
SAT	Critical Reading	TOP LEVEL
Practice 10	Question 18	30mins

1. Copyright and patent laws attempt to encourage innovation by ensuring that inventors are paid for creative work, so it would be ___ if expanded protection under these laws discouraged entrepreneurial innovation by increasing fears of lawsuits.
 - A. desirable
 - B. coincidental
 - C. ironic
 - D. natural
 - E. sensible
2. Certain weeds that flourish among rice crops resist detection until maturity by ___ the seedling stage in the rice plant's life cycle, thereby remaining indistinguishable from the rice crop until the flowering stage.
 - A. deterring
 - B. displacing
 - C. augmenting
 - D. imitating
 - E. nurturing
3. Despite many decades of research on the gasification of coal, the data accumulated are not directly ___ to environmental questions; thus a new program of research specifically addressing such questions is ___.
 - A. analogous...promising
 - B. transferable...contradictory
 - C. antithetical...unremarkable
 - D. applicable...warranted
 - E. pertinent...unnecessary
4. Although the young violinist's ___ performance with the orchestra demonstrated his technical competence, his uninspired style and lack of interpretive maturity labeled him as a novice musician rather than as a truly ___ performer.
 - A. spectacular...conventional
 - B. blundering...artistic
 - C. marginal...inept
 - D. steady....accomplished
 - E. dazzling...unskilled

5. The development of containers, possibly made from bark or the skins of animals, although this is a matter of __, allowed the extensive sharing of forage foods in prehistoric human societies.
- A. record
 - B. fact
 - C. degree
 - D. importance
 - E. conjecture
6. Though dealers insist that professional art dealers can make money in the art market, even an __ knowledge is not enough: the art world is so fickle that stock-market prices are __ by comparison.
- A. amateur's...sensible
 - B. expert's...erratic
 - C. investor's...booming
 - D. insider's...predictable
 - E. artist's...irrational
7. Prior to the work of Heckel, illustrations of fish were often beautiful but rarely __; this fact, combined with the __ nature of most nine-teenth-century taxonomic descriptions, often kept scientists from recognizing differences between species.
- A. impressive...inaccurate
 - B. realistic...detailed
 - C. traditional...progressive
 - D. precise...inexact
 - E. distinctive...sophisticated

Questions 8-11 are based on the following passages.

Passage 1

Tillie Olsen's fiction and essays have been widely and rightly acknowledged as major contributions to American literature. Her work has been particularly valued by contemporary feminists. Yet few of Olsen's readers realize the extent to which her vision and choice of subject are rooted in an earlier literary heritage—the tradition of radical political thought, mostly socialist and anarchist, of the 1910's and 1920's, and the Old Left tradition of the 1930's. I do not mean that one can adequately explain the eloquence of her work in terms of its political origins, or that left-wing politics were the single most important influence on it. My point is that its central consciousness—its profound understanding of class and gender as shaping influences on people's lives—owes much to that earlier literary heritage, a heritage that, in general, has not been sufficiently valued by most contemporary literary critics.

8. The primary purpose of the passage is to
- A. argue that Olsen’s understanding of class and gender is her greatest gift as a writer
 - B. acknowledge Olsen’s importance as the leading spokesperson for a radical literary heritage
 - C. point out a literary heritage to which Olsen’s work is related
 - D. urge literary critics to investigate the origins of a literary heritage
 - E. suggest that Olsen’s work has been placed in a literary heritage to which it does not belong
9. According to the author, Olsen’s work has been
- A. rightly acknowledged for its contribution to political thought
 - B. thought to represent the beginning of new literary tradition
 - C. a needed impetus for social change
 - D. most clearly influenced by feminism
 - E. deservedly admired by readers

Passage 2

Of Homer’s two epic poems, the *Odyssey* has always been more popular than the *Iliad*, perhaps because it includes more features of mythology that are accessible to readers. Its subject (to use Maynard Mack’s categories) is “life-as-spectacle,” for readers, diverted by its various incidents, observe its hero Odysseus primarily from the outside; the tragic *Iliad*, however, presents “life-as-experience”: readers are asked to identify with the mind of Achilles, whose motivations render him a not particularly likable hero. In addition, the *Iliad*, more than the *Odyssey*, suggests the complexity of the gods’ involvement in human actions, and to the extent that modern readers find this complexity a needless complication, the *Iliad* is less satisfying than the *Odyssey*, with its simpler scheme of divine justice. Finally, since the *Iliad* presents a historically verifiable action, Troy’s siege, the poem raises historical questions that are absent from the *Odyssey*’s blithely imaginative world.

10. The author uses Mack’s “categories” (lines 3) most probably in order to
- A. argue that the *Iliad* should replace the *Odyssey* as the more popular poem
 - B. indicate Mack’s importance as a commentator on the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*
 - C. suggest one way in which the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* can be distinguished
 - D. point out some of the difficulties faced by readers of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*
 - E. demonstrate that the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* can best be distinguished by comparing their respective heroes
11. The author suggests that the variety of incidents in the *Odyssey* is likely to deter the reader from
- A. concentrating on the poem’s mythological features

- B. concentrating on the psychological states of the poem's central character
- C. accepting the explanation that have been offered for the poem's popularity
- D. accepting the poem's scheme of divine justice
- E. accepting Maynard Mack's theory that the poem's subject is "life-as-spectacle"

Question 12-18 are based on the following passage.

Our visual perception depends on the reception of energy reflecting or radiating from that which we wish to perceive. If our eyes could receive and measure infinitely delicate sense-data, we could perceive the world with infinite precision. The natural limits of our eyes have, of course, been
5 extended by mechanical instruments; telescopes and microscopes, for example, expand our capabilities greatly. There is, however, an ultimate limit beyond which no instrument can take us; this limit is imposed by our inability to receive sense-data smaller than those conveyed by an individual quantum of energy. Since these quanta are believed to be indivisible packages of energy
10 and so cannot be further refined, we reach a point beyond which further resolution of the world is not possible. It is like a drawing a child might make by sticking indivisible discs of color onto a canvas.

We might think that we could avoid this limitation by using quanta with extremely long wavelengths; such quanta would be sufficiently sensitive
15 to convey extremely delicate sense-data. And these quanta would be useful, as long as we only wanted to measure energy, but a completely accurate perception of the world will depend also on the exact measurement of the lengths and positions of what we wish to perceive. For this, quanta of extremely long wavelengths are useless. To measure a length accurately to
20 within a millionth of an inch, we must have a measure graduated in millionths of an inch; a yardstick graduated in inches is useless. Quanta with a wavelength of one inch would be, in a sense, measures that are graduated in inches. Quanta of extremely long wavelength are useless in measuring anything except extremely large dimensions.

Despite these difficulties, quanta have important theoretical
25 implications for physics. It used to be supposed that, in the observation of nature, the universe could be divided into two distinct parts, a perceiving subject and a perceived object. In physics, subject and object were supposed to be entirely distinct, so that a description of any part of the universe would be
30 independent of the observer. The quantum theory, however, suggests otherwise, for every observation involves the passage of a complete quantum from the object to the subject, and it now appears that this passage constitutes an important coupling between observers and observed. We can no longer make a sharp division between the two in an effort to observe nature
35 objectively. Such an attempt at objectivity would distort the crucial interrelationship of observer and observed as parts of a single whole. But, even

for scientists, it is only in the world of atoms that this new development makes any appreciable difference in the explanation of observations.

12. The primary purpose of the passage is to
 - A. discuss a problem that hinders precise perception of the world
 - B. point out the inadequacies of accepted units of measurement
 - C. criticize attempts to distinguish between perceiving subjects and perceived objects
 - D. compare and contrast rival scientific hypotheses about how the world should be measured and observed
 - E. suggest the limited function of sensory observation

13. Which of the following describes a situation most analogous to the situation discussed in lines 6~9?
 - A. A mathematician can only solve problems the solution of which can be deduced from known axiom.
 - B. An animal can respond to no command that is more complicated syntactically than any it has previously received.
 - C. A viewer who has not learned, at least intuitively, the conventions of painting, cannot understand perspective in a drawing.
 - D. A sensitized film will record no detail on a scale that is smaller than the grain of the film.
 - E. A shadow cast on a screen by an opaque object will have sharp edge only if the light source is small or very distant.

14. The author uses the analogy of the child's drawing (lines 11~12) primarily in order to
 - A. illustrate the ultimate limitation in the precision of sense-data conveyed by quanta
 - B. show the sense of helplessness scientists feel in the face of significant observational problems
 - C. anticipate the objections of the those scientists who believe that no instrumental aid to observation is entirely reliable
 - D. exemplify the similarities between packages of energy and varieties of color
 - E. disparage those scientists who believe that measurement by means of quanta offers an accurate picture of the world

15. In line 20, "graduated" mostly means
 - A. lied
 - B. allocated
 - C. amputated
 - D. pampered
 - E. stratified

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16. According to the paragraph 2, quanta with an extremely long wavelength cannot be used to give complete information about the physical world because they
- A. exist independently of sense-data
 - B. are graduated only in inches
 - C. have an insignificant amount of energy
 - D. cannot, with present-day instruments, be isolated from quanta of shorter wavelength
 - E. provide an insufficiently precise means of measuring length and position
17. The quantum theory (line 30) can be distinguished from previous theories of physics by its
- A. insistence on scrupulously precise mathematical formulations
 - B. understanding of the inherent interrelationship of perceiver and perceived
 - C. recognition of the need for sophisticated instruments of measurement
 - D. emphasis on small-scale rather than on large-scale phenomena
 - E. regard for philosophical issues as well as for strictly scientific ones
18. The author implies that making a sharp division between subject and object in physics (line 34) is
- A. possible in a measurement of object's length and position, but not in a measurement of its energy
 - B. still theoretically possible in the small-scale world of atoms and electrons
 - C. possible in the case of observations involving the passage of a complete quantum
 - D. no longer an entirely accurate way to describe observation of the universe
 - E. a goal at which scientists still aim