

**SAT Sample Questions from SATPREPHELP.COM.**

1. Choose the words that best complete the following sentence:

The peasants refused to \_\_\_ to the king's forces as they prepared to \_\_\_ themselves on the surrounding hillside for the long battle ahead.

- (A) frolic...shade
- (B) capitulate...entrench
- (C) cant...castigate
- (D) surrender...censor
- (E) defray...divulge

2. Choose the word that best completes the following sentence:

The king was forced to \_\_\_ his throne in order to prevent a bloody civil war.

- (A) pilfer
- (B) rend
- (C) abrade
- (D) abdicate
- (E) defenestrate

3. Choose the words that best complete the following sentence:

The king \_\_\_ from the kingdom aboard a \_\_\_.

- (A) absconded..privateer
- (B) propelled..cur
- (C) scampered..conscript
- (D) converged..ship
- (E) maneuvered..mongrel

4. William Shakespeare is often considered to be one of the greatest playwrights of all time. In fact, it is usually difficult to find an individual who is not familiar with at least one of his works, as almost everyone has heard of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, or *Romeo and Juliet*. However, even though most people recognize Shakespeare as a legendary playwright, many forget that he was a talented poet as well. Shakespeare wrote over 150 sonnets during his lifetime. The sonnets of Shakespeare mused upon a variety of topics including love, death, and time. Most of Shakespeare's sonnets center around three unnamed characters, who are often referred to as the Dark Lady, the Fair Youth, and the Rival Poet.

The main topic of this passage is that:

- (A) Shakespeare was a famous playwright
- (B) Shakespeare wrote a number of comedies
- (C) everyone has heard of Shakespeare
- (D) Shakespeare writes about love, death, and time
- (E) Shakespeare was not only a playwright, but a poet as well

5. William Shakespeare is often considered to be one of the greatest playwrights of all time. In fact, it is usually difficult to find an individual who is not familiar with at least one of his works, as almost everyone has heard of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. However, even though most people recognize Shakespeare as a legendary playwright, many forget that he was a talented poet as well. Shakespeare wrote over a 150 sonnets during his lifetime on a variety of topics including love, death, and time. Most of Shakespeare's sonnets center around three unnamed characters, who are often referred to as the Dark Lady, the Fair Youth, and the Rival Poet.

The tone of this passage is:

- (A) depressed/negative
- (B) serious/neutral
- (C) ironic
- (D) positive bias towards the topic
- (E) formal

6. William Shakespeare is often considered to be one of the greatest playwrights of all time. In fact, it is usually difficult to find an individual who is not familiar with at least one of his works, as almost everyone has heard of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. However, even though most people recognize Shakespeare as a legendary playwright, many forget that he was also a talented poet. Shakespeare wrote over a 150 sonnets during his lifetime on a variety of topics including love, death, and time. Most of Shakespeare's sonnets center around three unnamed characters, who are often referred to as the Dark Lady, the Fair Youth, and the Rival Poet.

According to the passage, William Shakespeare wrote the following plays:

- (A) *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet*
- (B) *The Dark Lady*, *The Fair Youth*, and *The Rival Poet*
- (C) *Doctor Faustus*, *The Fair Youth*, and *The Rival Poet*
- (D) *Love, Death, and Time*
- (E) None of the above

7. William Shakespeare is often considered to be one of the greatest playwrights of all time. In fact, it is usually difficult to find an individual who is not familiar with at least one of his works. Almost everyone has heard of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. However, even though most people recognize Shakespeare as a legendary playwright, many forget that he was a talented poet as well. In fact, Shakespeare wrote over a 150 sonnets during his lifetime. The sonnets of Shakespeare mused upon a variety of topics including love, death, and time. Most of Shakespeare's sonnets center around three unnamed characters, who are often referred to as the Dark Lady, the Fair Youth, and the Rival Poet.

According to the passage, the characters that Shakespeare commonly described in his poems are usually referred to as:

- (A) Hamlet and Macbeth
- (B) Romeo and Juliet
- (C) Hamlet, Macbeth, Romeo, and Juliet
- (D) The Dark Lady, the Fair Youth, and the Rival Poet
- (E) Doctor Faustus

8. Poker is a card game that consists of a number of specific card combinations that are each ranked based on the difficulty associated with obtaining each particular combination. In other words, each player receives a certain number of cards and the value of each player's hand can be determined based on the specific combination of cards that the player has received and the probability that he or she could receive a similar combination at another time. The specific combinations that are ranked in poker in order from the least valuable hand to the most valuable hand are as follows: high card, one pair, two pair, three of a kind, straight, flush, full house, four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush.

This passage is primarily discussing:

- (A) how the game of poker works
- (B) what a straight flush is
- (C) what the most valuable hands in poker are
- (D) the history of poker
- (E) popular card games that everybody plays

9. Poker is a card game that consists of a number of specific card combinations that are each ranked based on the difficulty associated with obtaining each particular combination. In other words, each player receives a certain number of cards and the value of each player's hand can be determined based on the specific combination of cards that the player has received and the probability that he or she could receive a similar combination at another time. The specific combinations that are ranked in poker in order from the least valuable hand to the most valuable hand are as follows: high card, one

pair, two pair, three of a kind, straight, flush, full house, four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush.

The tone of this passage is:

- (A) depressed/negative
- (B) serious/neutral
- (C) ironic
- (D) positive bias towards the topic
- (E) informal

10. Poker is a card game that consists of a number of specific card combinations that are each ranked based on the difficulty associated with obtaining each particular combination. In other words, each player receives a certain number of cards and the value of each player's hand can be determined based on the specific combination of cards that the player has received and the probability that he or she could receive a similar combination at another time. The specific combinations that are ranked in poker in order from the least valuable to the most valuable hand are as follows: high card, one pair, two pair, three of a kind, straight, flush, full house, four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush.

According to the passage, each hand in poker is ranked based on:

- (A) how many cards you have
- (B) how many cards are of the same suit
- (C) how many cards match
- (D) the difficulty associated with getting each hand
- (E) the color of each card in the hand

11. Poker is a card game that consists of a number of specific card combinations that are each ranked based on the difficulty associated with obtaining each particular combination. In other words, each player receives a certain number of cards and the value of each player's hand can be determined based on the specific combination of cards that the player has received and the probability that he or she could receive a similar combination at another time. The specific combinations that are ranked in poker in order from the least valuable to the most valuable hand are as follows: high card, one pair, two pair, three of a kind, straight, flush, full house, four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush.

According to the passage, a flush is:

- (A) better than a straight flush
- (B) worse than a straight
- (C) the best hand in poker

- (D) not a hand in poker
- (E) is better than a straight

12. There is a great deal of debate regarding exactly where the game of poker originally came from. However, even though the exact origins of the game are unknown, it is difficult to dispute the fact that poker has been a popular card game for hundreds of years and its popularity has only increased as time has passed. In fact, a myriad of different poker variations have developed as a result of the increasing popularity of the game. Variations such as five-card draw, Texas hold 'em, seven-card stud, and Omaha high/low are commonly played in casinos and homes throughout the world today.

Based on the context in which it appears, the word “myriad” probably means/refers to:

- (A) a large indefinite number
- (B) a small insignificant number
- (C) a specific small number
- (D) a swamp
- (E) a collection of five

13. There is a great deal of debate regarding exactly where the game of poker originally came from. However, even though the exact origins of the game are unknown, it is difficult to dispute the fact that poker has been a popular card game for hundreds of years and its popularity has only increased as time has passed. In fact, a myriad of different poker variations have developed as a result of the increasing popularity of the game. Variations such as five-card draw, Texas hold 'em, seven-card stud, and Omaha high/low are commonly played in casinos and homes throughout the world today.

According to the passage, poker is a:

- (A) boring card game
- (B) pointless card game
- (C) popular card game
- (D) card game with well-known origins
- (E) card game that no one plays anymore

14. There is a great deal of debate regarding exactly where the game of poker originally came from. However, even though the exact origins of the game are unknown, it is difficult to dispute the fact that poker has been a popular card game for hundreds of years and its popularity has only increased as time has passed. In fact, a myriad of different poker variations have developed as a result of the increasing popularity of the game. Variations such as five-card draw, Texas hold 'em, seven-card stud, and Omaha high/low are commonly played in casinos and homes throughout the world today.

According to the passage, poker is:

- (A) still played in casinos and homes throughout the world
- (B) still played in bars and alleys
- (C) still played in bars and pool halls
- (D) still played in casinos and homes in the western hemisphere
- (E) illegal in most places

15. Determine the area of a rectangle with a length of 7 feet and a height of 9 feet.

- (A)  $81 \text{ ft.}^2$
- (B)  $63 \text{ ft.}^2$
- (C)  $32 \text{ ft.}^2$
- (D)  $31.5 \text{ ft.}^2$
- (E)  $16 \text{ ft.}^2$

16. Determine the perimeter of a rectangle with a length of 5 inches and a height of 7 inches.

- (A) 49 in.
- (B) 35 in.
- (C) 24 in.
- (D) 17.5 in.
- (E) 12 in.

17. Determine which figure has a greater area: Figure *A*, which is a circle with a diameter of 9 inches, or Figure *B*, which is a circle with a radius of 5 inches.

- (A) Figure *A* has a greater area than figure *B*.
- (B) Figure *B* has a greater area than figure *A*.
- (C) Figure *A* and Figure *B* have the same area.
- (D) It is impossible to compare the two figures.
- (E) There is not enough information to answer the question.

18. Determine the volume of a rectangular box with a length of 5 inches, a height of 7 inches, and a width of 9 inches.

- (A)  $445.095 \text{ in.}^3$
- (B)  $315 \text{ in.}^3$
- (C)  $45 \text{ in.}^3$
- (D)  $35 \text{ in.}^3$
- (E)  $21 \text{ in.}^3$

19. Determine the volume of a cylinder with a diameter of 9 inches and a height of 7 inches.

- (A)  $445.095 \text{ in.}^3$
- (B)  $315 \text{ in.}^3$
- (C)  $197.82 \text{ in.}^3$
- (D)  $63 \text{ in.}^3$
- (E)  $16 \text{ in.}^3$

20. Determine the value of  $x$  if  $6x - 7 = 11$  and  $4x - 8 + 2 = 6$ .

21. Determine the value of  $x$  if  $|4x - 3| = 7$  and  $|2x + 2| = 0$ .

22. A major automotive manufacturing plant has designed a formula to estimate the number of parts they will need to purchase in order to fill their orders for a specific period of time. Using their formula,  $F(x) = x * 2p - (b - x * d)$ , where  $F$  is the number of parts required to fill the orders,  $x$  is the number of days in the period,  $p$  is the number of parts that the plant uses on average per day,  $b$  is the number of parts that the plant currently has on hand, and  $d$  is the number of defective parts the plant expects to have each day, determine the number of parts that the plant will have to order for a 5-day period in which they use 15 parts per day, have 50 parts on hand, and expect to have 5 defective parts each day.

23. A standard deck of playing cards consists of 52 cards separated evenly into four different suits, which includes hearts, diamonds, spades, and clubs. Each card is identified by its suit and by a number from 2 – 10, or a  $J$  for jack, a  $Q$  for queen, a  $K$  for king, and an  $A$  for ace. Using this information, determine the probability of drawing an ace on the first card drawn and the probability of drawing the ace of spades on the first card drawn.

- (A)  $4/13, 1/13$
- (B)  $1/52, 3/52$
- (C)  $1/4, 3/4$
- (D)  $1/13, 1/52$
- (E)  $1/13, 1/1352$

24. A standard deck of playing cards consists of 52 cards separated evenly into four different suits, which includes hearts, diamonds, spades, and clubs. Each card is identified by its suit and by a number from 2 – 10, or a  $J$  for jack, a  $Q$  for queen, a  $K$  for king, and an  $A$  for ace. Using this information, determine the probability that an

individual will draw two aces if he or she draws two cards from the deck without replacing the first card that he or she draws.

- (A) 1/13
- (B) 1/52
- (C) 1/17
- (D) 1/221
- (E) 1/1352

25. If there is an error in the following sentence, identify the error by choosing the letter associated with the underlined section that is incorrect. If there is no error, choose option E.

The captain and his crew (A) sailed across the ocean (B) in an attempt to flee the mayhem (C) taking place in (D) his homeland. (E) No error

26. If there is an error in the following sentence, identify the error by choosing the letter associated with the underlined section that is incorrect. If there is no error, choose option E.

The captain and (A) me have been friends for a long time (B) so it was easy for (C) me to get (D) aboard the ship. (E) No error

27. If there is an error in the following sentence, identify the error by choosing the letter associated with the underlined section that is incorrect. If there is no error, choose option E.

The captain was waiting (A) on the shore for Sarah and (B) I for over an hour and he (C) was just preparing to leave (D) when we arrived. (E) No error

28. If there is an error in the following sentence, identify the error by choosing the letter associated with the underlined section that is incorrect. If there is no error, choose option E.

I (A) just met the (B) captain's first mate and I (C) cant believe (D) that he is that tall. (E) No error

29. If there is an error in the following sentence, identify the error by choosing the letter associated with the underlined section that is incorrect. If there is no error, choose option E.

(A) As the ship left the (B) dock, I stood (C) and stared (D) at the shore intently. (E) No error

30. If there is an error in the following sentence, identify the error by choosing the letter associated with the underlined section that is incorrect. If there is no error, choose option E.

(A) Its a fine (B) ship and I'm certain (C) that it will (D) get us to our destination safely. (E) No error

31. Choose the phrasing that creates the most effective version of the underlined portion of the following sentence:

The captain ordered his men to sail through the storm, his men obeyed.

- (A) his men to sail through the storm, his men obeyed.
- (B) his men to sail through the storm, however his men obeyed.
- (C) his men to sail through the storm and his men obeyed.
- (D) their men to sail through the storm and their men obeyed.
- (E) his men sail through the storm, which he did.

32. Choose the phrasing that creates the most effective version of the underlined portion of the following sentence:

The giant waves rocked the ship back and forth; but the ship made it through the storm unharmed.

- (A) rocked the ship back and forth; but the ship made it through
- (B) rocked the ship back and forth; and the ship made it through
- (C) rocked the ship back and forth, the ship made it through
- (D) rocked the ship back and forth, but the ship made it through
- (E) rocked the ship; but the ship made it through

33. Choose the phrasing that creates the most effective version of the underlined portion of the following sentence:

If the ship had arrived a day earlier, it would have missed the storm entirely.

- (A) had arrived a day earlier, it would have missed the storm entirely.
- (B) had arrived a day earlier and it would have missed the storm entirely.
- (C) had arrived a day earlier it would have missed the storm entirely.
- (D) had arrived a day earlier it would have missed the storm.

(E) arrived a day earlier it would have missed the storm.

34. Choose the phrasing that creates the most effective version of the underlined portion of the sentence:

The rocks on the shore were hit by the ship as it approached the island.

- (A) The rocks on the shore were hit by the ship as it approached the island.
- (B) The rocks on the shore were hit by the ship as the ship approached the island.
- (C) The ship was hit by the rocks on the shore as it approached the island.
- (D) The ship hit the island as the ship approached the rocks.
- (E) As the ship approached the island, it hit the rocks on the

35. Choose the phrasing that creates the most effective version of the underlined portion of the sentence:

Jay used to sail with the captain every day, and then he goes out with the captain afterwards.

- (A) used to sail with the captain every day, and then he goes out
- (B) used to sail with the captain every day, but then he goes out
- (C) used to sail with the captain every day and then goes out
- (D) used to sail with the captain every day, but now he just goes out
- (E) used to sail with the captain every day and then they go out

36. Choose the phrasing that creates the most effective version of the underlined portion of the sentence:

The ship was known as the Raptor a name that struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere.

- (A) as the Raptor a name that struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere.
- (B) as the Raptor, and that name struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere.
- (C) by a name that struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere.
- (D) as the Raptor and it struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere.
- (E) as a name that struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere.

37. **(1)** Christopher Marlowe was a well-known and respected playwright during the time of William Shakespeare. **(2)** Many scholars hold him to be one of the most talented dramatists of his time. **(3)** It is true that many people have never even heard of Marlowe as he only had enough time to pen seven or eight plays and several poems before his death in 1593. **(4)** In fact, like Shakespeare, Marlowe was not only considered to be a

talented playwright, but a talented poet as well. **(5)** However, there is no doubt that the works of Christopher Marlowe have influenced a number of authors both past and present.

Examine the second sentence of the passage and choose the revision that will best improve the passage as a whole.

- (A) Change “hold” to “consider”.
- (B) Change “one of the most talented dramatists” to “a talented dramatist”.
- (C) Delete “Many”.
- (D) Change the period to a comma, add “and,” and combine sentences 1 and 2.
- (E) Change “him” to “Marlowe”.

38. **(1)** Christopher Marlowe was a well-known and respected playwright during the time of William Shakespeare. **(2)** Many scholars hold him to be one of the most talented dramatists of his time. **(3)** It is true that many people have never even heard of Marlowe as he only had enough time to pen seven or eight plays and several poems before his death in 1593. **(4)** In fact, like Shakespeare, Marlowe was not only considered to be a talented playwright, but a talented poet as well. **(5)** However, there is no doubt that his works have influenced a number of authors both past and present.

Examine the third sentence of the passage and choose the revision that will best improve the passage as a whole.

- (A) Change “It is true that” to “Unfortunately,”.
- (B) Delete “It is true that”.
- (C) Delete “before his death in 1593.”
- (D) Change the period to a comma, add “but” and combine sentences 2 and 3.
- (E) Change “Marlowe” to “him”.

39. **(1)** Christopher Marlowe was a well-known and respected playwright during the time of William Shakespeare. **(2)** Many scholars hold him to be one of the most talented dramatists of his time. **(3)** It is true that many people have never even heard of Marlowe as he only had enough time to pen seven or eight plays and several poems before his death in 1593. **(4)** In fact, like Shakespeare, Marlowe was not only considered to be a talented playwright, but a talented poet as well. **(5)** However, there is no doubt that his works have influenced a number of authors both past and present.

This passage would make more sense if sentence 4:

- (A) remains where it is
- (B) were placed after sentence 1
- (C) were placed after sentence 2
- (D) were placed after sentence 3
- (E) were placed after sentence 5

40. (1) Christopher Marlowe was a well-known and respected playwright during the time of William Shakespeare. (2) Many scholars hold him to be one of the most talented dramatists of his time. (3) It is true that many people have never even heard of Marlowe as he only had enough time to pen seven or eight plays and several poems before his death in 1593. (4) In fact, like Shakespeare, Marlowe was not only considered to be a talented playwright, but a talented poet as well. (5) However, there is no doubt that his works have influenced a number of authors both past and present.

Considering the context, choose the best version of the underlined portion of sentence 5: However, there is no doubt that his works have influenced a number of authors both past and present.

- (A) (The same as it appears above)
- (B) There is no doubt that his works have
- (C) However, there is no doubt that the works of Christopher Marlowe have
- (D) However, his works have
- (E) There is little debate that his works have

### III. SAT Answer Key

1. The correct answer is (B), as the sentence should read “The peasants refused to capitulate to the king’s forces as they prepared to entrench themselves on the surrounding hillside for the long battle ahead.” All of the other choices are incorrect because at least one word in each choice does not make sense when placed into the sentence. (A) is incorrect because the term *frolic* means "to play," which does not make sense in the context of the sentence. (C) is incorrect because the term *cant* means "to whine" and the term *castigate* means "to reprimand," so neither of these words makes sense in this particular sentence. (D) is incorrect because the term *ensor* means "to edit or excise" and so does not fit in this particular sentence, and (E) is incorrect because the term *defray* means "to pay" and the term *divulge* means "to reveal," so these words do not make sense in this sentence.

2. The correct answer is (D), as the sentence should read: “The king was forced to abdicate his throne in order to prevent a bloody civil war.” All of the other choices are incorrect because they do not make sense in this sentence. (A) is incorrect because the term *pilfer* means "to steal," which doesn’t make sense because the king probably didn’t steal his own throne. (B) is incorrect because the term *rend* means "to tear or rip," which doesn’t make sense because the king probably didn’t tear his own throne apart. (C) is incorrect because the term *abrade* means "to scrape," and the king probably didn’t scrape his throne in order to prevent a war. Finally, (E) is incorrect because the term *defenestrate* means to throw out a window, and it is safe to probably assume that throwing a throne out a window has nothing to do with preventing a civil war.

3. The correct answer is (A), as the sentence should read “The king absconded from the kingdom aboard a privateer.” All of the other choices are incorrect because they do not make sense in this particular sentence. (B) is incorrect because the term *propel* means “to push” and the term *cur* refers to “a worthless dog or a cowardly person,” and the king probably didn’t push from the kingdom and then climb aboard a dog or a coward. (C) is incorrect because the term *conscript* refers to “an enlisted soldier” and the king probably didn’t scamper away on the back of a soldier. (D) is incorrect because the term *converge* means “to meet or move towards,” rather than move away from, so it does not fit the sentence. Finally, (E) is incorrect because the term *mongrel* refers to “a dog that is of a mixed breed,” and it is probably safe to assume that the king did not make his way from the kingdom on a dog.

4. The correct answer is (E), as the main topic of the passage is that “Shakespeare was not only a playwright, but a poet as well.” It may seem, at first, that this passage is talking about Shakespeare’s plays or the fact that he is a renowned playwright. Indeed, the first sentence, a typical introductory sentence, explains that Shakespeare is a legendary playwright while the second sentence identifies some of his most famous works. But Shakespeare’s most famous works are not actually the main topics in this particular passage, because the rest of the passage describes Shakespeare’s poetry rather than his plays. As a result, the main topic of the passage is identified in the third sentence by the phrase “...even though most people recognize Shakespeare as a legendary playwright, many people forget that he was also a talented poet as well.”

5. The correct answer is (D), as the passage has a positive bias towards the topic. In other words, the author of the passage is attempting to convey his opinion that Shakespeare was a great playwright and a great poet rather than simply providing the facts related to Shakespeare’s plays and poems. You can see this in the passage because of words such as “legendary” and “talented,” as each of these words suggests that the author believes Shakespeare’s level of skill is far beyond that of other individuals. If the passage did not contain these words and if it focused solely on the facts related to Shakespeare’s writing, it would have a neutral tone. On the other hand, if the passage focused solely on Shakespeare’s flaws and/or presented a negative opinion of Shakespeare, the passage would have a negative tone. However, since the passage seems to indicate a positive view of Shakespeare, the passage has a positive tone.

6. The correct answer is (A), as the passage states that Shakespeare wrote *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. (B), (D), and (E) are incorrect because they each describe characters or topics that Shakespeare wrote about in his poetry and do not offer the specific names of his actual plays. (C) is incorrect for two reasons. First, according to the passage, the Fair Youth and the Rival Poet are characters that Shakespeare described in his poems and are not the titles of any of his plays. Secondly, *Doctor Faustus* is truly a play, but it is not mentioned in the passage, and Christopher Marlowe wrote it, not William Shakespeare.

7. The correct answer is (D), as the three characters who are commonly described within Shakespeare’s poetry are often referred to as the Dark Lady, the Fair Youth, and the

Rival Poet. (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect because they each describe the titles and title characters of Shakespeare's plays. Those were not the characters that appeared repeatedly in his poems. (C) is also incorrect for this question because *Doctor Faustus* is never mentioned in the passage and is, in fact, the title and title character of a work by Christopher Marlowe rather than a character in one of Shakespeare's poems.

8. The correct answer is (A), since the passage discusses how the game of poker works. This is because the majority of the passage is related to the basic idea behind the game of poker. It may appear that (C) is also correct because the passage lists the various hands in the game of poker and relates how those hands compare with other hands. However, the passage is not discussing which hands are the most valuable, but rather the basics of how the game works. Therefore, (C) is incorrect for this passage. The remaining choices are also incorrect because while they each describe topics that are similar to or related to what is covered in the passage, they do not describe what the passage is actually about.

9. The correct answer is (B), as the passage has a serious or neutral tone. In other words, this passage is simply stating the facts related to a specific topic, which in this case is the game of poker. Rather than presenting a specific viewpoint, the passage merely provides an objective description of the game. Paragraphs or passages that present a series of facts will usually be neutral as long as the paragraph has an objective narrative and does not present a specific side or defend a particular view on the topic. As a result, this passage has a neutral tone because it is not biased towards a particular opinion or view. However, if this passage attempted to prove a particular claim about the game of poker instead of stating something that is an undisputable fact about the game, it is likely that the passage would have a negative or positive tone instead of a neutral tone.

10. The correct answer is (D), as the passage states that each hand is ranked based on the degree of probability associated with getting each hand. This fact is stated twice within the passage. It is stated in the first sentence of the passage and then stated again in the second sentence of the passage. (A), (B), (C), and (E) are all incorrect because the passage never mentions any of those ranking hierarchies. In fact, (A) and (E) have nothing to do with the game of poker, since each player will always have the same number of cards and since the color of the cards is not taken into consideration when determining hands or the value of a hand. (B) and (C) play a role in determining which hand a player has, but they do not necessarily play a role in determining the rank of each hand, so they are also incorrect for this question.

11. The correct answer is (E), as the passage states that a flush is better than a straight. According to the poker hand hierarchy in the passage, a flush is better than a high card, one pair, two pair, three of a kind, and a straight. As a result, (B) and (D) are incorrect. Again, the passage makes it clear that a flush is a specific composite type of poker hand and that a flush beats a straight. The passage also informs us that a full house, four of a kind, a straight flush, and a royal flush are all ranked higher than a flush. This rules out (A). (C) is incorrect as well, as a flush is not the best hand in poker; the passage explains that a royal flush is the best hand that a poker player can have.

12. The correct answer is (A), as the word *myriad* refers to a large indefinite number" of poker game types. If the test-taker does not recognize the word *myriad*, it may be possible to derive the meaning by eliminating the incorrect choices. You can eliminate (B) and (C) because the sentence states that there are a "myriad of different poker variations...as a result of the increasing popularity of the game." Since the popularity of the game has been increasing, it may be expected that the number of poker game variations might also increase. It will logically follow that there would be a number of different variations of the game rather than a smaller or diminishing number of variations of the game of poker. Likewise, you can eliminate (B) and (D) because they do not make sense within the context of the sentence. The sentence is definitely not discussing a swamp, and the word "swamp" is not part of the poker terminology used in the paragraph. Finally, there is no indication that the sentence is talking about a collection of five variations, so these latter two choices are incorrect.

13. The correct answer is (C), because the passage states that poker is a popular card game. In fact, according to the second sentence of the passage, "it is difficult to dispute the fact that poker has been a popular card game for hundreds of years and its popularity has only increased over time." The other choices are all incorrect because they describe the opposite of what the passage states about the game of poker. The passage never states that poker is boring or pointless, so (A) and (B) can be eliminated. The passage also makes it very clear that there is a continuing debate regarding the origins of the game, and that the game enjoys wide popularity throughout the world today; therefore, (D) and (E) can also be eliminated.

14. The correct answer is choice A, as the passage states that poker is still played in casinos and homes throughout the world. It may appear that (B), (C), and (D) could all be correct as well, since each of the statements represented by those choice options are relatively accurate. However, the passage never states that poker is still played in bars, alleys, pool halls, nor does it specifically mention poker being played in the western hemisphere. The structure of the question demands a response with a statement that completes the phrase "According to the passage, poker is...." This implies that the answer can be found in the passage itself. As a result, (A) is the correct answer because it is the only answer that provides information that is in the passage.

15. The correct answer is (B), as the area of a rectangle can be determined by using the formula  $A = B * h$  or the formula  $A = l * w$ . This means that the area of a rectangle is equal to the length of the base of the rectangle multiplied by the height or width of the rectangle. Therefore, the area of the rectangle described in this question is equal to 7 inches \* 9 inches or  $63 \text{ in}^2$ . The other choices offered for this question are incorrect because they do not use the correct formula. (A) is incorrect because it simply offers the rectangle's height squared rather than using the appropriate formula. (C) is incorrect because it offers the perimeter of the rectangle rather than the area. (D) is incorrect because it offers the area of a triangle with a base of 7 inches and a height of 9 inches, and (E) is incorrect because it is simply the sum of the length and width.

16. The correct answer is (C), as the perimeter of a rectangle can be determined by using the formula  $P = 2 * (\text{Side 1} + \text{Side 2})$ . This means that the perimeter of a rectangle can be determined by adding the length of the base of the rectangle to the height of the rectangle and multiplying by 2. Therefore, the perimeter of the rectangle described in this question is equal to  $2 * (5 \text{ inches} + 7 \text{ inches})$ , or 24 inches. The other choices for this question are incorrect because they do not use the correct formula. (A) is incorrect because it simply offers the rectangle's height squared rather than using the appropriate formula. (B) is incorrect because it offers the area of the rectangle rather than the perimeter. (D) is incorrect because it offers the area of a triangle with a base of 5 inches and a height of 7 inches, and (E) is incorrect because it is simply the sum of the length and width.

17. The correct answer is (B), as a circle with a radius of 5 inches has a greater area than a circle with a diameter of 9 inches. This is because the area of a circle can be determined by using the formula  $A = \pi * r^2$  and the radius of a circle is equal to half of the circle's diameter. Applying these common geometric formulas to the problem, this means that the radius of figure A is 4.5 inches and the radius of figure B, which is stated within the question, is 5 inches. Therefore, the area of figure A is equal to  $3.14 * 4.5^2$  or 63.585 and the area of figure B is equal to  $3.14 * 5^2$  or 78.5.

18. The correct answer is (B), as the volume of a rectangular box can be determined using the formula  $V = l * w * h$ . This means that the volume of a rectangular box can be determined by multiplying the length of the base of the box by the width of the box and multiplying that product by the height of the box. Therefore, the volume of the box described in this question is equal to  $5 * 7 * 9$ , or  $315 \text{ in}^3$ . (A) is incorrect because it provides the volume of a cylinder with a diameter of 9 inches and a height of 7 inches. (C) is incorrect because it provides the area of a rectangle with a base of 5 inches and a width of 9 inches. (D) is incorrect because it states the area of a rectangle with a base of 5 inches and a width of 7 inches, and (E) is incorrect because it states the *sum* of the length, width, and height rather than the *product* of length, width, and height.

19. The correct answer is (A), as the volume of a cylinder can be determined using the formula  $V = \pi * r^2 * h$ . This means that the volume of a cylinder is equal to  $\pi$  times the radius of the cylinder squared times the height of the cylinder. The radius of a cylinder is equal to half of the cylinder's diameter, so the radius of this particular cylinder is 4.5 in. Therefore, the volume of this cylinder is equal to  $3.14 * 4.5^2 * 7$ , or  $445.095 \text{ in}^3$ . (B) is incorrect because it states the volume of a rectangular box with a length of 5 inches, a height of 7 inches, and a width of 9 inches. (C) is incorrect because it refers to the diameter of the cylinder times the height of the cylinder multiplied by  $\pi$ . (D) is incorrect because it refers to the diameter of the cylinder multiplied by the height of the cylinder, and (E) is incorrect because it states the sum of the cylinder's diameter and height.

20. The variable  $x$  for this set of equations is equal to 3. The easiest way to determine the value of  $x$  for these equations is to isolate the  $x$  in each equation. In the first equation, this can be done by moving the 6 and 7 to the other side of the equation by adding 7 to 11 and dividing by 6. This can also be done in the second equation by moving the 4, 8, and 2

to the other side of the equation by adding 8 to 6, subtracting 2 from 6, and then dividing by 4. Therefore, the formula for determining  $x$  for the first equation would be  $x = (11 + 7) / 6$ , or  $x = 3$ . The formula for determining  $x$  in the second equation would be  $x = (6 + 8 - 2) / 4$ , or  $x = 3$ .

21. The variable  $x$  for this set of equations is equal to -1. This is because the first equation states that the absolute value of  $4x - 3$  is equal to 7, which means that  $4x - 3$  is equal to 7 or -7. Therefore, the formula for determining  $x$  for the first equation is  $x = (7 + 3) / 4$  or  $x = (-7 + 3) / 4$ . As a result, the  $x$  in the first equation must be equal to 2.5 or -1. The second equation states that the absolute value of  $2x + 2 = 0$ , which means that  $2x + 2$  must be equal to 0 because the absolute value of 0 is 0. Therefore, the formula for determining  $x$  for the second equation is  $x = (0 - 2) / 2$ , so  $x$  must equal -1. Since both equations will work with  $x$  as -1, the correct solution to the problem is that  $x$  is equal to -1.

22. The automotive plant will have to order 125 parts in order to fill all of the orders for this scheduling period. This is because  $F$  is the number of parts required to fill the orders,  $x$  is the number of days,  $p$  is the number of parts that the plant uses on average each day,  $b$  is the number of parts that the plant has on hand for the period, and  $d$  is the number of defects that they expect. Therefore, the solution to this problem can be determined simply by plugging the numbers into the equation. The manufacturing period is five days long, so  $x = 5$ ; the plant uses 15 parts per day, so  $p = 15$ ; the plant has 50 parts on hand, so  $b = 50$ ; and the plant expects 5 defects per day, so  $d = 5$ . Therefore,  $F(5) = 5 * 2(15) - (50 - 5 * 5)$ , or 125.

23. The correct answer is (D). The probability of drawing an ace on the first draw from the deck is  $1/13$  and the probability of drawing the ace of spades on the first draw from the deck is  $1/52$ . The probability of drawing an ace on the first draw can be determined by dividing the number of aces in the deck by the number of cards in the deck. Since there are four aces in a deck of cards, and 52 cards in a deck, the probability of drawing an ace on the first card is  $4/52$ , or  $1/13$ . The probability of drawing the ace of spades, on the other hand, is  $1/52$  because there is only one ace of spades in each 52-card deck.

24. The correct answer is (D), or  $1/221$ . This answer indicates the probability of drawing two aces when two cards are drawn from a deck and the first card is not replaced. It is the lack of a replacement for the first card drawn that decreases the probability of drawing a second ace from the deck. When a poker player draws two cards without replacing the first card drawn, and one of those cards is an ace, the probability of drawing a second ace from the deck is equal to the probability of drawing the first ace multiplied by the probability of drawing the second ace. The probability of drawing the first ace is  $4/52$ , or  $1/13$ . Since one of the aces is removed from the deck in the first draw, the probability of drawing the second ace is only  $3/51$ , or  $1/17$ . As a result, the probability of drawing both aces within the context of the first two cards drawn is  $1/13 * 1/17$ , or  $1/221$ .

25. The correct answer is choice (D), as the word *his* is incorrectly used in this sentence. In this question, grammar can provide clues with regard to the correct answer. This is because the word *his* is a singular possessive pronoun, but the sentence is talking about a

group of people. The subject of the sentence and the possessive pronoun that is used do not match in number. As a result, the word *his* should be replaced with the plural possessive pronoun *their* or a phrase that identifies the specific homeland that is being described. In lieu of that, another sentence construction may be used such as use of the expressions “*the captain’s*” or “*the crew’s*,” if the crew and the captain are not from the same place. All of the other options for this sentence contain no errors and are therefore incorrect in answering this question.

26. The correct answer is (A), as the word *me* is incorrectly used in this sentence. This is because the pronoun *me* can only be used as a direct object or an indirect object. In this sentence, it is being used as the subject. As a result, the object pronoun *me* should be replaced with the subject pronoun *I*. (C) may also appear to be grammatically incorrect, as it refers to another use of the word *me* later in the sentence. However, the word *me* is used correctly in this instance because it is being used as an indirect object to describe whom it “was easy for.” (C) is therefore an incorrect answer for this question because the phrase is correct as it stands and does not cause an error when placed into the sentence. The other options are also incorrect for this question because they do not contain an error when placed into the sentence.

27. The correct answer is (B), as the word *I* is incorrectly used in this sentence. This usage of the word *I* is a very common mistake and, as the result of frequent misuse, appears to be endemic in the lexicon of American English. But no matter how often the expression may be misused, it is grammatically incorrect. The pronoun *I* can only be used in this way as the subject of a sentence. In this instance, it is being used as an indirect object describing whom the captain was waiting for. As a result, the subject pronoun *I* is being used incorrectly and it should be replaced with the object pronoun *me*. The other options are all incorrect for this question because they cause no errors when used in the example sentence.

28. The correct answer is (C), as the word *cant* means something much different than what the context of the sentence expresses. The word *cant* means “to speak using jargon, routine and somewhat repetitive expression, or a secret language.” The context of the sentence, however, indicates that the individual cannot “believe” something. From the context, the sentence suggests that the word *cant* refers to the contraction of the word *cannot*. Therefore, the word should be written as *can’t*. The problem with this particular error is that the contraction lacks an apostrophe, which changes the entire meaning and makes no sense in this sentence. The other options that are available for this question have nothing to do with the error in the sentence.

29. The correct answer is (E), as there is no error in this particular sentence. The first part of the sentence, “As the ship left the dock” is a dependent adverbial clause that is used to describe when the action is taking place; the comma separates the dependent clause from the independent clause. This part of the sentence is written correctly, so (A) and (B) are incorrect answers for this question. The second part of the sentence, “I stood and stared”, is the beginning of an independent clause that states the action “stood and stared” that the subject of the sentence, “I,” refers back to, and the phrase “at the shore intently”

describes what the individual was staring at. This part of the sentence is written correctly, so (C) and (D) are also incorrect answers for this question. As a result, there are no errors in the sentence and the correct option to choose is choice (E).

30. The correct answer is (A), as this sentence uses the wrong form of the word *its*. This is because the context of the sentence indicates that the writer or speaker is attempting to state that “it is a fine ship” rather than show possession. This means that the sentence should contain the contraction of *it* and *is* instead of the possessive word *its*, which is used to show that *it* owns something. This may seem relatively confusing because most words are followed by an “’s” in order to show possession, but apostrophes are also used to indicate that letter(s) have been removed from the words in a contraction. As a result, the contraction of *it is* and the appropriate possessive form of the word *it* would both be *it’s*. However, in order to avoid the confusion that might arise from having a word that can be both a possessive pronoun and a contraction, the word *it’s* is always used to indicate *it is*, and the word *its* is always used to indicate possession.

31. The correct answer is (C), as the sentence should read: “The captain ordered his men to sail through the storm and his men obeyed.” The original sentence is incorrect because it contains two independent clauses that are spliced together with a comma. There are a number of ways to correct this mistake; a few simple methods include substituting a coordinating conjunction such as *and* or *but* in place of the comma, adding a coordinating conjunction after the comma, changing the comma to a semicolon, or breaking the sentence into two separate sentences. For example, the following construction may be used: “The captain ordered his men to sail through the storm.” This sentence might be followed by: “The captain’s men obeyed.” Even though there are a variety of ways to correct the mistake within this sentence, the only listed choice that corrects the mistake in the original sentence is (C), which removes the comma and replaces it with a coordinating conjunction.

32. The correct answer is choice (D). To be correct, the sentence should read: “The giant waves rocked the ship back and forth, but the ship made it through the storm unharmed.” The original sentence is incorrect because it contains two independent clauses that are linked by a coordinating conjunction and a semicolon. It may appear that the phrasing of the original sentence is grammatically correct, but a semicolon can only be used in a sentence where there is a conjunctive adverb or in a sentence with no linking word at all. Since the word *but* is a coordinating conjunction and not a conjunctive adverb, the semicolon is being used incorrectly in this sentence. The easiest way to fix this problem is to change the semicolon to a comma. As a result, the phrasing presented by (D) corrects the mistake within the original sentence.

33. The correct answer is choice (A); there are no errors in this sentence. It may appear that the sentence has a comma splice, but this is not the case. This is because a comma splice only occurs if both clauses are independent and, in this particular case, the comma within the sentence separates the dependent clause “if the ship had arrived a day earlier” from another dependent clause, “it would have avoided the storm entirely.” Clauses that begin with words such as *if*, *when*, and *because* are always dependent on another phrase

or clause to follow next. Adverbs used in adverbial dependent clauses that precede a statement indicate that some piece of information must follow in order to complete the sentence. Therefore, the original sentence is correct and there is no reason to alter the sentence's phrasing.

34. The correct answer is (E), as the sentence should read: "As the ship approached the island, it hit the rocks on the shore." The original version of the sentence may appear to be grammatically correct, but it is actually awkward and somewhat confusing because it is written in the passive voice. This means that the direct object of the sentence (*the rocks*) and the action of the sentence (*hit*) comes before the subject of the sentence (*the ship*). Since sentences written in the passive voice are usually considered to be awkward or structured poorly, it is usually a good idea to revise a sentence written in the passive voice so that it uses the active voice to make a statement or convey action or meaning. As a result, this sentence should be rewritten so that the subject (*the ship*) comes before the action word in the sentence (*hit*) and the direct object (*the rocks*). A similar sentence, written in the active voice would read: "The ship hit the rocks."

35. The correct answer is (D), as the sentence should read "Jay used to sail with the captain every day, but now he just goes out with the captain afterwards." The original version of the sentence is incorrect because the sentence contains two clauses that are each in a different tense, and it is not clear which tense is intended. This is because the predicate "*used to sail*" describes an action that occurred in the past and more than once and then stopped occurring at a specific point in time. The predicate of the sentence, "*and now he goes out*," describes an action that the individual is still performing now. As a result, it is difficult for a reader to determine whether each action is still going on or not. To eliminate this confusion, the phrase "*and, then he goes out*" should be changed to another phrase that makes it clear that the change in tense is deliberate, such as "*but now he just goes out*."

36. The correct answer is (B). The sentence should read: "The ship was known as the Raptor, and that name struck fear into the hearts of people everywhere." The original version of the sentence is incorrect because it contains two independent clauses that are fused together without any punctuation. This type of error is very similar to a comma splice, but instead of splicing two independent clauses together with a comma, the sentence simply places the two clauses together without any punctuation at all. There are a number of different ways to correct this mistake, but the easiest way to correct the mistake is to add a comma and a coordinating conjunction such as *and*. This is exactly what the phrasing offered by (B) does; it corrects the error in the original version of the sentence by adding a comma and the coordinating conjunction *and*.

37. The correct answer is (D). The best revision among the choices offered to make this sentence grammatically correct is to combine sentences (1) and (2). The reason for combining the two is that the sentences are intertwined in terms of expression of a significant theme. Sentence (2) is an independent clause which could stand on its own, but it is strongly related to the information in the first sentence and builds upon its meaning. The first sentence of the passage describes how Marlowe was seen during his

own time; the second sentence describes how scholars see him compared to the other individuals writing during that particular era of literary development. The problem the sentence construction poses is that it is not clear if the subject of the second sentence of the passage is Marlowe rather than Shakespeare. The flow of images is interrupted and disjointed because there is no transition from the first sentence into the second. As a result, the best way to revise this sentence and improve the overall passage is to combine sentences (1) and (2) so that the related information is presented together.

38. The correct answer is (A), as the best revision to make to this sentence is to change “*it is true that*” to “*unfortunately,*”. This is because sentence (3), even though it is grammatically correct, interrupts the flow of the passage. In other words, sentence (3) presents the information that the writer or speaker intended in the correct format, but the sentence does not include a word or phrase that creates a transition from the second sentence to the third sentence. This problem can be easily corrected by adding a transition word such as *unfortunately* to the beginning of the sentence. Therefore, the passage as a whole will be more effective if the sentence is changed to read: “Unfortunately, many people have never even heard of Marlowe as he only had enough time to pen seven or eight plays and several poems before his death in 1593.”

39. The correct answer is (C), since the best place for sentence 4 would be after sentence (2). Sentence (4) is grammatically correct and the sentence has a transitional phrase that allows the flow of the paragraph to continue, but the placement of the sentence within the passage does not logically develop the theme. This is because sentence (4) offers the opinion that Christopher Marlowe was similar to Shakespeare in many ways and supports that opinion by mentioning that Marlowe, like Shakespeare, was both a playwright and a poet. However, the sentence appears after sentence (3), which refers to the fact that Marlowe was only able to write a small number of plays and poems, unlike Shakespeare, who was more prolific. Putting sentence (4) after sentence (3) is something of a non sequitur. The writer wishes to show that Christopher Marlowe should occupy as important a place in English literature as Shakespeare. It would strengthen the argument, and the writing, to place sentence (4) after sentence (2). The result would be two sequential statements that support each other, each one describing Marlowe as a talented writer of drama and poetry, and in the same league as Shakespeare.

40. The correct answer is (C), as the best version of the underlined portion of the sentence is “However, there is no doubt that the works of Christopher Marlowe have...” This version of the sentence is more effective than the original version because the original version of the sentence does not make it clear who “his” works belong to. The vagueness of this reference to “his works” weakens the theme and confuses the reader. The sentence is most likely talking about Marlowe, but sentences (1) and (4) also mention Shakespeare, so it is possible that the writer of the passage is discussing Shakespeare in this sentence. As a result, in order to make it clear that the writer is discussing Marlowe and not Shakespeare, it is necessary to replace the word *his* with “Christopher Marlowe’s” or “the works of Christopher Marlowe”.