

One theory suggests that the cicada has a parasite that also goes through a lengthy life cycle and that the cicada is trying to avoid. If the parasite has a life cycle of, say, 2 years then the cicada wants to avoid a life cycle that is divisible by 2, otherwise the parasite and the cicada will regularly coincide. Similarly, if the parasite has a life cycle of 3 years then the cicada wants to avoid a life cycle that is divisible by 3, otherwise the parasite and the cicada will once again regularly coincide. Ultimately, to avoid meeting its parasite the cicadas' best strategy is to have a long life cycle lasting a prime number of years. Because nothing will divide into 17, *Magicicada septendecim* will rarely meet its parasite. If the parasite has a 2-year life cycle they will meet only every 34 years, and if it has a longer life cycle, say 16 years, then they will meet only every 272 ( $16 \times 17$ ) years.

According to the text, why (theoretically) do cicadas have a 17-year life cycle?

- (A) Seventeen years is the optimum length of time for cicadas to most efficiently use available food and other resources in order to reproduce.
- (B) No parasite species can survive 17 years without reproducing.
- (C) It evolved as the most advantageous way for cicadas to coexist with a parasite that has now become extinct.
- (D) It evolved as a successful defense against a parasite.

21. The following poem was written in the late 1870s by Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

Popular, Popular, Unpopular!

'You're no Poet'—the critics cried!

'Why?' said the Poet. 'You're unpopular!'

Then they cried at the turn of the tide—

'You're no Poet' 'Why?'—“You're Popular!”

Pop-gun, Popular and Unpopular!

Which choice states the main idea of the poem?

- (A) Critics, influenced by perceptions of popularity, are like children playing with toys.
- (B) The poet is criticized for not being popular, despite his attempts.
- (C) Critics are defined by implication as those who analyze and review literary poetry.
- (D) Popularity and unpopularity both convey a sense of danger to the poet.

22. This selection is taken from a speech by Abbey Kelly Foster (1851).

My friends, I feel that in throwing out this idea, I have done what was left for me to do. But I did not rise to make a speech—my life has been my speech. For fourteen years I have advocated this cause by my daily life. Bloody feet, sisters, have worn smooth the path by which you have come up hither. You will not need to speak when you speak by your everyday life. Oh, how truly does Webster say, action, action is eloquence! Let us, then when we go home, go not to complain, but to work. Do not go home to complain of the men, but go and make greater exertions than ever to discharge your everyday duties.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- (A) Put your money where your mouth is.
- (B) The early bird catches the worm.
- (C) A picture is worth a thousand words.
- (D) Don't just talk the talk, but walk the walk.

23. This selection is taken from Samuel Johnson's *The Rambler*, No. 4 (1750).

I remember a remark made by Scaliger upon Pontanus, that all his writings are filled with the same images; and that is you take from him his lilies and his roses, his satyrs and his dryads, he will have nothing left that can be called poetry. In like manner also most all the fictions of the last age will vanish. If you deprive them of a hermit and a wood, a battle and a shipwreck.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- (A) The writings of Scaliger are critical.
- (B) The errors of Pontanus include overuse of certain images.
- (C) Fictions of the last age are difficult to understand.
- (D) Past writers have overused conventional characters and images.

24. The following selection is from Maria Edgeworth's *Letters for Literary Ladies* (1795).

Even if literature were of no other use to the fair sex than to supply them with employment, I should think the time dedicated to the cultivation of their minds well bestowed: they are surely better occupied when they are reading or writing than when coquetting or gaming, losing their fortunes or their characters. You despise the writing of women—you think that they have made at least as good a use of it as learned men did of the needle some centuries ago, when they set themselves to determine how many spirits could stand upon its point, and were ready to tear one another to pieces in the discussion of this sublime question.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- (A) Despite the opinions of critics, women should engage in reading and writing.
- (B) Criticisms of women's writing efforts are justified.
- (C) Women waste their time and destroy their characters by coquetting or gaming.
- (D) Women should stop and learn to sew with divine needles, as learned men did years ago.

25. The following lines come from John Dryden's "The Art of Poetry" (circa 1680).

A poem, where we all perfections find,

Is not the work of a fantastic mind;

There must be care, and time, and skill, and pains:

Not the first heat of inexperienced brains.

Yet sometimes artless poets, when the rage

Of a warm fancy does their minds engage,

Puffed with vain pride, presume they understand,

And boldly take the trumpet in their hand:

Their fustian muse each accident confounds;

Nor can she fly, but rise by leaps and bounds,

Till, their small stock of learning quickly spent,

Their poem dies for want of nourishment.

Which choice best states the main idea of the poem?

(A) The best poems are the product of “a fantastic mind.”

(B) For poems to be perfect, they must engage the fustian muse.

(C) A poem written by an artless poet dies from the poet’s lack of knowledge.

(D) Most poetry has a basis in emotional presumptions on the part of the poet.

## Answer Explanations

- (C)** Although he directly tells the blond lieutenant that his parents are in the Wyoming desert (A), the correct and most complete answer is inferred from the details of his explanation in answer to the blond lieutenant’s question about what he means when saying that his folks were “not quite” farmers. He answers with the account of how his parents were removed from the Coast and placed in concentration camps/relocation centers.
- (D)** The author directly states, “If the nuclear forces had been slightly stronger than they are . . . hydrogen would be a rare element, and stars like the sun . . . could not exist.”

3. (B) The correct answer combines what the author says about new cures (“Therapy [new and effective drugs] had been discovered for great numbers of patients whose illnesses had previously been untreatable”) and about the reactions of the doctors to these new cures (“Doctors could now cure disease, and this was astonishing, most of all to the doctors themselves.”).
4. (B) The phrase “this sentiment” refers to the “exasperation” of artists and writers with highly commercial society. Philistinism—an attitude of smug ignorance and conventionalism toward artistic and cultural values—neatly describes the attitude that artists and writers found exasperating.
5. (D) The author directly states, “The general importance of zoonoses for humanity has waxed and waned over time in concert with changing conditions. . . .”
6. (D) The author directly states that rabies “is diagnosed annually in wildlife and other animals where it continues to cause periodic epizootics.”
7. (A) The author asks, “If it be admitted that a man possessing absolute power may misuse that power by wronging his adversaries, why should not a majority be liable to the same reproach?” This rhetorical question makes the point that the majority can take actions, such as passing laws, that wrong people. Along this line of reasoning, such laws would be unjust.
8. (B) The author directly states the correct answer: “. . . liberty is endangered when this power [the dominant social power] finds no obstacle which can retard its course. . . .”
9. (D) When the author states that “the Court of Claims . . . was set up not to administer justice but to . . . head off any future claims that Indians might make on lands coveted by the white economy,” he is saying that the Court of Claims is biased toward white people.

10. (C) Franklin's acceptance of the "dangerous mission to France" contradicts the claim that he never went to Europe.
11. (A) According to his claim, Benjamin Franklin was a follower of the "theory of enlightened self-interest." Logically, then, he would seek what was in his self-interest (what would benefit him).
12. (B) "Nurture" refers to cultural influences, and "nature," in context, refers to the influence of a person's genetic makeup.
13. (A) In this context, "ubiquitous" means "existing everywhere," making choice (A) the only logical choice.
14. (D) The author directly states that they "argued unsystematically and unfairly," the exact opposite of being "scrupulously fair." That they used superficial elements in the art of persuasion (A) is seen in "painted over the gaps in their reasoning with glossy rhetoric." For rhetoric (the art of persuasion) to be "glossy" means that it includes elements that are superficial. Both (B) and (C) are clearly stated.
15. (C) The author states that some people living in urban areas regard resident waterfowl as companions ("companion animal status [is] conferred"). We can infer from this that many of these people would actively oppose the culling of resident waterfowl because of their emotional attachment to these animals, making wildlife management and disease control difficult.
16. (D) The author lists "Rabies, plague, and tularemia" as examples of wildlife diseases brought into homes. Also, the reciprocal relationship is stated directly: "There is also potential for companion animals to transmit their pathogens to free-ranging wildlife."
17. (C) The writer suggests to readers that "willing" (B) lost information to return is a waste of energy. Recalling facts or information associated with the lost information, on the other hand, results in recall. "When you least expect it" implies that you may not immediately remember (A). This statement further implies that your

mind has moved on to other thoughts—making the “lo!” moment delayed.

18. (C) Jim is directly described as “powerfully built” and “very popular.”
19. (C) The lesson he learned is best summarized in choice (C), based on the context of the narrative. A girl refused his card. “Then it dawned upon me . . . that I was different from the others; or like, mayhap, in heart and life and longing, but shut out from their world by a vast veil.”
20. (D) The theory suggests that “to avoid meeting its parasite the cicadas’ best strategy is to have a long life cycle lasting a prime number of years.”
21. (A) That the poet is between a rock and a hard place is easy to see. He is the target for critics whether his works are popular or unpopular. But in the last line, we see a clue to his attitude toward all the negative reviews made by the critics. “Pop-gun, Popular and Unpopular!” A pop-gun is a children’s toy that that uses air to blow harmless corks or pellets. By using this comparison, the poet is telling us that the erratic behavior of the critics is childish and lacks any real impact on their target (the poet).
22. (D) “You will not need to speak when you speak by your everyday life.” Money (A), time (B), and visuals (C) are not the central idea here. If “action is eloquence,” then to walk is the only “action” or choice.
23. (D) Conventional characters and images, such as those mentioned in the selection, are those that recur in various literary forms. Even if you do not know what a satyr or dryad might be, you can tell his point from “his lilies and his roses.” The overuse of them can make the character or image become expected and stereotypical. Although choices (A) and (B) are in the passage, these statements are too narrow for the main idea or theme. The speaker generalizes to say that past writers (represented by Pontanus and those of the “last age”)

filled their poetry and fictions with conventional characters (represented by hermits) and images (represented by lilies and roses).

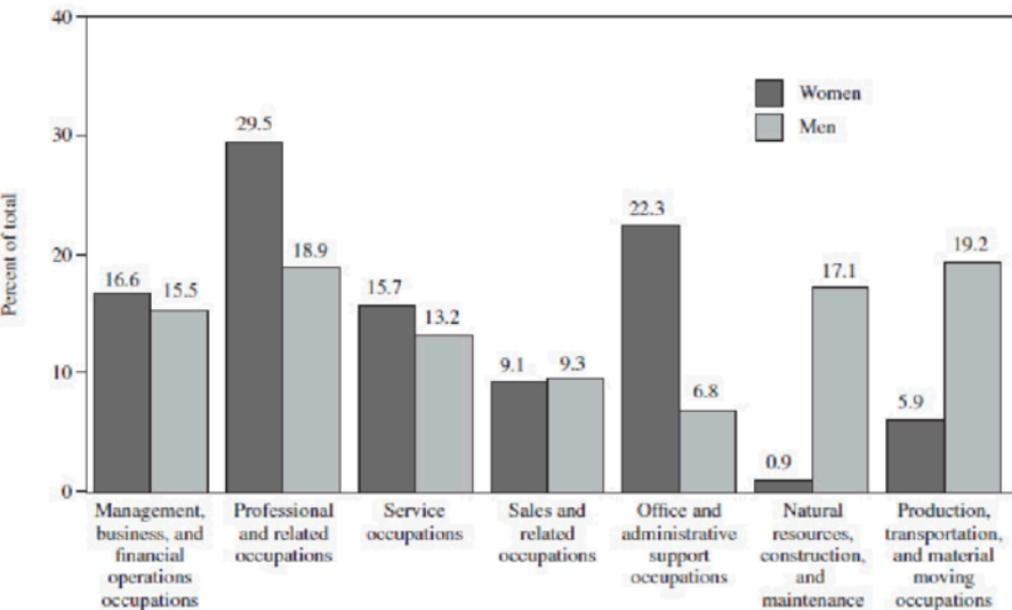
24. (A) This selection defends women who read and write by pointing out that these activities are less self-destructive than coquetting or gaming and that their literary efforts (plays, and poetry, and romances) are of as much value as that of some of the “learned men.”
25. (C) “A poem, where we all perfections find,” —in other words, a really well-written poem—is the product of “care, and time, and skill, and pains.” This observation sets the standard against which poetry is to be judged and brings the poet to his main point: the poems of artless poets written with pride and accident from a “small stock of learning” die “for want of nourishment.”

## Quantitative Evidence

For these questions, you will be using a graphic, such as a chart, map, or graph, to evaluate the writer’s claim, whether it is supported, not supported, or illustrated by the evidence. You will then choose which answer choice “effectively” uses the data you see in order to complete the statement.

## Practice

Each question has one or more passages. Carefully read each passage and question, and choose the best answer to the question based on the passage(s).

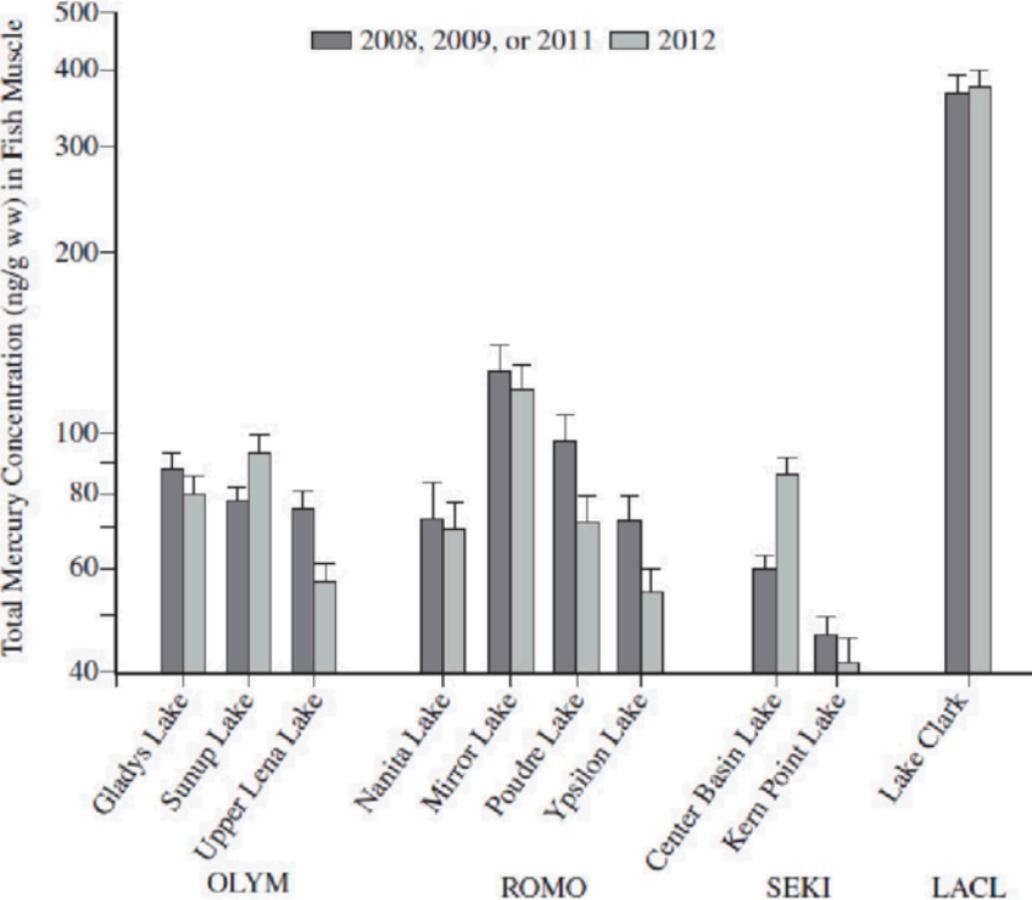


SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

1. The occupational distributions of female and male full-time workers differ significantly. Compared with men, relatively few women work in construction, production, or transportation occupations, and women are far more concentrated in \_\_\_\_\_.

Which choice most effectively uses information from the graph to complete the statement?

- (A) natural resources  
 (B) sales and related occupations  
 (C) office and administrative support occupations  
 (D) management, business, and financial operations occupations



2. In this study, we examined mercury (Hg) concentrations in nonmigratory freshwater fish in 86 sites across 21 national parks in the western United States. There were no consistent patterns in interannual variability across the 10 sites sampled over separate years. Significant differences in mean Hg concentrations were observed at 5 of 10 sites. Fish total Hg (THg) concentrations increased significantly from the first sampling to the second at two sites: Sunup Lake and Center Basin Lake. Conversely, fish THg concentrations decreased significantly from the first sampling event to the second in three sites: