

1. The professor regarded the student's theory with \_\_\_\_\_, considering the overall idea creative, but the logic behind the specific details unsound.

- A. deliberation
- B. ambivalence
- C. indifference
- D. condescension
- E. consternation

2. Dylan's unwavering belief in the priority of self-interest was tantamount to \_\_\_\_\_: he took it as axiomatic that, since he could never be sure of others' beliefs or desires, he should focus only on his own.

- A. selfishness
- B. solipsism
- C. fortitude
- D. determinism
- E. negligence

3. A retreat to nature appealed to Thoreau for reasons other than the solitude that it provided. Thoreau believed that (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the untamed put him in touch with an (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ that, by definition, could not be replicated by the schemings of 19th-century man.

**Blank (i)**

- A. deflection of
- B. immersion in
- C. lionization of

**Blank (ii)**

- D. unpredictability
- E. austerity
- F. simplicity

4. Alarmists attribute the startling rise of student debt to the greed of for-profit universities. But, in focusing on the (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of these institutions, the critics overlook the more troubling trend in American culture: the belief that education is just another (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ whose value can and should be quantified economically.

**Blank (i)**

- A. archaism
- B. avarice
- C. naïveté

**Blank (ii)**

- D. pursuit
- E. volition
- F. commodity

5. The inability of economists to (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the causes of financial recessions should not, as some critics believe, be taken as a commentary on the limits of economics as a science. In every science, be it physics, chemistry, or psychology, the practitioners of the field put faith not in their results but in their (ii) \_\_\_\_\_: as long as they are adhering to the appropriate mode of analysis, the scientists are confident that questions that can be answered eventually will be.

Blank (i)

- A. exacerbate
- B. mollify
- C. delineate

Blank (ii)

- D. calculations
- E. methodologies
- F. equivalencies

6. Scientific discovery is generally (i) \_\_\_\_\_ process, building on and supplementing the discoveries made by previous researchers. But those discoveries that tend to alter the trajectory of human thought are often made in isolation of previous (ii) \_\_\_\_\_. Darwin's discovery of evolution, for example, though mainstream today, was not obviously (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ by the work of any naturalists before him.

Blank (i)

- A. a cumulative
- B. an erroneous
- C. an impertinent

Blank (ii)

- D. calculations
- E. exemplars
- F. paradigms

7. Which of the following, if true, best explains why the government's net revenue did not decrease since it limited the sale of tobacco products?

- A. In addition to limiting its sale of tobacco products, the government also ran advertisements highlighting the dangers of tobacco use.
- B. Many members of the government's legislature were in favor of the government's decision to limit tobacco use.
- C. Twenty years ago, most of the people using tobacco were aware of its health risks.
- D. All health care in Bunrose is government-funded.
- E. Consumers who saved money on tobacco products spent the majority of that money on private goods.

#### Question 7

In the country of Bunrose, the government has a monopoly on tobacco products. Thirty years ago, in response to a rise in tobacco-related illnesses, the government decided to limit its sale of tobacco products. Despite the loss in tobacco-related revenue, the government's net revenue was no less this year than it was 30 years ago.

8. According to the passage, what accounts for most scientists' reactions of "amusement and scorn"?

- A. Doubt about the plausibility of Wilson's theory
- B. Concern that attempting to achieve consilience would undermine the credibility of their given field
- C. Lack of familiarity with the approach necessary to achieve consilience
- D. An inability to reach a consensus about what would constitute consilience
- E. Ambivalence toward the approaches of scientists in other fields

#### Questions 8 to 10

When Edward O. Wilson argued for the concept of consilience, he had in mind the unification of all the scientific disciplines under one broad theory. Wilson believed that the reducibility of psychology to biology, biology to chemistry, and chemistry to physics implied that, with the proper conceptual and methodological tools, scientists would eventually be able to study all of these disparate domains within the same framework. Though most scientists agree with Wilson's basic premise, attempts at realizing his concept have been sparse and often met with a combination of amusement and scorn.

Why scientists have been so reluctant to pursue his project and to entertain others' attempts is due, at least partly, to the entrenched methodologies of each of these disciplines. The tools that psychologists use to study their subjects differ fundamentally from what biologists use to study their subject matter, and these tools differ just as drastically from what chemists use to study theirs. Any attempt to bridge the gap between fields necessitates a break with orthodoxy and, by extension, an introduction of tools and concepts that the established thinkers in a field are simply unfamiliar with.

9. Select the sentence that explains why Wilson was in favor of consilience.

When Edward O. Wilson argued for the concept of consilience, he had in mind the unification of all the scientific disciplines under one broad theory. Wilson believed that the reducibility of psychology to biology, biology to chemistry, and chemistry to physics implied that, with the proper conceptual and methodological tools, scientists would eventually be able to study all of these disparate domains within the same framework. Though most scientists agree with Wilson's basic premise, attempts at realizing his concept have been sparse and often met with a combination of amusement and scorn. Why scientists have been so reluctant to pursue his project and to entertain others' attempts is due, at least partly, to the entrenched methodologies of each of these disciplines. The tools that psychologists use to study their subjects differ fundamentally from what biologists use to study their subject matter, and these tools differ just as drastically from what chemists use to study theirs. Any attempt to bridge the gap between fields necessitates a break with orthodoxy and, by extension, an introduction of tools and concepts that the established thinkers in a field are simply unfamiliar with.

10. It can be inferred from the passage that scientists would be more open to attempts at consilience if which of the following was true?

- A. Scientists in other fields also accepted consilience.
- B. The approach necessary to achieve consilience was part of the repertoire of each scientist's given field.
- C. Evidence was discovered that definitively proved the reducibility of one science to another science.
- D. Consilience was limited to only certain fields.
- E. The realization of consilience did not rely on empirical data.

#### Questions 8 to 10

When Edward O. Wilson argued for the concept of consilience, he had in mind the unification of all the scientific disciplines under one broad theory. Wilson believed that the reducibility of psychology to biology, biology to chemistry, and chemistry to physics implied that, with the proper conceptual and methodological tools, scientists would eventually be able to study all of these disparate domains within the same framework. Though most scientists agree with Wilson's basic premise, attempts at realizing his concept have been sparse and often met with a combination of amusement and scorn.

Why scientists have been so reluctant to pursue his project and to entertain others' attempts is due, at least partly, to the entrenched methodologies of each of these disciplines. The tools that psychologists use to study their subjects differ fundamentally from what biologists use to study their subject matter, and these tools differ just as drastically from what chemists use to study theirs. Any attempt to bridge the gap between fields necessitates a break with orthodoxy and, by extension, an introduction of tools and concepts that the established thinkers in a field are simply unfamiliar with.

11. Select the two answer choices that (1) complete the sentence in a way that makes sense and (2) produce sentences that are similar in meaning.

The coffee shop's business plan, though \_\_\_\_\_ in the short-term, would ultimately undermine the owner's goal of maximizing profits.

- A. lucrative
- B. venal
- C. deliberate
- D. profitable
- E. profligate
- F. felonious

12. Select the two answer choices that (1) complete the sentence in a way that makes sense and (2) produce sentences that are similar in meaning.

Though not without some justification, the athlete's decision to forgo college only reinforced the widely held belief of his \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. impetuosity
- B. recklessness
- C. miserliness
- D. diligence
- E. consilience
- F. denigration

13. Select the two answer choices that (1) complete the sentence in a way that makes sense and (2) produce sentences that are similar in meaning.

Offering only loose guidelines, the recipe gave cooks the opportunity to practice \_\_\_\_\_ when creating the dishes.

- A. indolence
- B. creativity
- C. thoughtfulness
- D. ingenuity
- E. expertise
- F. haphazardness

14. Select the two answer choices that (1) complete the sentence in a way that makes sense and (2) produce sentences that are similar in meaning.

Despite the strides made in contemporary neuroscience over the past 50 years, knowledge of certain brain processes is incomplete and, in some cases, downright \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. lackadaisical
- B. negligible
- C. porous
- D. fleeting
- E. interminable
- F. anachronistic

15. The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. debating likelihood that a novelist will introduce real-life experiences into his fiction
- B. analyzing the effect that Dostoevsky's experience with the firing squad had on his novels
- C. arguing for a commonly held belief about the relationship of an author's experiences and the content of the author's novels
- D. evaluating Dostoevsky's ability to make his characters' lives believable
- E. highlighting the impact that intense personal experiences have on novelists

#### Questions 15 to 17

It is a belief so common as to be hackneyed: There exists a linear and continuous relationship between the themes and characters of a novelist's works and the life of the novelist himself. We need not look far to find rebuttals to this theme, but in the case of Dostoevsky, we find a counterpoint to this broader cynicism. An obvious example is *The Gambler*, wherein the main character's tragic gambling addiction closely parallels Dostoevsky's own lifelong travails with the roulette wheel and the subsequent financial consequences. But more broadly, the redemptive and existential overtones of his great novels, *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov*, have their antecedent in Dostoevsky's infamous encounter with the firing squad. Though Dostoevsky was reprieved from death at the last minute, the experience laid the foundations for the themes that characterized his more mature works: mortality, salvation, and compassion.

16. The author most likely mentions *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov* in order to

- A. provide examples of novels that were influenced by actual events in Dostoevsky's life
- B. emphasize the "existential and redemptive" elements in Dostoevsky's work
- C. suggest that the themes in *The Gambler* are not representative of Dostoevsky's mature novels
- D. illustrate the influence that Dostoevsky's experience with the firing squad had on his novels
- E. correct a misconception about the similarities between the two novels

#### Questions 15 to 17

It is a belief so common as to be hackneyed: There exists a linear and continuous relationship between the themes and characters of a novelist's works and the life of the novelist himself. We need not look far to find rebuttals to this theme, but in the case of Dostoevsky, we find a counterpoint to this broader cynicism. An obvious example is *The Gambler*, wherein the main character's tragic gambling addiction closely parallels Dostoevsky's own lifelong travails with the roulette wheel and the subsequent financial consequences. But more broadly, the redemptive and existential overtones of his great novels, *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov*, have their antecedent in Dostoevsky's infamous encounter with the firing squad. Though Dostoevsky was reprieved from death at the last minute, the experience laid the foundations for the themes that characterized his more mature works: mortality, salvation, and compassion.



17. In the context of the passage, *hackneyed* most nearly means

- A. controversial
- B. cliché
- C. exotic
- D. forgettable
- E. ill-conceived

#### Questions 15 to 17

It is a belief so common as to be hackneyed: There exists a linear and continuous relationship between the themes and characters of a novelist's works and the life of the novelist himself. We need not look far to find rebuttals to this theme, but in the case of Dostoevsky, we find a counterpoint to this broader cynicism. An obvious example is *The Gambler*, wherein the main character's tragic gambling addiction closely parallels Dostoevsky's own lifelong travails with the roulette wheel and the subsequent financial consequences. But more broadly, the redemptive and existential overtones of his great novels, *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov*, have their antecedent in Dostoevsky's infamous encounter with the firing squad. Though Dostoevsky was reprieved from death at the last minute, the experience laid the foundations for the themes that characterized his more mature works: mortality, salvation, and compassion.

18. Which of the following, if true, most likely explains why the government's action did not achieve its desired effect?

- A. Citizens aged 65 or older, who are the greatest consumers of prescription drugs in Centerville, accounted for a larger percentage of the population in 2010 than they did in 2000.
- B. To offset the potential loss in revenues caused by the ban, pharmaceutical companies decreased their advertising budgets.
- C. The population of Centerville increased from 2000 to 2010.
- D. During the time period, the government passed laws that loosened restrictions on more affordable generic drugs.
- E. Because of the ban, several foreign prescription drug manufacturers limited their advertising in Centerville.

#### Question 18

From 1980 to 2000, overall expenditures on prescription drugs in Centerville had increased. To curb this increase, the government of Centerville banned pharmaceutical companies from increasing the prices of their drugs. Nonetheless, ten years following the ban, per capita expenditure on prescription drugs in Centerville had increased.

19. The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. explaining why Beethoven wrote his Ninth Symphony
- B. evaluating Beethoven's Ninth Symphony
- C. identifying the differences between the first three movements of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony
- D. symphony and the last movement of his Ninth Symphony
- E. analyzing the context in which Beethoven wrote his Ninth Symphony
- F. questioning the text that Beethoven used in the fourth movement of his Ninth Symphony

#### Questions 19 to 20

What are we to make of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony? The fact that Beethoven created this masterpiece while battling with encroaching deafness has given this work a prominent place in the canon of Western music. And even when considered in a vacuum, the first three movements of the symphony rightfully receive nearly universal praise from music critics and composers alike. But then there is that fourth movement, at once groundbreaking for its use of words and off-putting with its straightforward text and sentimentality. One wonders about the impetus behind this decision to use Schiller's *Ode to Joy*, a text that praises the divine that is always implicit in Beethoven's work, but that does so in such an overt way that the previous movements are almost rendered superfluous. Unfortunately, it seems as though Verdi was on to something when he made the following claim about the symphony: "No one will ever surpass the sublimity of the first movement, but it will be an easy task to write as badly for voices as is done in the last movement."

20. Which of the following can be inferred about the author's opinion toward Beethoven's Ninth Symphony? (Indicate all that apply.)

- A. He agrees with most music critics' interpretation of the first three movements.
- B. He considers the fourth movement largely unnecessary.
- C. He believes that the fourth movement offers nothing of merit to those studying Beethoven's symphonies.

### Questions 19 to 20

What are we to make of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony? The fact that Beethoven created this masterpiece while battling with encroaching deafness has given this work a prominent place in the canon of Western music. And even when considered in a vacuum, the first three movements of the symphony rightfully receive nearly universal praise from music critics and composers alike. But then there is that fourth movement, at once groundbreaking for its use of words and off-putting with its straightforward text and sentimentality. One wonders about the impetus behind this decision to use Schiller's *Ode to Joy*, a text that praises the divine that is always implicit in Beethoven's work, but that does so in such an overt way that the previous movements are almost rendered superfluous. Unfortunately, it seems as though Verdi was on to something when he made the following claim about the symphony: "No one will ever surpass the sublimity of the first movement, but it will be an easy task to write as badly for voices as is done in the last movement."