

Solutions for Rumack's Preparation Workbook Language Section: 3.3

Science Passage 1

1. The correct answer is (E) how hot springs are formed. This is because, although all other options are briefly discussed, the topic of formation is the topic which is carried through the entire excerpt.
2. The correct answer is (C) between 20 C to 50 C in temperature. This is evident in the statement, "the temperature of the water ranges from 20°C to 50°C." While some of the other specifics are mentioned, they are worded in a way that makes the statement false. The water, not the springs, is guided 610 to 2,400 deep. "Devoid" means "not containing", so answer (B) is false.
3. The correct answer is (C) The phenomenon of geysers. The final sentence of the excerpt states, "However, sometimes, the water remains so hot that it may suddenly turn into steam and explode out of the ground, just like a naturally occurring fountain. This is called a geyser." This acts as a transitional statement into a new topic, otherwise the sentence would be out of place and off topic.
4. The correct answer is (A) geothermal heating of water can take as long as 4000 years. The excerpt states, "scientists recently discovered that the water in Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas most likely started off as rain that fell around 4,000 years ago!" The logically possibility is then that the heating of the spring waters must take approximately 4000 years to occur. The other options given are not given as facts in the excerpt and therefore cannot be inferred.
5. The correct answer is (D) a detailed textbook on hot springs. This is obvious because of the informative text style it is written in. It is clearly not fiction and is not from any particular individual's perspective. Although geothermal water is mentioned, it is not the focus of the text.
6. The correct answer is (C) sponge. The author states that, "First, porous rocks in the region soak up the groundwater..." The main function of a sponge is to retain and soak up water, so a porous rock acts similarly.
7. The correct answer is (B) filters. The terms "filters" and "percolates" can both be defined as, "to cause (a liquid) to pass through a porous body." Although "flows" and "filters" both mean to pass through, "flow" would imply moving easily, while "filters" makes more sense as a movement through the crust of the earth.

Science Passage 2

1. The correct answer is (E) an animal with a backbone. The text states, “Most of these creatures are invertebrates (animals without backbones), and most of them bite or sting.” Seeing as the definition provided for an invertebrate is “animals without backbones”, and the prefix of “in” implies opposite in meaning, one could infer that vertebrate must have the exact opposite definition.
2. The correct answer is (E) scorpions. The text states that, “The most well-known poisonous animals are snakes, scorpions and spiders.” The only animal listed in this passage that is also listed in the choices for correct answer, is scorpions.
3. The correct answer is (C) poison dart frogs. This is evident because, although a section of the primary paragraph mentions a variety of animals, the information about poison dart frogs continues through the entirety of the passage.
4. The correct answer is (D) many poison frogs use camouflage to protect themselves. This is because all other possible answers are mentioned in the passage whereas this answer is not. Choice (A) is mentioned in line 4, choice (B) is mentioned in line 7, choice (C) is mentioned in line 3, and choice (E) is mentioned in lines 11-12.
5. The correct answer is (D) noxious. Both “noxious” and “toxic” can be defined as, “harmful or injurious to health or physical well-being.” While the answer “dangerous” is tempting, it does not imply physical harm in the same way that noxious does.
6. The correct answer is (D) a detailed textbook on poisonous frogs. The passage is clearly not fictional and is written in a factual manner. The author does not use first person narration as would be the case in an explorer’s notebook or personal diary. It briefly mentions other poisonous species, but only as an introduction to poisonous frogs.

Science Passage 3

1. The correct answer is (A) fascinated. The term fascinated is defined as, “To hold an intense interest or attraction for.” It is obvious that the author is conveying the information of this passage in a fascinated tone due to the presence of an exclamation mark at the end of the first sentence as well as at the end of the final sentence. Adjectives used such as “unique” and “remarkable” are also indications that the author has an intense interest in this subject.

2. The correct answer is (B) the mudskipper's habitat. The first sentence indicates this: "Now that you know about the mudskipper's habitat, let's discuss how this remarkable animal literally breathes on land!"
3. The correct answer is (C) lungs that mammals have. The passage states that "These little breathing sacks, called buccopharyngeal cavities, are found in the mouth and throat of the mudskipper and allow it to absorb gaseous oxygen into its blood." The process of absorbing oxygen into the blood takes place in lungs.
4. The correct answer is (B) the buccopharyngeal cavities are found behind the ears. The passage specifically states that the "buccopharyngeal cavities are found in the mouth and throat of the mudskipper." In addition, all of the other statements are mentioned within the passage.
5. The correct answer is (B) device. Both the terms "apparatus" as well as "device" mean something used for a particular purpose, and the passage indicates that "apparatus" is used for breathing.
6. The correct answer is (D) the mudskipper is a distinctive animal. Although all other options are touched on, each other answer is misquoted and does not hold fully true to the passage. The term "distinctive" also means "unique," which is mentioned in the last line.