

GRE VERBAL PRACTICE PAPER

TEXT COMPLETION

QUESTION: 1

One element, which may not justify violence itself but which _____ its use, is the belief that death in a sacred cause is the proper end of life.

A incriminates

B valorizes

C indicts

D abrogates

E rescinds

QUESTION: 2

To some degree, no doubt, this rhetoric was a necessary _____ for a traumatized nation, but coming amidst a fierce and – in terms of international law – illegal assault on the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, it had sobering implications.

A vassal

B mien

C decrepitude

D palliative

E claque

QUESTION: 3

Many surgeons continue to advocate (i) _____ analgesic treatment despite the fact that clinical studies and meta-analyses have failed to demonstrate (ii) _____ that such treatment reduces postoperative pain more effectively than one started after surgery.

Blank (i)

Aameliorative

Bincipient

Cpreemptive

Blank (ii)

Dispassionately

Eunequivocally

Fintractably

QUESTION: 4

A country that has some success with (i) _____ Pyongyang's (ii) _____ but rapidly developing missile program, is probably safer than one that throws up its hands in despair.

Blank (i)

Adefanging

Bdenigrating

Cdivesting

Blank (ii)

Dmellifluous

Evoluble

Ffledgling

QUESTION: 5

That _____ politicians might adopt Franklin's distinction between appearance and reality to become _____ confidence men did not seem to _____ George.

Blank (i)

Aincorrigible

Bpreevish

Cwily

Blank (ii)

Dflagitious

Einscrutable

Fdubious

Blank (iii)

Gocclude

Htranquelize

Idiscommode

QUESTION: 6

That _____ politicians might adopt Franklin's distinction between appearance and reality to become _____ confidence men did not seem to _____ George.

Blank (i)

Aincorrigible

Bpreevish

Cwily

Blank (ii)

Dflagitious

Einscrutable

Fdubious

Blank (iii)

Gocclude

Htranquilize

Idiscommode

QUESTION: 7

He has a reputation for being wooden and _____, but I think he comes across as both personable and thoughtful in his ads.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Aportentous

Bstandoffish

Cblithe

Duncongenial

Econvivial

Fcandid

QUESTION: 8

The Russians sought formal Western recognition of their expanded borders and acceptance of, or at least _____ in, their emerging sphere of influence in Eastern Europe.

Adesiccation

Bacquiescence

Cdissent

Dinsubordination

Esurfeit

QUESTION: 9

British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill, in characteristically vivid prose, described postwar Europe as "a rubble heap, a (i) _____, a breeding ground of (ii) _____ and hate."

Blank (i)

Aalcazar

Bdonjon

Ccharnel

Blank (ii)

Dpestilence

Eascendancy

Fplenitude

QUESTION: 10

Before the Parliament met, Richard executed a formal deed of (i) _____, renouncing all royal rights, and absolving all his people from homage, (ii) _____ and allegiance, and declaring himself worthy to be (iii) _____.

Blank (i)

Amyrmidon

Babdication

Cprepotency

Blank (ii)

Dfealty

Einconstancy

Fbrio

Blank (iii)

Gsuccored

Hdeposed

Islighted

SENTENCE EQUIVALENCE

QUESTION: 1

Parliament made a _____ return on Monday, when senators chirped and guffawed their way through the first autumnal question period.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Alugubrious

Brambunctious

Copprobrious

Dstaid

Eunflagging

Febullient

QUESTION: 2

The recent Gallup results state that, "Millennials often _____ from job to job without staying in one place too long — they're 'the job-hopping generation'."

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Aflit

Bvacillate

Cswerve

Dcull

Erankle

Ftack

QUESTION: 3

Any talk of composite culture for a country as diverse as India is not only untrue but also dangerous, for it tends to weaken national unity and encourages _____ tendencies.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

A separatist

B fissiparous

C portentous

D rapacious

E sycophantic

F obsequious

QUESTION: 4

Johann Sebastian Bach was a towering figure in western classical music; his influence and persona can even be considered _____ since many of his contemporaries and successors had to live in his shadow, no less than his own son Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach who was also a gifted composer in his own right.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

A insufferable

B overwhelming

C uncanny

D insurmountable

E germane

F reticent

QUESTION: 5

Tuesday's contrasting administration rhetoric about the war on terrorism underscores a problem that has _____ ordinary citizens for months.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Aobviated

Bexalted

Cevinced

Dwhipsawed

Eimpugned

Fvictimized

QUESTION: 6

The Narmer Palette is one of a few surviving artifacts from the Nile Valley that are so iconic and so rich in information that they can act as _____ of certain aspects of ancient Egyptian culture as a whole.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Amicrocosms

Bantitheses

Cepitomes

Dantipodes

Ezeniths

Ftyros

QUESTION: 7

The High Court rejected the appeal and MPs were tasked with getting the details of their expenses ready for publication but with certain _____.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Acompurgation

Bostentation

Credaction

Drecension

Eaffectation

Frepugnance

QUESTION: 8

Yet those plans, based as they were on the age-old formula of security-through-expansion, needed to be balanced against a _____ desire to maintain the framework of cooperation with the United States and Great Britain.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Acountervailing

Bcounterpoised

Cgrouching

Dsybaritic

Ecloistered

Ftruculent

QUESTION: 9

He has a reputation for being wooden and _____, but I think he comes across as both personable and thoughtful in his ads.

[Note: Select 2 answer choices]

Aportentous

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READING COMPREHENSION

Passage

[1] An atmospheric gas that absorbs and emits thermal radiation in the infrared range is known as a greenhouse gas. [2] Without such gases, the surface temperature of the earth would have been a frigid -18°C instead of the current 15°C . [3] Many climate scientists claim that human activities since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution have led to a steady increase in the atmospheric concentration of many greenhouse gases, with a consequent increase in the planet's surface temperature by about 0.85°C in the last 130 years. [4] However, in order to correctly estimate the **anthropogenic** changes in earth's surface temperature, it is important to quantify the effect of external natural factors like large volcanic eruptions on the planet's surface temperature.

[5] Though volcanic eruptions emit carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, the atmospheric concentration of this gas is about 16000 times the amount released by volcanic eruptions; therefore, no matter how large a volcanic eruption is, it cannot produce a significant change in the atmospheric carbon dioxide levels. [6] Further, the total amount of carbon dioxide emitted per year by volcanic eruptions – between 130 and 230 million tons – is roughly equivalent to that emitted in only three to five days of human activity.

[7] It is mainly through the emission of sulfur dioxide gas and ash particles into the atmosphere that large volcanic eruptions affect earth's surface temperature. [8] Sulfur dioxide reacts with the water vapor present in air to form fine particles called sulfate aerosols. [9] Winds spread the cloud of aerosols and ash particles around the globe in weeks. [10] These particles absorb incoming solar radiation and scatter it back into space, thereby producing a cooling effect on the earth. [11] They take several years to settle out of the atmosphere and thus impact the global surface temperature for

many years. [12] Robock and Mao have shown that for two years after a great volcanic eruption, the surface temperature decreases by 0.1 – 0.2°C. [13] The 1991 Pinatubo eruption in Indonesia was one of the largest volcanic eruptions in the twentieth century and resulted in a global surface cooling of 0.5°C for about two to four years after the eruption.

[14] The El Chichón eruption in 1982 was the first major eruption whose climatic impact was studied in detail by modern instruments. [15] Though the emission volume of this eruption was similar to the Mount St. Helens eruption in 1980, El Chichón released seven times the amount of sulfate aerosols released by Mount St. Helens and lowered the earth's temperature by about 0.4°C as against a decrease of only 0.1°C for Mount St. Helens.

Sub-Question 1 of 8

It can be inferred that the highlighted word in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to

- A**Created over time
- B**Resulting from nature
- C**Produced by humans
- D**Generated in the atmosphere
- E**Industrially manufactured

Sub-Question 2 of 8

Select a sentence in the passage that, if true, supports the claim that the primary cause of the steady increase in the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases is not volcanic eruptions but human activities.

- A**Sentence 3
- B**Sentence 4
- C**Sentence 6

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Sub-Question 3 of 8

From the passage above, which of the following can be most reliably inferred about sulfur dioxide emissions from volcanic eruptions?

AThe larger a volcanic eruption, the greater is the amount of sulfur dioxide emitted by it.

BThe sulfur dioxide emissions from volcanic eruptions lead to a significant change in the atmospheric concentration of this gas.

CLarge volcanic eruptions emit more sulfur dioxide than carbon dioxide.

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• **Sub-Question 4 of 8**

• **If the claims made by the climate scientists about the anthropogenic increase in Earth's surface temperature are correct, the passage best supports which of the following explanations for zero increase in the surface temperature of the earth during a decade in which anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases continued to increase?**

• **A**Anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions during this decade were greater than the carbon dioxide emissions from volcanic eruptions.

• **B**The amount of sulfate aerosols produced by the volcanic eruptions during this decade was low.

• **C**The ash clouds produced by the volcanic eruptions during this decade were dispersed throughout the globe by wind and thus became too spread out to have any impact on the earth's surface temperature.

• **D**The cooling effect that resulted from one or more major volcanic eruptions during this decade negated the increase in surface temperature from increased anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases.

• **E**The impact of the volcanic eruption on the earth's surface temperature was overshadowed by the temperature change resulting from human activity.

• **Sub-Question 5 of 8**

• **Which of the following statements, if true, will best support the assertion that a large volcanic eruption does not contribute to warming of the earth's surface?**

• **A**Volcanic eruptions emit only sulfur dioxide, a gas that does not contribute to warming of the earth's surface.

- **B**Only 10 to 40% of the total matter emitted by a volcanic eruption is carbon dioxide.
- **C**Being a natural phenomenon, volcanic emissions vary from year-to-year whereas earth's surface temperature has been rising at an accelerating rate.
- **D**Increase in earth's surface temperature coincided with a major increase in volcanic eruptions at the end of the last Ice Age.
- **E**Warming of the earth's surface is the result of a significant increase in the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide.

- **Sub-Question 6 of 8**

- **With which of the statements about changes in the earth's surface temperature is the author most likely to disagree?**
- **A**Each volcanic eruption decreases the surface temperature of the earth by at least 0.1°C.
- **B**Volcanic eruptions cannot offer a permanent counterbalance to the anthropogenic changes in the earth's surface temperature.
- **C**The earth's climate sometimes takes more than a year to recover from an abrupt external perturbation like a volcanic eruption.
- **D**Both anthropogenic and external natural factors affect the earth's surface temperature.
- **E**There has been a net increase in earth's surface temperature since the advent of the Industrial Revolution.
- **The facts presented in the last paragraph of the passage support which of the following conclusions?**
- **A**The carbon content in the volcanic ash particles determines the extent of global surface cooling done by the eruption.
- **B**The decrease in earth's surface temperature upon a volcanic eruption is determined by the percentage of sulfur dioxide in the total volcanic emissions.
- **C**Sulfate aerosols take longer to settle out of the atmosphere than ash particles.
- **D**The sulfate aerosols produced during an eruption have a greater effect on earth's surface temperature than the ash produced during the eruption.
- **E**The longevity of a volcanic eruption's impact on earth's surface temperature depends on the amount of sulfur dioxide emitted by it.

- **The author's primary purpose in the passage is to**
- **A** explain how a particular natural factor impacts a climate metric
- **B** suggest an alternative explanation for a temporal change observed in a climate metric
- **C** discuss the different natural factors that impact a climate metric
- **D** delineate the effects of a natural factor on two climate metrics
- **E** disprove a claim about the impact of a particular natural factor on a climate metric