Remedial Test

GENERAL ENGLISH

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| Name | : |  | Date | : |
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1. READING SKILLS
2. PARAPHRASING

Directions: Read the original sentence, and then read the sentence below it. Mark the answer (I) if the second sentence is an incomplete restatement of the original sentence. (X) if it is incorrect, or C if it is a correct restatement of the original sentence.

1. Ranging from the size of sparrows to the size of small airplanes, the pterosaurs ruled the skies during the Jurassic period, but today there are no reptiles capable of flight.

(I, X or C) Pterosaurs, which ranged in size from small to large, were flying lizards that lived during the Jurassic period.

1. The architects of the temples of ancient Rome and Greece worked anonymously, as did the builders of the medieval cathedrals in Europe.

(I, X or C) No one today knows the names of the architects of the Roman and Greek temples or the cathedrals of medieval Europe.

1. First made famous by the Middleton study of 1923, the town of Muncie, Indiana, has been the subject of several sociological studies on life in a typical Midwestern city of the United States.

(I, X or C) Beginning in 1923, the town of Middleton has been studied several times by sociologists.

1. In the twentieth century, the emphasis on team sports such as football and baseball became even more pronounced than it had been in the nineteenth century.

(I, X or C) Team sports were more important in the nineteenth century than they were in the twentieth.

1. Although often misrepresented in movies as a land of dense forests, the continent of Africa is in fact mainly covered by rolling savannahs, deserts, and mountain ranges.

(I, X or C) Even though Africa’s most important features are savannas, deserts, and mountain ranges, movies often depict Africa as a land of dense forests.

1. Although cubism was never itself an abstract style, the many varieties of nonobjective art it helped usher in throughout Europe would have been unthinkable without it.

(I, X or C) Cubism, which was not an abstract art, opened door for a large quantity of abstract art that followed it.

1. There is no official international board governing the rules for playing checkers as there is for chess, so there are slight variations in rules from country to country.

(I, X or C) Unlike chess with no official rules, the rules for playing checkers are determined by an international governing board.

1. Handel, always ready for experimentation in orchestrating his music, may have written a few pieces for the clarinet; but it was not until the mid-nineteenth century that the clarinet became an important orchestral instrument.

(I, X or C) The clarinet became a leading orchestral instrument in the mid-nineteenth century because of Handel’s experimental clarinet music.

1. No single theory explains inflations, but when put together like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, these theories provide a pretty clear picture of why prices go up.

(I, X or C) Considered together, various theories can explain inflation, but individual theories are inadequate.

1. Pasta has an advantage over bread as a staple of life in that it can be dried and preserved.

(I, X or C) If it is important to save food for later, pasta is better than bread because it can be dried.

1. SUMMARIZING

Read the selection; then answer the questions that follow

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| *(1)* | Is flood ever good news? How can it be? When river water overflows and floods the land, people can lose their homes . . . even their lives! So to people who live in flood-prone areas, a flood is always bad news. But in ancient Egypt, things were different. The people looked forward to a yearly flood and saw it as good news! | |
| *(2)* | Many Egyptians lived and farmed by the Nile River, which flooded every summer. They eagerly anticipated the event because they knew that when the water receded, the land would be better for crops. That's because floodwaters carry along washed-away soil and sediment, then drop it somewhere else. There, the nutrients in the sediment sink into and nourish the land. Then the farmland is richer and ready for crops. | |
| *(3)* | The Egyptians weren't sure why the flood came each year. Many believed it was a gift from the spirits, who sent great clouds of rain to fall near the source of the Nile. But actually, that wasn't the case. The annual flood was caused by natural events that began high in the mountains of Ethiopia. | |
| *(4)* | In June, strong winds from the South Atlantic Ocean blow over the rainforests of Africa. When the winds reach Ethiopia's mountains, some of which are 13,000 feet (4,000 m) high, giant rain clouds drop their contents in huge thunderstorms. The rain continues and mountain streams fill to the brim. Then the streams join together to form a sizeable river. It speeds along to meet the Nile, carrying lots of soil and sediment with it. By July, the rushing water reaches Egypt, where it produces a flood in the Nile. | |
| *(5)* | The yearly flooding of the Nile wasn't all good news. Sometimes buildings and fences were swept away and property lines disappeared. But landowners just marked off their territories and put up new fences for another year. | |
| *(6)* | Today, floodwaters from Ethiopia are stopped soon after they reach Egypt. A large dam on the river holds back the rushing, rising water and forms a large lake. This is good news. Now buildings and fences aren't swept away. And today farmers can plant two crops a year instead of just one. | |
| *(7)* | But the dam is bad news, too. The waters of the yearly flood always kept the fields fertile. Today, farmers use fertilizers that get into the mud and water of the Nile. Fish that once thrived in the Nile are gone. And a serious disease is spread by snails that live in the slow-moving waters of the great river. | |
| *(8)* | So back to our original question: Is flood ever good news? As you can see, it can be, if the good benefits outweigh the bad. | |
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| **11.** | Which is the best one-sentence summary for paragraph 1? | |
| **a.** | For people in ancient Egypt, a yearly flood was good news. |
| **b.** | Flood is never good news to people today. |
| **c.** | Unlike today, a yearly flood was good news to people in ancient Egypt. |
| **d.** | A yearly flood in Ancient Egypt always brought about unwelcomed disasters. |

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| **12.** | Which is the best one-sentence summary for paragraph 2? | |
| **a.** | A yearly flood in Egypt did a lot of damage. |
| **b.** | A yearly flood in Egypt brought sediment that helped the land. |
| **c.** | A yearly flood brought more people to Ethiopia. |
| **d.** | A yearly flood in Egypt was caused by rain over the Pacific Ocean. |
| **13.** | Which is the best one-sentence summary for paragraph 3? | |
| **a.** | The Ethiopians were the first to know the cause of the yearly flood in Ancient Egypt. |
| **b.** | The Ethiopians told the people in Ancient Egypt about the cause of the yearly flood in Egypt. |
| **c.** | The Ancient Egyptians didn’t know that the yearly flood was actually caused by natural events in Ethiopia. |
| **d.** | According to the Ancient Egyptians, the yearly flood was caused by natural events in Ethiopia. |
| **14.** | Which is the best summary for paragraph 4? | |
| **a.** | Winds from the Atlantic drop rain on Egypt at the source of the Nile. The rain floods large cities near the river. |
| **b.** | Rain over the Atlantic comes on shore in Ethiopia and in the mountains of Egypt and floods the Nile. |
| **c.** | Rain in France forms a river that travels to Egypt and dumps sediments into the Nile. Then the Nile floods Egyptian farmland beside the river. |
| **d.** | Winds from the Atlantic drop rain on Ethiopia and rain-filled streams form a river. It dumps into the Nile, which floods Egyptian farmland beside the river. |

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| **15.** | Today a large dam on the river controls the rushing water from Ethiopia from bringing damage by forming a large lake.  Which paragraph does the above one-sentence summary describe? | |
| **a.** | Paragraph 4 |
| **b.** | Paragraph 5 |
| **c.** | Paragraph 6 |
| **d.** | Paragraph 7 |

1. FACTS AND OPINIONS
2. Last year there was a horrible outbreak of flue. (F/0)
3. Research confirmed that babies generally start to talk between 18 and 24 months of age. (F/O)
4. The average temperature in Wyoming in January is 35°F. (F/O)
5. Italian is an easier language to learn than Spanish. (F/O)
6. A daily newspaper reported that more people stopped smoking last year than two years ago. (F/O)
7. Many nutritionists believe a low-carbohydrate, high protein diet is the healthiest diet. (F/O)
8. Smoke detectors can help save lives (F/O)
9. Report from the Ministry of Health revealed that thousands of people die each year from the interaction of their prescription drugs. (F/O)
10. Cell-phones should be banned in all public school classrooms. (F/O)
11. Children should not be allowed to watch more than five hours of television per week. (F/O)
12. It’s a fact that soccer and rugby are violent sports. (F/O)
13. The Center of Disease Control is a government agency that is responsible for the control and suppression of infectious diseases. (F/O)
14. Surfing the web is more fun than watching TV. (F/O)
15. College students would benefit greatly from participating in intramural sports. (F/O)
16. Next year, Tiger Woods will win the Mater’s Golf Tournament. (F/O)
17. Reading Comprehension

**AVALANCHE**

Most people know that an avalanche is a large mass of snow that detaches from a mountainside and rushes down the slope, often at a very high speed. However, not everyone realizes that there are many different kinds of avalanches, with various causes and effects. Avalanches are categorized based on whether the snow is wet or dry, and whether or not it is compacted. The four most common types are: dry snow, wet snow, wet slab, and dry slab.

The least dangerous type is a dry snow avalanche, which is made up of powdery snow. A dry snow avalanche most often occurs on steeper slopes during a snowstorm when the temperatures are below freezing. Despite the fact that they can reach speeds of up to 225 miles per hour, these avalanches tend to be small, and their snow is loose, not compacted, so they are less dangerous. Yet even a dry snow avalanche can cause harm under the right conditions.

A wet snow avalanche differs from a dry snow avalanche in that it consists of loose, partially melted snow and water. Wet snow avalanches generally occur during the springtime when temperatures are consistently above freezing and there is an abundance of both sunshine and rainfall. The warmer temperatures and the sun melt the outer layers of snow. The increased springtime rainfall saturates the snow with water, weakening the cohesive layers beneath the surface. The combination of these factors results in unstable conditions. Wet snow avalanches are the least common type of avalanche, and they are much slower than dry snow avalanches, typically traveling at speeds of only 10-20 miles per hour.

Like a wet snow avalanche, a wet slab avalanche most often occurs during the spring, due to melting snow and increased rainfall. The additional moisture weakens the bonds between the water molecules of the snow. Daytime melting and nighttime refreezing of the ice and snow create ideal conditions for a wet slab avalanche. This type of avalanche is the slowest, generally traveling at a speed of no more than 10 miles per hour. But because the snow is compacted, not loose, a wet slab avalanche is still quite dangerous even at this slow speed.

The last type, a dry slab avalanche, is the most dangerous of all. It occurs when substantial snowfall accumulates over a layer of existing snow in a very short period of time. The stress caused by the weight of the newly fallen snow can make the compacted layer underneath break away. This creates a dry slab avalanche, which travels at speeds of 60-80 miles per hour. Dry slab avalanches account for roughly 90% of all avalanche-related casualties annually.

Millions of avalanches happen around the world each year, the vast majority of which occur naturally. However, nearly all of the avalanches that result in fatalities are triggered by either the victim or someone in the victim’s party. Each year, approximately 150 people become casualties of an avalanche. Sadly, most of these avalanche accidents are preventable. The first step in preventing avalanche related fatalities is to be better informed about the various types of avalanches and the conditions under which they occur.

**Sources:**

"Avalanches." *Environment Insights*, Web, 18 Jun. 2012.

Directions: Choose the best answer for each number.

1. The main purpose of this passage is to \_\_\_\_
2. communicate the dangers of avalanches
3. show how preventable an avalanche can be
4. describe the four basic types of avalanches
5. define what an avalanche is
6. In paragraph 2, the author writes, “Yet, even a dry snow avalanche can cause harm under the right conditions.” The purpose of this statement is to \_\_\_\_\_
7. contradict a previous idea
8. support a latter point
9. qualify an earlier statement
10. introduce a larger idea
11. As used in paragraph 3, which is the best synonym for ‘saturates’?
12. soaks
13. damages
14. covers
15. dehydrates
16. According to the passage, the main causes of wet snow and wet slab avalanches are \_\_\_\_\_
17. melting snow and increased rainfall
18. decreased rainfall and warmer temperature
19. warmer temperature and longer days
20. shorter nights and melting snow
21. As used in paragraph 4, which is the best synonym for ‘ideal’?
22. predictable
23. flawed
24. unstable
25. suitable
26. Based on the information in the passage, which of the following statements is true?
27. Because it can travel at very high speeds, the dry snow avalanche is the most dangerous type.
28. All avalanches, whether they are traveling at 10 miles per hour or 225 miles per hour, can be very dangerous.
29. The speed at which an avalanche travels shares a direct correlation with the degree of danger it poses.
30. Most casualties occur from wet slab avalanches.
31. Based on information in the passage, it can be inferred that wet slab avalanches and dry slab avalanches are the only two types that \_\_\_\_\_\_
32. consist of compacted snow
33. travel at higher speeds
34. occur at unexpected times of the year
35. result from below freezing temperature
36. According to the passage, the avalanche capable of reaching the highest speed is the \_\_\_\_\_
37. dry snow avalanche
38. wet snow avalanche
39. wet slab avalanche
40. dry slab avalanche
41. The main purpose of the final paragraph is to \_\_\_\_\_\_
    1. state the precise number of avalanche related causalities that happen each year
    2. describe how avalanches typically are triggered
    3. illustrate how tragic it can be to lose a friend in an avalanche related incident
    4. suggest a way in which readers can help prevent avalanche
42. The best summary for the article is \_\_\_\_
43. Avalanche is dangerous, thus, we need to be better informed about various types of avalanches and the conditions under which they occur to minimize damage.
44. Avalanche is dangerous, and can kill many people as well as destroy many villages struck by it, and no one can prevent it from happening.
45. People need to be constantly reminded at avalanche may trigger danger and kill people.
46. Different types of snow and temperature may trigger different types of avalanche.

Good luck and God bless you.