D) means to "support," but is not as appropriate as (C). (A), (B), and (E) are not close in meaning.

2. **C** Start with the first blank. We know that the blank must relate to *acclaimed and popular*. A good word for the blank would be "success." (A) and (C) are close in meaning to success, so they should be kept. Eliminate the other three choices. Although positive, (E) does not match the clue. (B) and (D) do not relate to the clue. The word *but* indicates that the second blank will be different from the first. A good word for the blank would be "proven." Between (A) and (C), (C) is closer to "proven."

3. **D** The clue here is *nearly everywhere one looks*. A good word for the blank would be "everywhere." (D) means "everywhere." (A) is a word commonly associated with *mosquitoes*; it is a trap answer. None of the other answer choices agrees with the clue.

4. **B** The clue is *quieting the mind*. The phrase *even when* indicates that a word or phrase reflecting something opposite of *the mind* is needed here, such as "the body." (A) and (D) can be eliminated because they describe the mind's functions. (C) and (E) do not describe the body. (B) is correct because *corporeal* refers to the body.

5. **E** It is easier to work on the second blank first. The clue for the second blank, *opponents had threatened*, indicates a word meaning negative action, such as "stop" or "block," so (A) and (B) can be eliminated. (E) is correct, as the proponents are acting in response to the opponents who do not want U.S. businesses included; this implies a word such as "changed" for the first blank. Only (E) fits this clue.

6. **C** The main point of Passage 1 is that there have been many myths about America and that these myths spring from people's needs. The author uses quotation marks to indicate that America wasn't really a *"Garden of Eden"* peopled with *"noble savages."* There is no indication that the myths were intentional lies as stated in (A). There is no proof that the author disapproves of the myths as stated in (B). The author does not make a contrary argument as stated in (D). There is no mention of the imagery of the Old World as stated in (E).

7. **E** The words *cultivated* and *forging* both indicate that people were acting to create these myths. This argument is further supported by the main idea of both passages. Because there is no mention in Passage 1 of what life was really like in America, (A) is out of scope. Passage 1 also never mentions a lack of national identity, so (B) is unsupported. (C) is extreme because it discusses *any* modern society, and neither passage discusses any other society except America. There is no support in either passage for (D).

8. **A** Passage 1 gives a broad overview of various myths about America and how they function in society, while Passage 2 discusses one particular myth. (B) flips the two passages, stating that it is Passage 1 that is the specific example. There is no position attacked or defended in these two passages, making (C) incorrect. There is no solution in Passage 2, nor a problem in Passage 1 as stated in (D). (E) isn't a bad answer, but the explanation given for the creation of myths is not specific, which makes (A) the best answer.

9. **D** The author of Passage 2 argues that there was less violence in these Wild West towns than currently exists in most modern cities, yet refers to them as *shootout towns*. This indicates that the author is not being literal or serious, thus (B) is not correct. The term *shootout towns* is not intended to be a compliment or an endorsement (which means "support of") as proposed in (A) and (C). (E) is extreme; it indicates that the author is harshly criticizing these towns, which is not the case.

10. **A** By comparing the space elevator to *"Jack and the Beanstalk,"* the author implies that it is fantasy. This is indicated by (A). (B) and (D) are not mentioned in the passage. (C) and (E) contain extreme wording not supported by the passage.

11. **C** The author supports his belief that space elevators may be possible by proposing the use of short carbon nanotubes to build the ribbon because long nanotubes would be too hard to use. If (C) were true, then the basic problem of how to build the ribbons would remain unsolved, meaning it would not be possible to build the elevator. (A) doesn't weaken since it doesn't matter what people think. (B) is irrelevant; just because leading researchers made erroneous claims in the past doesn't mean that this researcher is not right this time. (D) is also irrelevant, because we are only interested in this researcher's argument. As for (E), even if lightning is more common in *certain* areas, it doesn't mean it is more common in the areas where the elevator may be built.

12. **A** The definition in the passage is *the manipulation of matter on the atomic level.* (A) is the most analogous. (E) is incorrect, because the splitting of atoms is not used to build things as in (A). (B), (C), and (D) do not satisfy the definition.

13. **A** The *developing technology* discussed in (A) is the space elevator. (B) and (C) are not indicated by the passage, and (B) is extreme. (D) and (E) are too specific; both are mentioned but are not the main purpose of the passage.

14. **A** (A) is expressed in the last paragraph. (B), (C), and (D) are too extreme. (E) contradicts the author's attitude in the passage.