

PRACTICE EXAM 6: NATIONAL BOARD MIDDLE CHILDHOOD GENERALIST SIMULATION (100 QUESTIONS)

This expanded practice exam contains 100 selected-response questions for Middle Childhood Generalist study. Current National Board materials describe approximately 45 selected-response items and three constructed-response exercises for MC/Generalist Component 1. This simulation expands selected-response practice while following the current approximate content emphasis: 30% English language arts, the arts, and health and wellness; 35% science and mathematics; and 35% social studies. It is an independent study aid, not an official National Board assessment.

1. During a word-study conference, a third grader reads said as 'sayed' even though the surrounding sentence is understood. What targeted instruction best addresses the error?
 - A. Teach the student to map the sounds in said to its known letter pattern, noting the unexpected vowel spelling.
 - B. Have the student guess the word from the picture whenever said appears.
 - C. Ask the student to memorize the entire page without attending to sounds or letters.
 - D. Return to practicing only the names of the alphabet letters in isolation.

2. Students notice that walked ends with a /t/ sound, played ends with a /d/ sound, and wanted ends with an /id/ sound. What should the teacher emphasize?
 - A. Each pronunciation requires a different spelling of the past-tense suffix.
 - B. The ending -ed always represents the same single speech sound in English.
 - C. The three words are unrelated because their final sounds are different.
 - D. The past-tense suffix -ed can have different pronunciations even though its spelling remains the same.

3. A student is decoding the word robot and separates it as ro/bot. Why is the first syllable pronounced with a long o sound?
 - A. The first syllable is closed by the consonant b, so the vowel must be short.
 - B. The first syllable is open because it ends in a vowel, which commonly signals a long vowel sound.
 - C. The letter r always forces the following vowel to become short.
 - D. Two-syllable words never use regular syllable patterns for vowel pronunciation.

4. In the sentence, 'Unlike the arid desert, the humid rainforest receives frequent moisture and feels damp,' which clue best helps a reader infer the meaning of humid?
 - A. The fact that the sentence contains two commas
 - B. The number of syllables in the word rainforest

- C. The contrast with arid and the description that the rainforest feels damp
- D. The alphabetical position of the first letter in humid

5. A text explains how to plant a seed by describing what to do first, next, and last. Which organizational structure is most prominent?

- A. Sequence or chronological order
- B. Compare and contrast
- C. Cause and effect
- D. Claim and counterclaim

6. A story ends with a firefighter returning from vacation to discover that the fire station sprinkler system flooded the building. Which literary concept is most clearly illustrated?

- A. A literal definition, because every detail means exactly what it says
- B. Situational irony, because the outcome sharply contrasts with what would normally be expected
- C. Alliteration, because several nearby words begin with the same sound
- D. A flashback, because the story moves backward to an earlier event

7. In the sentence, 'The impatient wind rattled every window and demanded to be heard,' which device is most prominent?

- A. Onomatopoeia
- B. Literal description
- C. Understatement
- D. Personification

8. After reading a fable in which a boastful runner loses because he refuses to practice, which statement is the strongest theme?

- A. The runner wears bright shoes during the race.
- B. Races usually take place outdoors on marked paths.
- C. Confidence without preparation can lead to failure.
- D. Practice sessions should always last exactly one hour.

9. Two first-person narrators describe the same argument. One admits feeling angry, while the other insists that everyone else was unreasonable. What should a reader do when comparing the accounts?

- A. Consider how each narrator's perspective and possible bias shape the description of events.
- B. Assume the longer account is automatically more accurate.
- C. Combine both accounts without noticing any contradictions.
- D. Reject both accounts because first-person narration can never be useful evidence.

- 10.** Students find a health article written by a pediatrician that cites recent studies and explains how the evidence was gathered. Which feature most strengthens the article's credibility?
- A. A colorful page design with several large photographs
 - B. A headline that makes the strongest possible emotional claim
 - C. The fact that the article is the first search result displayed
 - D. Relevant expertise combined with transparent use of evidence and sources
- 11.** A student reads, 'Mangroves reduce shoreline erosion by slowing waves and trapping sediment.' Which paraphrase best preserves the meaning without copying the wording?
- A. Mangroves reduce shoreline erosion by slowing waves and trapping sediment.
 - B. Mangroves are plants, and plants are interesting to study in science.
 - C. Mangrove roots can protect coasts because they weaken wave action and hold sediment in place.
 - D. Shorelines always remain unchanged when mangroves grow nearby.
- 12.** A student wants to use the sentence 'The wetland stores floodwater during storms' as direct evidence in a report. What is the best way to integrate it?
- A. Insert the quotation without any explanation or source information.
 - B. Introduce the quotation in context and cite the source so readers know where the evidence came from.
 - C. Change several words inside the quotation and still place quotation marks around it.
 - D. Use the quotation as the report title and omit discussion of its relevance.
- 13.** Which revision best combines the ideas smoothly? 'The trail was steep. The trail was muddy. We continued hiking.'
- A. Although the trail was steep and muddy, we continued hiking.
 - B. The trail steep muddy we continued hiking.
 - C. The trail was steep, and. The trail was muddy, and.
 - D. We continued. Hiking trail steep. Muddy trail.
- 14.** A student is revising because a reader cannot tell which person a pronoun names. Which sentence most clearly has that problem?
- A. Maya said that the schedule had changed.
 - B. Elena checked the schedule before class began.
 - C. When Maya spoke with Elena, she said the schedule had changed.
 - D. The students compared their schedules after lunch.

- 15.** Students are editing sentence openers for clarity. Which version correctly marks the boundary between the introductory clause and the main clause?
- A. Before the concert began the audience, silenced their phones.
 - B. Before, the concert began the audience silenced their phones.
 - C. Before the concert, began the audience silenced their phones.
 - D. Before the concert began, the audience silenced their phones.
- 16.** Which phrase correctly shows that the lockers belong to several students?
- A. the student's lockers, when several students own them
 - B. the students' lockers
 - C. the students lockers
 - D. the student's' lockers
- 17.** A school committee is considering moving the start of classes 45 minutes later. Which source would provide the strongest evidence about possible effects on student learning?
- A. One student's statement that mornings feel unpleasant
 - B. A well-designed study comparing attendance and academic outcomes before and after a schedule change
 - C. A poster created by a company that sells alarm clocks
 - D. A list of unrelated facts about school building construction
- 18.** A long informational report explains three different causes of coastal erosion. Which feature would most help readers locate and understand the sections?
- A. A decorative border around every page
 - B. Random changes in font size within paragraphs
 - C. Descriptive subheadings that identify each major cause
 - D. A single title with no internal organization
- 19.** During a discussion, one student says, 'I agree with Jalen that the character is afraid, but Priya's evidence suggests the fear begins earlier than we thought.' What discussion skill is the student demonstrating?
- A. Synthesizing classmates' ideas while adding a new interpretation
 - B. Changing the subject to avoid responding to other speakers
 - C. Repeating a classmate's words without considering their meaning
 - D. Rejecting all earlier ideas before introducing any evidence

- 20.** An online article claims a city park is empty, but the accompanying photograph was taken before sunrise while the article discusses weekend afternoons. What should students notice?
- A. Any photograph automatically proves the claim made beside it.
 - B. The time a photograph was taken never matters when evaluating media.
 - C. A photograph is useful only if it contains written paragraphs inside the image.
 - D. The image may be misleading because its context does not match the claim being illustrated.
- 21.** In a drawing of a running horse, an artist uses long, sweeping diagonal strokes around the figure. What effect do those line qualities most directly create?
- A. A precise measurement of the horse's actual weight
 - B. A sense of movement and energy
 - C. A written explanation of the artist's biography
 - D. A guarantee that every viewer will interpret the image identically
- 22.** A painter makes a wooden tabletop look rough even though the canvas surface is physically smooth. Which visual-art concept is being used?
- A. Implied texture
 - B. Actual texture created by carving the canvas deeply
 - C. Tempo created by changing musical speed
 - D. Blocking created by moving actors on a stage
- 23.** Two instruments play the same note at the same loudness, yet one sounds bright and brassy while the other sounds mellow and woody. Which musical element explains the difference?
- A. Meter
 - B. Tempo
 - C. Timbre
 - D. Pitch
- 24.** A class performs a song with the form A-B-A. What should students do in the final section?
- A. Continue the contrasting B material without any return
 - B. Stop after the first beat because the form has ended
 - C. Change every musical element so no earlier idea reappears
 - D. Return to the musical material from the opening A section

- 25.** During rehearsal, a director asks one actor to cross downstage while another remains near the doorway so the audience can clearly see the conflict. What is the director primarily adjusting?
- A. Blocking, or the planned movement and positioning of actors
 - B. The play's historical publication date
 - C. The pitch of every spoken word
 - D. The texture of the scenery paint
- 26.** After a class handles shared science materials and before students eat a snack, which routine most directly interrupts a common path for transmitting germs?
- A. Sharing drinking bottles so everyone uses the same container
 - B. Skipping handwashing whenever hands look visibly clean
 - C. Washing hands thoroughly with soap and water at appropriate times
 - D. Using the same unwashed utensils for several students
- 27.** Students will spend several hours outdoors during midday. Which behavior best reduces the risk of excessive ultraviolet exposure?
- A. Stay in direct sunlight continuously because clouds block all ultraviolet radiation.
 - B. Wear dark sunglasses only and ignore exposed skin for the entire day.
 - C. Avoid drinking water because hydration increases sensitivity to sunlight.
 - D. Use shade and protective clothing and apply appropriate sunscreen to exposed skin.
- 28.** A student is choosing a snack after physical activity. Which option most directly provides protein that can support growth and tissue repair?
- A. A serving of hard candy
 - B. Plain yogurt with nuts or seeds
 - C. A cup of sweetened soda
 - D. A spoonful of table sugar
- 29.** An advertisement claims an energy drink will make every student 'instantly smarter.' What is the best health-literacy response?
- A. Question the absolute claim and look for reliable evidence about ingredients, effects, and risks.
 - B. Accept the claim because advertisements are required to prove every slogan literally.
 - C. Choose the product only because the package uses scientific-looking graphics.
 - D. Assume a celebrity endorsement is stronger evidence than independent research.

30. A school wellness club asks each student to write a four-week activity goal that can be checked from a daily log. Which entry is most measurable?

- A. Exercise more often whenever there is extra time available.
- B. Become fully fit by tomorrow without a longer plan.
- C. Avoid missing any activity session for the rest of the year.
- D. Walk briskly 20 minutes after school three days a week for four weeks.

31. Four fraction cards will be placed on a number line. Which card belongs closest to the point marked $\frac{1}{2}$?

- A. $\frac{1}{8}$
- B. $\frac{5}{11}$
- C. $\frac{9}{10}$
- D. $\frac{2}{3}$

32. What is $\frac{3}{5}$ of $\frac{10}{9}$?

- A. $\frac{13}{14}$
- B. $\frac{6}{5}$
- C. $\frac{2}{3}$
- D. $\frac{3}{2}$

33. What is 8.4 divided by 4?

- A. 0.21
- B. 21
- C. 2.1
- D. 3.4

34. A theater sets out 4 rows of 6 chairs and then adds 5 extra chairs near the aisle. How many chairs are set out altogether?

- A. 24 chairs
- B. 11 chairs
- C. 35 chairs
- D. 29 chairs

35. Solve $5(n - 2) = 35$.

- A. 9
- B. 5
- C. 7
- D. 37

36. Starting with 0.36, moving every digit two place-value positions to the left produces which value?

- A. 3.6
- B. 36
- C. 0.036
- D. 360

37. Points P(-2, 4) and Q(-2, -3) lie on a coordinate plane. What is the distance between them?

- A. 1 unit
- B. 7 units
- C. 5 units
- D. 9 units

38. A number contains 4 thousands, 7 tens, and 3 tenths, with zeros in the hundreds and ones places. Which numeral represents the number?

- A. 4,730
- B. 4,073
- C. 4,070.3
- D. 4,700.3

39. A closed gift box measures 6 cm by 4 cm by 3 cm. Ignoring overlap, how much paper is needed to cover every face exactly?

- A. 108 square centimeters
- B. 72 square centimeters
- C. 54 square centimeters
- D. 144 square centimeters

40. A rectangle and a parallelogram have the same base length and the same perpendicular height. How do their areas compare?

- A. The parallelogram has half the rectangle's area.
- B. The rectangle always has twice the parallelogram's area.
- C. The comparison cannot be made without knowing the slanted side.
- D. They have equal areas.

41. A triangular road sign has two interior angles labeled 48 degrees and 67 degrees. What must the unlabeled interior angle measure?

- A. 115 degrees
- B. 55 degrees
- C. 75 degrees
- D. 65 degrees

42. A movie begins at 2:35 p.m. and lasts 1 hour 48 minutes. At what time does it end?

- A. 4:23 p.m.
- B. 3:83 p.m.
- C. 4:13 p.m.
- D. 5:23 p.m.

43. How many minutes are in 2.75 hours?

- A. 120 minutes
- B. 155 minutes
- C. 165 minutes
- D. 275 minutes

44. Six lap times, in seconds, are 42, 44, 47, 50, 53, and 60. What is the median lap time?

- A. 47 seconds
- B. 48.5 seconds
- C. 50 seconds
- D. 49 seconds

- 45.** A weather forecast gives a 20% chance of rain for days with conditions like tomorrow's. Which interpretation is most reasonable?
- A. Across many similar days, rain would be expected on about 20 out of 100 days.
 - B. It must rain for exactly 20% of tomorrow.
 - C. Rain is impossible because 20% is less than 50%.
 - D. Exactly 20% of the city must receive rain tomorrow.
- 46.** A pattern follows the rule $3n + 2$, where n is the term number. What is the value of the eighth term?
- A. 24
 - B. 19
 - C. 32
 - D. 26
- 47.** A rectangle is enlarged so that every side length is multiplied by 2. How does its area change?
- A. The area becomes 2 times as large.
 - B. The area becomes 4 times as large.
 - C. The area stays the same.
 - D. The area becomes 8 times as large.
- 48.** On a scale drawing, 2 centimeters represents 5 meters. A hallway measures 7 centimeters on the drawing. What is its actual length?
- A. 14 meters
 - B. 12 meters
 - C. 17.5 meters
 - D. 35 meters
- 49.** A student builds models of both a plant cell and an animal cell. Which structure should be shown as the boundary that regulates which substances move into and out of each cell?
- A. Cell membrane
 - B. Cell wall
 - C. Chloroplast
 - D. Vacuole only

50. Where does most nutrient absorption into the bloodstream occur after food has been digested?

- A. Esophagus
- B. Large intestine
- C. Small intestine
- D. Trachea

51. Two plant species in the same meadow rely on the same limited supply of sunlight and soil nutrients. What ecological interaction is most directly occurring?

- A. Predation
- B. Competition
- C. Decomposition
- D. Parasitism

52. A small bird eats insects stirred up by grazing cattle, while the cattle are neither helped nor harmed. Which relationship is this?

- A. Mutualism
- B. Parasitism
- C. Competition
- D. Commensalism

53. A class compares genetically similar plants grown with different amounts of sunlight. Plants in low light become taller and paler. What does this best demonstrate?

- A. All observed traits are determined only by inheritance.
- B. Plants can choose new genes whenever light decreases.
- C. Environmental conditions can influence how traits are expressed.
- D. Sunlight permanently changes every gene in the plant population.

54. Why can a gas in a syringe be compressed more easily than a liquid when the opening is sealed?

- A. Gas particles disappear when pressure is applied.
- B. Liquid particles have no motion at all.
- C. Gas has no mass, so pressure cannot affect it.
- D. Gas particles have much more empty space between them that can be reduced.

55. Near dawn, moist air close to the ground cools and a layer of tiny liquid droplets forms, creating fog. Which change of state produced the droplets?
- A. Water vapor condensed as the air cooled.
 - B. Liquid water melted into a gas.
 - C. Ice sublimated directly into liquid droplets.
 - D. Oxygen froze and became water.
56. A student wraps identical cups of warm water in different materials to test insulation. Which measurement best indicates the most effective insulator?
- A. The cup with the largest temperature decrease after the same amount of time
 - B. The cup with the smallest temperature decrease after the same amount of time
 - C. The cup that started with a different water temperature than all others
 - D. The cup measured after a different time interval than the others
57. A hockey puck glides across smooth ice at nearly constant speed in a straight line. What can be inferred about the net force on it during that interval?
- A. The net force is approximately zero.
 - B. A large net force acts continuously in the direction of motion.
 - C. A large net force acts continuously opposite the motion.
 - D. Gravity has stopped acting on the puck entirely.
58. A book is lifted from the floor to a high shelf and held there. Which form of stored energy has increased most directly?
- A. Sound energy
 - B. Gravitational potential energy
 - C. Chemical energy in the book
 - D. Electrical energy from a circuit
59. A light ray strikes a flat mirror at an angle of 35 degrees from the normal. At what angle from the normal does it reflect?
- A. 55 degrees
 - B. 70 degrees
 - C. 35 degrees
 - D. 0 degrees

- 60.** White light passes through a glass prism and spreads into a band of colors. Which explanation best accounts for the separation?
- A. The prism creates new colors by chemical combustion.
 - B. Magnetic forces pull each color toward a different side.
 - C. Sound waves inside the prism sort the light by pitch.
 - D. Different wavelengths of light refract by different amounts in the glass.
- 61.** A student makes an electromagnet by wrapping insulated wire around an iron nail and connecting it to a battery. Which change would most likely make the electromagnet stronger, all else equal?
- A. Remove the battery from the circuit.
 - B. Replace the iron nail with a paper straw.
 - C. Cut the wire so the circuit cannot carry current.
 - D. Increase the number of wire turns around the nail.
- 62.** A weather map shows a broad area of rising air and low atmospheric pressure. Which condition is more likely than under strong high pressure?
- A. Guaranteed clear skies with no clouds
 - B. Cloud formation and unsettled weather
 - C. The permanent end of all wind
 - D. A complete absence of water vapor in the atmosphere
- 63.** A stream carrying muddy water flows over a rocky slope for many years, gradually smoothing and wearing away the rock. Which process is most directly responsible for breaking down the rock surface?
- A. Photosynthesis inside the rock
 - B. Condensation turning the rock into a gas
 - C. Mechanical weathering by moving sediment and water
 - D. Nuclear fusion caused by stream temperature
- 64.** An engineering team tests three paper-tower designs, records where each fails, and then changes the strongest design before testing again. Which engineering practice is most evident?
- A. Iterative testing and redesign based on evidence
 - B. Choosing a final design before collecting any data
 - C. Changing every requirement after each trial
 - D. Avoiding measurements so creativity is not constrained

- 65.** A student claims that heavier objects always sink in water. Which observation would best challenge that misconception?
- A. Two identical metal bolts both sink to the bottom.
 - B. A large wooden block floats while a much smaller metal bolt sinks.
 - C. A stone sinks faster when it is pushed downward first.
 - D. Water remains liquid when it is poured into a larger container.
- 66.** Archaeologists uncover pottery fragments, stone tools, and food remains at an ancient settlement. What is the best use of these artifacts?
- A. Treat each artifact as a complete written record of every event in the society.
 - B. Assume artifacts reveal the thoughts of every individual with certainty.
 - C. Ignore the artifacts unless a modern photograph of the settlement also exists.
 - D. Use them as material evidence to infer aspects of past daily life, technology, and diet.
- 67.** A historian is arranging these events: a law is passed, protests begin, the law is repealed, and a later constitution is adopted. Which skill is the historian using most directly?
- A. Calculating population density
 - B. Identifying latitude
 - C. Chronological sequencing
 - D. Measuring market inflation
- 68.** A student compares a town census from 1900 with a factory payroll from the same year. What can combining the sources help the student investigate?
- A. The relationship between town demographics and factory employment patterns
 - B. The exact private thoughts of every town resident
 - C. The region's weather conditions for the next century
 - D. Whether every historical source always gives identical information
- 69.** A student needs a map layer that emphasizes country borders, state boundaries, and capital cities rather than elevation, rainfall, or rock type. Which map type best fits the task?
- A. A physical-relief map showing elevation only
 - B. A climate map showing average precipitation only
 - C. A geologic map showing rock formations only
 - D. A political map

70. A traveler says a village is 'about 10 kilometers east of the river crossing.' What type of location is being described?

- A. Relative location
- B. Absolute latitude and longitude
- C. Population density
- D. Elevation above sea level only

71. Farmers in a river delta build homes on raised foundations because seasonal flooding is common. Which geographic idea is best illustrated?

- A. Physical geography never affects human decisions.
- B. People adapt their built environment to recurring physical conditions.
- C. Every community responds to flooding in exactly the same way.
- D. Flooding eliminates all possibilities for settlement in a delta.

72. A region with rich deposits of copper develops mines and metal-processing industries. Which relationship is most clearly illustrated?

- A. All industries locate independently of resources and transportation.
- B. Copper deposits determine the region's form of government.
- C. Natural-resource distribution can influence the location of economic activity.
- D. Mining automatically prevents any other kind of economic activity.

73. A community begins using foods, musical styles, and words introduced through long-term contact with neighboring groups. Which process does this best illustrate?

- A. Absolute isolation
- B. Cultural diffusion
- C. Judicial review
- D. Price deflation

74. A family moves to a city because relatives already there can help them find housing and work. Which migration concept is most directly illustrated?

- A. Migration occurs only because of natural disasters.
- B. People never consider family connections when choosing destinations.
- C. Social networks can act as a pull factor that supports chain migration.
- D. Every migrant makes decisions without any economic or social information.

75. A store offers a \$5 discount to customers who return used containers for recycling. In economic terms, the discount is primarily what?
- A. An incentive intended to influence behavior
 - B. A scarce natural resource
 - C. A form of geographic latitude
 - D. A judicial precedent
76. A bakery buys a faster oven that allows the same number of workers to produce more loaves each hour. What has increased most directly?
- A. The geographic latitude of the bakery
 - B. The number of hours in a day
 - C. The legal voting age
 - D. Labor productivity
77. After the price of a name-brand cereal rises, a family buys a similar store-brand cereal whose price has not changed. Which economic idea is best illustrated?
- A. Consumers must buy more of any good when its price rises.
 - B. Consumers may substitute a similar good when relative prices change.
 - C. Prices have no effect on household choices between similar goods.
 - D. A substitute good must always be produced by the government.
78. A student puts part of an allowance into a savings account instead of spending it immediately. Which economic trade-off is most direct?
- A. More current spending with no effect on future choices
 - B. A guarantee that prices will never change
 - C. The elimination of all scarcity from the student's decisions
 - D. Less current consumption in exchange for resources available for future use
79. A person opens a small repair business, invests personal savings, and may gain profits or lose money depending on demand. Which role is being described?
- A. Consumer only
 - B. Juror
 - C. Entrepreneur
 - D. Cartographer

80. A town is considering adding a pedestrian crossing near a school. Officials have traffic counts, crash reports, parent comments, accessibility concerns, and cost estimates. Which process best supports a sound public decision?

- A. Compare the evidence, stakeholder needs, trade-offs, and likely consequences before choosing.
- B. Use only the opinion of the first speaker at the meeting.
- C. Ignore safety data because public decisions should not use evidence.
- D. Assume every possible crossing location has identical effects and costs.

81. Which event occurred first in English colonial history?

- A. The founding of Jamestown in Virginia
- B. The signing of the Mayflower Compact
- C. The Boston Tea Party
- D. The adoption of the U.S. Constitution

82. Why did tobacco become economically important to early Virginia?

- A. It replaced all food production in every Virginia settlement.
- B. It ended the colony's need for overseas trade.
- C. It made farmland unnecessary because tobacco grew without land.
- D. European demand made it a profitable cash crop that shaped labor and land use.

83. Colonists objected to the Stamp Act partly because it required taxes on many printed materials without colonial representation in Parliament. Which larger dispute did this intensify?

- A. Whether the colonies should stop using all printed paper
- B. Whether Parliament could tax the colonies without their elected consent
- C. Whether Parliament should move permanently to North America
- D. Whether colonial legislatures should abolish every local tax

84. After news of the American victory at Saratoga reached Europe, which diplomatic development soon strengthened the American war effort?

- A. Britain immediately accepted the U.S. Constitution.
- B. Spain transferred every North American colony to the United States.
- C. France entered a formal alliance with the United States.
- D. The United States joined the British Empire as an equal kingdom.

- 85.** What was the significance of the British surrender at Yorktown in 1781?
- A. It began the first battles of the Revolution.
 - B. It ratified the U.S. Constitution immediately.
 - C. It effectively ended major fighting in the American Revolutionary War and encouraged peace negotiations.
 - D. It caused the Louisiana Purchase to occur the next year.
- 86.** The U.S. Congress has two chambers, the House of Representatives and the Senate. What term describes this structure?
- A. Unitary executive
 - B. Judicial review
 - C. Direct democracy only
 - D. Bicameral legislature
- 87.** Before government officers search a person's home for evidence, the Constitution generally requires legal justification and often a warrant. Which protection is most directly involved?
- A. The right to vote at age eighteen
 - B. Protection against unreasonable searches and seizures
 - C. The abolition of slavery
 - D. The direct election of senators
- 88.** Which situation best illustrates the Fifth Amendment protection against compelled self-incrimination?
- A. A defendant cannot be forced to testify against himself or herself in a criminal case.
 - B. A voter must choose two candidates on every ballot.
 - C. A governor can ignore all court orders.
 - D. A city may search any home without legal justification.
- 89.** How did the cotton gin affect cotton production in the United States during the early nineteenth century?
- A. It eliminated the demand for agricultural labor in the cotton South.
 - B. It made separating cotton fibers from seeds much faster, encouraging expanded cotton production.
 - C. It made cotton impossible to export across the Atlantic.
 - D. It replaced cotton farming with iron manufacturing throughout the South.

90. Why was completion of the first transcontinental railroad in 1869 significant?

- A. It ended all wagon travel immediately in every region.
- B. It created the first European settlement in North America.
- C. It made rivers and ports economically irrelevant everywhere.
- D. It greatly shortened cross-country travel time and linked western and eastern markets more directly.

91. A constitutional change ratified in 1920 prohibited denying or abridging a citizen's right to vote on account of sex. Which amendment is described?

- A. Nineteenth Amendment
- B. Thirteenth Amendment
- C. Seventeenth Amendment
- D. Twenty-sixth Amendment

92. During the 1920s, writers, musicians, and artists associated with the Harlem Renaissance produced influential work centered in African American cultural life. What broader development does this illustrate?

- A. The end of all racial discrimination in the United States
- B. A federal program requiring every artist to move to Harlem
- C. A major flowering of African American artistic and intellectual expression
- D. The replacement of jazz by colonial-era military music

93. A farm family leaves the Great Plains after repeated drought, crop failure, and severe dust storms during the 1930s. Which historical condition is most directly involved?

- A. The California Gold Rush
- B. The War of 1812
- C. The building of the Erie Canal
- D. The Dust Bowl

94. During World War II, the U.S. government forcibly relocated and incarcerated many people of Japanese ancestry. Which constitutional issue does this history most directly raise for students to examine?

- A. Whether geography can be measured with latitude
- B. Whether all wartime policies increase consumer choice
- C. The tension between claimed national-security actions and civil liberties and equal protection
- D. Whether private businesses should use the same advertising slogan

95. Which map feature tells what symbols and colors on the map represent?

- A. Legend or key
- B. Scale only
- C. Latitude line only
- D. Compass rose only

96. A climate graph shows warm temperatures and heavy rainfall in every month of the year. Which environment is most consistent with that pattern?

- A. A polar ice-cap climate
- B. A tropical rainforest climate
- C. A cold desert with almost no precipitation
- D. A high-latitude tundra with long freezing winters

97. A company can produce either 100 bicycles or 250 scooters with the same set of resources during a month. What economic idea does this choice illustrate?

- A. Scarcity disappears when a company owns machinery.
- B. Resources have alternative uses, so production involves trade-offs.
- C. Every production choice has exactly the same cost.
- D. A business can always produce unlimited quantities of both goods.

98. A country lowers a tariff on imported fruit. All else equal, what is the most direct effect of the policy?

- A. The tax cost attached to imported fruit is reduced.
- B. Domestic weather immediately changes in every farming region.
- C. All international trade stops because tariffs become lower.
- D. The national currency immediately loses all of its value.

99. A family compares two loans for the same purchase. Loan A has a lower interest rate and the same fees and repayment period as Loan B. Which loan will generally cost less in interest?

- A. Loan B, because its higher rate reduces interest expense.
- B. Both loans, because interest rate does not affect cost.
- C. Loan A, because its lower rate reduces interest expense.
- D. Neither loan, because equal fees eliminate all interest charges.

100. Students study a proposed bus-route change using ridership data, a map of stops, comments from riders, and the transportation agency's budget. What is the strongest next step?

- A. Choose a position before reading any of the evidence.
- B. Use only the single comment that agrees with the student's first opinion.
- C. Ignore cost and access because public decisions have no competing constraints.
- D. Develop a recommendation that weighs the evidence, trade-offs, and effects on different stakeholders.

Practice Exam 6: Answer Key

Use this compact key to score the exam before reading the detailed explanations.

1–20	21–40	41–60	61–80	81–100
1. A	21. B	41. D	61. D	81. A
2. D	22. A	42. A	62. B	82. D
3. B	23. C	43. C	63. C	83. B
4. C	24. D	44. B	64. A	84. C
5. A	25. A	45. A	65. B	85. C
6. B	26. C	46. D	66. D	86. D
7. D	27. D	47. B	67. C	87. B
8. C	28. B	48. C	68. A	88. A
9. A	29. A	49. A	69. D	89. B
10. D	30. D	50. C	70. A	90. D
11. C	31. B	51. B	71. B	91. A
12. B	32. C	52. D	72. C	92. C
13. A	33. C	53. C	73. B	93. D
14. C	34. D	54. D	74. C	94. C
15. D	35. A	55. A	75. A	95. A
16. B	36. B	56. B	76. D	96. B
17. B	37. B	57. A	77. B	97. B
18. C	38. C	58. B	78. D	98. A
19. A	39. A	59. C	79. C	99. C
20. D	40. D	60. D	80. A	100. D

Practice Exam 6: Detailed Explanations

1. **A** — The error is tied to an irregular high-frequency spelling, not to comprehension of the sentence. Explicitly mapping the spoken sounds in said to its actual letters helps the student store the word accurately in memory. Picture guessing and page memorization bypass orthographic learning, while isolated letter-name practice is too elementary for the demonstrated need.
2. **D** — The inflectional suffix -ed consistently marks past tense in these examples, but its pronunciation changes according to the final sound of the base word. Helping students notice /t/, /d/, and /id/ pronunciations strengthens decoding and spelling while preserving the understanding that the same morpheme can have more than one spoken form.
3. **B** — In ro/bot, the first syllable ends with the vowel o rather than a consonant, making it an open syllable. Open syllables commonly have a long vowel sound. Recognizing syllable types gives students a useful decoding strategy for unfamiliar multisyllabic words instead of relying on guessing or an inaccurate rule about neighboring consonants.
4. **C** — The sentence provides two strong semantic clues: humid is contrasted with arid, and the rainforest is described as receiving frequent moisture and feeling damp. Readers can combine those clues to infer that humid means moist or containing much water vapor. Punctuation, syllable count, and alphabetical order do not supply the needed meaning.
5. **A** — Procedural directions are organized according to the order in which actions should occur, so sequence or chronological order is the dominant structure. Signal words such as first, next, and last make that organization explicit. The other structures focus on differences, causal relationships, or competing arguments rather than an ordered process.
6. **B** — Situational irony occurs when the actual outcome meaningfully contrasts with what readers would ordinarily expect. A fire station is associated with controlling emergencies involving water and fire, so being damaged by its own sprinkler system creates that reversal. The event is not primarily a sound pattern, a definition, or a shift to past time. The other choices do not.
7. **D** — The sentence gives the wind human characteristics: it is described as impatient and as demanding to be heard. Assigning human qualities or actions to a nonhuman thing is personification. The sentence may contain vivid sound imagery, but its defining feature is the human behavior attributed to the wind rather than literal description or deliberate understatement. The other choices do.
8. **C** — A theme expresses a broader idea about life or human behavior that the events of a story develop. The runner's boasting and lack of preparation support the idea that confidence alone does not guarantee success. Details about shoes, locations, or an arbitrary practice duration are concrete facts or unsupported rules rather than themes.

9. A — First-person accounts present events through an individual's knowledge, emotions, and interests, so perspective can influence what is emphasized or omitted. Comparing the narrators' claims, details, and possible biases helps readers evaluate the accounts critically. Length alone does not establish accuracy, and differing perspectives can still provide valuable evidence when corroborated.

10. D — Credibility is strengthened when an author has relevant expertise and supports claims with traceable evidence, methods, and sources. Those features allow readers to evaluate both authority and evidence quality. Attractive design, emotional wording, or search-result position may influence attention, but none of them demonstrates that the information is accurate or well supported.

11. C — An effective paraphrase restates the source idea accurately in new wording and sentence structure. The keyed response preserves the two mechanisms—reducing wave energy and retaining sediment—without copying the original sentence. Repeating the source verbatim is not paraphrasing, while the other choices either change the meaning or make an unsupported absolute claim.

12. B — Direct quotations are strongest when writers provide context, preserve the source's wording accurately, and identify the source. The writer should also explain how the evidence supports the report's point. Dropping a quotation without attribution, altering quoted wording, or using evidence without analysis weakens clarity and responsible source use. That distinction supports the keyed response.

13. A — The keyed revision combines related ideas with a subordinating conjunction and coordinated adjectives, creating one clear sentence that expresses contrast. It preserves all three ideas while improving flow and sentence variety. The distractors contain fragments or faulty coordination and therefore do not create a grammatically complete, coherent sentence. That distinction supports the keyed response.

14. C — In the keyed sentence, she could refer to either Maya or Elena, so the antecedent is ambiguous. Effective revision would replace the pronoun with the intended name or otherwise restructure the sentence. The other sentences identify the person directly or use a plural pronoun with a clear antecedent, so they do not create the same reference problem.

15. D — The introductory clause *Before the concert began* is followed by the independent clause *the audience silenced their phones*, so a comma belongs at the boundary between them. The keyed version places that comma correctly. The other choices either omit the needed separation or insert punctuation inside a grammatical unit where it interrupts meaning and sentence flow.

16. B — For a regular plural noun that already ends in *s*, possession is usually shown by adding an apostrophe after the final *s*. Therefore *students'* correctly shows that the lockers belong to multiple students. *Student's* is singular possessive, omitting the apostrophe removes the possessive marker, and *student's'* uses an incorrect double possessive form.

17. B — A well-designed before-and-after study directly examines outcomes connected to the proposed schedule change, making it stronger evidence than a single opinion or promotional material. Relevant measures such as attendance and academic performance can support a reasoned inference about learning effects. Unrelated construction facts do not address the committee's question and therefore provide little evidentiary value.

18. C — Subheadings divide a longer informational text into meaningful sections and signal the focus of each part, helping readers preview, navigate, and synthesize information. When a report explains several causes, descriptive headings make the organization visible. Decorative borders or arbitrary font changes do not clarify relationships among ideas, and one undivided block reduces accessibility.

19. A — The speaker connects two classmates' contributions and uses them to refine the group's interpretation, which is synthesis rather than simple repetition. Productive academic discussion involves listening, referencing others' evidence, and extending or revising ideas. The distractors describe avoidance, uncritical repetition, or dismissal rather than collaborative meaning making. That distinction supports the keyed response.

20. D — Images are evidence only when their context is relevant to the claim. A photograph taken before sunrise does not necessarily represent weekend-afternoon use of the park, so students should question how the image is framed and seek additional evidence. Visual material can be persuasive while still being selective, incomplete, or mismatched to the stated conclusion. The other choices do.

21. B — Line direction, length, and gesture can create visual movement and energy. Sweeping diagonal marks tend to feel more active than static horizontal or vertical arrangements and can reinforce the motion of the horse. Line quality does not provide literal measurements, biographical information, or a single unavoidable interpretation for every viewer.

22. A — Implied texture is the visual suggestion of how a surface might feel even though the artwork itself remains physically smooth. Artists can create it through marks, patterns, value, and color. Actual texture is physically tactile, while tempo and blocking belong to music and theater rather than the visual representation of surface quality.

23. C — Timbre is the tone quality or characteristic sound that allows listeners to distinguish instruments even when pitch and loudness are similar. The material, shape, and vibration patterns of instruments contribute to different timbres. Pitch describes how high or low a sound is, tempo concerns speed, and meter organizes beats into recurring groups.

24. D — In A-B-A form, the first section establishes musical material, the B section contrasts with it, and the final A returns to the opening material. Recognizing repeated and contrasting sections helps students hear musical form. Continuing only B or introducing entirely unrelated material would not create the stated A-B-A structure. That distinction supports the keyed response.

25. A — Blocking refers to planned actor movement and placement on the performance space. Adjusting where performers stand or move can clarify relationships, focus attention, and make stage action visible to the audience. Publication date, vocal pitch, and painted texture are different theatrical or production considerations and do not describe spatial movement.

26. C — Handwashing with soap and water removes many microbes before students touch food, their faces, or one another, interrupting a common route of transmission. Sharing bottles or utensils increases opportunities for germs to spread, and visibly clean hands can still carry microorganisms. The best routine therefore targets prevention at a practical point in the school day.

27. D — Reducing ultraviolet exposure involves combining strategies such as shade, protective clothing, and sunscreen on exposed skin. No single measure eliminates all exposure, and ultraviolet radiation can still reach people under many cloudy conditions. Hydration is important for other reasons but does not increase ultraviolet sensitivity or replace sun-protection behaviors. That distinction supports the keyed response.

28. B — Protein supplies amino acids used for growth, maintenance, and tissue repair. Yogurt and nuts or seeds can contribute meaningful protein along with other nutrients. Candy, soda, and table sugar are primarily sources of added sugars and do not provide comparable protein. A balanced snack can also include carbohydrates, fluids, and other nutrients.

29. A — Health literacy includes evaluating who is making a claim, what evidence supports it, and whether the language is exaggerated. An absolute promise such as 'instantly smarter' should prompt skepticism and source checking. Packaging and celebrity endorsements can influence consumers, but they do not substitute for reliable evidence about benefits, ingredients, or possible risks.

30. D — The keyed goal specifies the activity, duration, frequency, and four-week time frame, so a student can record each session and determine whether the target was met. The other goals are vague, unrealistically immediate, or based on perfect attendance over an excessive period. Measurable goals make progress visible and support realistic adjustments to a wellness plan.

31. B — One-half equals 0.5. Five-elevenths is about 0.455, so its distance from 0.5 is about 0.045. One-eighth, nine-tenths, and two-thirds are farther from one-half when converted to decimals or compared with benchmark fractions. Estimating each fraction's location on a number line provides a useful check before selecting the closest value. This benchmark comparison also shows which estimates are reasonable.

32. C — To find a fraction of another quantity, multiply: $(\frac{3}{5})(\frac{10}{9}) = \frac{30}{45}$, which simplifies to $\frac{2}{3}$. Adding the numerators and denominators or reversing one factor does not represent 'of.' Simplifying before or after multiplication leads to the same product. The distractors reflect common operation, place-value, measurement, or representation errors. Recomputing from the quantities in the stem confirms the keyed result.

33. C — Dividing 8.4 by 4 asks how much is in each of four equal groups. Since 84 tenths divided by 4 equals 21 tenths, the quotient is 2.1. The other options reflect a misplaced decimal point, multiplication by a power of ten, or an unrelated subtraction. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.

34. D — Four rows of six chairs contain 24 chairs. Adding the five extra aisle chairs gives 29 altogether. The 24-chair choice stops before adding the extras, 11 combines the two small numbers instead of using equal groups, and 35 reflects an incorrect operation. Modeling the rows as multiplication followed by addition matches the situation described.

35. A — Divide both sides by 5 to obtain $n - 2 = 7$, then add 2 to both sides. This gives $n = 9$. Substituting 9 into the original equation gives $5(9) = 35$, confirming the solution. The other values do not satisfy the equation. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.

36. B — Moving every digit two place-value positions to the left is equivalent to multiplying the number by 100. Therefore 0.36 becomes 36. A one-place move gives 3.6, moving right gives 0.0036 rather than the keyed value, and three places would give 360. Place-value reasoning confirms the direction and size of the change.

37. B — The points share the same x-coordinate, so the distance is the vertical change between $y = 4$ and $y = -3$. The absolute difference is $|4 - (-3)| = 7$. Counting across zero correctly is essential; the other values come from ignoring the negative sign or miscounting intervals. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.

38. C — Four thousands contribute 4,000, seven tens contribute 70, and three tenths contribute 0.3. Adding those place values gives 4,070.3. The other choices place a digit in the hundreds or ones position incorrectly. Writing the expanded form $4,000 + 70 + 0.3$ makes each digit's value explicit and provides a reliable check.

39. A — Covering every face requires the total surface area of the rectangular prism. The three distinct face areas are 24, 18, and 12 square centimeters, and each occurs twice. Thus $2(24 + 18 + 12)$ equals 108 square centimeters. Multiplying all three dimensions would instead find volume, while the other distractors omit or duplicate face areas incorrectly.

40. D — Both a rectangle and a parallelogram use base times perpendicular height to determine area. When those two measurements are the same, the products are equal even if the parallelogram has a slanted side. The slanted side changes the shape but not the area formula. A one-half factor applies to triangles, not to parallelograms in this comparison.

41. D — The interior angles of any triangle total 180 degrees. The two labeled angles add to 115 degrees, leaving 65 degrees for the unlabeled angle. Choosing 115 would confuse the sum of the known angles with the missing angle, while the other distractors result from incorrect subtraction. Adding all three angles back to 180 provides a quick verification.

- 42. A** — Add one hour to 2:35 p.m. to reach 3:35 p.m., then add 48 minutes. Twenty-five minutes reaches 4:00, with 23 minutes remaining, so the ending time is 4:23 p.m. The 3:83 notation is invalid because minutes must be regrouped after 59. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.
- 43. C** — One hour equals 60 minutes. Multiplying 2.75 by 60 gives 165 minutes; equivalently, 2 hours is 120 minutes and 0.75 hour is 45 minutes, totaling 165. The other choices either ignore the fractional hour, multiply incorrectly, or treat the decimal representation as a minute count. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.
- 44. B** — With six ordered values, the median is the mean of the two middle values rather than a single data point. The middle pair is 47 and 50, whose average is 48.5 seconds. Choosing 47 or 50 uses only one middle value, while 49 results from an arithmetic error. The ordered list makes the central pair easy to identify.
- 45. A** — A 20% probability describes the long-run frequency expected across many comparable situations, not a guarantee about a fraction of one day's time or area. About 20 rainy outcomes in 100 similar cases is a reasonable interpretation. A probability below 50% still allows the event to occur, and it does not specify what portion of a city receives rain.
- 46. D** — Substitute $n = 8$ into the rule $3n + 2$. Multiplying 3 by 8 gives 24, then adding 2 gives 26. The distractors come from stopping after the multiplication, using a different term number, or applying the operations incorrectly. Substitution directly checks the stated pattern rule. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.
- 47. B** — If both the length and width are multiplied by 2, the new area is $(2L)(2W) = 4LW$. Area therefore scales by the square of the linear scale factor. Doubling only the area ignores that both dimensions change, while a factor of eight would correspond to three-dimensional volume scaling. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.
- 48. C** — The scale is 5 meters for every 2 centimeters, or 2.5 meters per centimeter. Multiplying 7 centimeters by 2.5 meters per centimeter gives 17.5 meters. The distractors result from multiplying or dividing by the wrong scale factor or treating centimeters and meters as directly interchangeable. Rechecking the stated quantities and units confirms the keyed result.
- 49. A** — Both plant and animal cells have a cell membrane, which forms a selectively permeable boundary and regulates movement of substances into and out of the cell. Plant cells also have a cell wall, but animal cells do not. Chloroplasts are associated with photosynthesis, and vacuoles primarily store materials rather than control all exchange across the cell boundary.
- 50. C** — Most digested nutrients are absorbed through the lining of the small intestine, whose large surface area supports transfer into the bloodstream or lymph. The esophagus mainly transports food, the large intestine absorbs much of the remaining water and electrolytes, and the trachea belongs to the respiratory system rather than digestion.

51. B — Competition occurs when organisms require the same limited resource and each organism's access can reduce what is available to others. The two plant species are competing for sunlight and soil nutrients. Predation involves one organism consuming another, decomposition breaks down dead matter, and parasitism benefits one organism while harming a host.

52. D — Commensalism describes a relationship in which one organism benefits while the other is not significantly helped or harmed. The bird gains easier access to insects, while the cattle are described as unaffected. Mutualism benefits both partners, parasitism harms a host, and competition occurs when organisms contend for the same limited resource.

53. C — The plants are genetically similar, but differences in light produce differences in growth and color, showing that environmental conditions can affect trait expression. Inheritance matters, but phenotype can also reflect environmental influence. The result does not show that plants consciously choose genes or that ordinary light differences permanently rewrite every gene.

54. D — In the particle model, gas particles are far apart compared with particles in liquids, so applying pressure can reduce the empty space between gas particles. The particles themselves do not disappear, and gases still have mass. Liquid particles move but are already close together, making ordinary liquids much less compressible.

55. A — Fog forms when moist air cools enough for water vapor to condense into tiny liquid droplets suspended near the ground. Condensation is the change from gas to liquid. Melting is solid to liquid, sublimation is solid to gas, and oxygen does not simply freeze into water. Identifying the starting and ending states reveals the correct phase change.

56. B — An effective insulator slows thermal energy transfer, so under controlled conditions the best insulating material should produce the smallest drop in water temperature over the same time. Starting temperatures, water amounts, and measurement times should be kept comparable. A larger temperature decrease indicates faster energy loss, not better insulation. That distinction supports the keyed response.

57. A — An object moving at constant velocity has approximately zero net force because its motion is not accelerating. Forces such as gravity and the support force can still act, but they balance vertically, while friction is small. A sustained unbalanced force would change the puck's speed or direction rather than preserve constant velocity.

58. B — Lifting the book increases its position in Earth's gravitational field, so its gravitational potential energy increases. While muscles used chemical energy to do the lifting, the stored energy associated with the book's elevated position is gravitational. The book does not need to be producing sound or connected to an electrical circuit.

59. C — For a flat reflecting surface, the angle of reflection equals the angle of incidence when both are measured from the normal. Therefore a ray arriving at 35 degrees reflects at 35 degrees on the other side of the normal. The other values confuse complementary angles, doubling, or normal incidence. That distinction supports the keyed response.

60. D — A prism disperses white light because different wavelengths change speed and refract by different amounts as they enter and leave the glass. The varying bending separates the combined light into visible colors. Combustion, magnetic attraction, and sound waves do not produce the observed spectrum. The phenomenon is an optical effect involving refraction and wavelength-dependent behavior of light.

61. D — An electromagnet depends on electric current flowing through a coil, and increasing the number of turns around an iron core generally strengthens the magnetic field when other conditions are comparable. Removing the power source, breaking the circuit, or replacing the iron core with a nonmagnetic straw weakens or eliminates the effect.

62. B — Low-pressure systems are commonly associated with rising air. As rising air cools, water vapor can condense and clouds or precipitation may develop, making unsettled weather more likely. High pressure is more often associated with sinking air and clearer conditions. Neither pressure pattern guarantees absolute outcomes or removes all wind and water vapor.

63. C — Moving water and sediment can physically abrade rock surfaces, breaking them into smaller pieces without changing the basic chemical composition of the minerals. That is mechanical weathering. Photosynthesis occurs in living producers, condensation is a phase change of water vapor, and ordinary stream temperatures do not cause nuclear fusion in rock.

64. A — Engineering design is often iterative: teams build or model a solution, test it against criteria and constraints, analyze failure or performance data, and revise the design. The students are using evidence from tests to improve a promising solution. Predetermining the answer or avoiding measurements would weaken the design process rather than strengthen it.

65. B — Whether an object floats depends on its average density relative to the fluid and on buoyant force, not simply on total weight. A large wooden block can weigh more than a small metal bolt yet float because its average density is lower. The keyed observation therefore directly contradicts the student's 'heavier always sinks' rule.

66. D — Artifacts are physical remains that can provide evidence about how people lived, worked, produced goods, and obtained food. Archaeologists interpret them in context and compare them with other evidence. Artifacts do not give complete or certain access to every event or thought, but they can support careful inferences about past societies.

67. C — Chronology places events in the order in which they occurred and helps historians analyze change, continuity, and possible relationships over time. Arranging a law, protests, repeal, and a later constitution is a sequencing task. Population density, latitude, and inflation are useful concepts in other social-studies contexts but do not order historical events.

68. A — A census can provide information about residents and households, while a payroll can provide evidence about workers and employment. Comparing them can reveal relationships between population characteristics and local economic activity. Neither source records every person's private thoughts, predicts future weather, or guarantees agreement among all historical evidence. That distinction supports the keyed response.

69. D — A political map emphasizes human-defined boundaries and administrative locations such as countries, states, and capital cities. Physical-relief maps focus on landforms and elevation, climate maps summarize patterns such as precipitation, and geologic maps show rock units or structures. Matching the map type to the information needed is an important geographic inquiry skill and avoids reading irrelevant features.

70. A — Relative location describes where a place is in relation to another place or feature, often using direction and distance. Saying the village is east of a river crossing depends on a reference point. Absolute location would use fixed coordinates, while population density and elevation describe different geographic characteristics rather than relational position.

71. B — Human-environment interaction includes ways people adapt to physical conditions, modify landscapes, and depend on natural systems. Raised foundations are an adaptation to recurring flood risk. The example does not imply that geography determines one unavoidable response or that flood-prone areas can never support settlement, agriculture, transportation, or other human activity.

72. C — The location of valuable natural resources can shape where extraction, processing, transportation, and related employment develop. Copper deposits can therefore influence regional economic patterns. Resources do not mechanically determine government, nor do they make every other activity impossible; human decisions, technology, infrastructure, markets, and environmental constraints also matter. That distinction supports the keyed response.

73. B — Cultural diffusion is the spread of ideas, practices, technologies, foods, language features, or other cultural traits between groups through contact and exchange. The scenario describes borrowing and adaptation across communities. Absolute isolation would limit such exchange, while judicial review and deflation are civic and economic concepts unrelated to the transmission of culture.

74. C — Existing relatives or community networks can reduce the costs and uncertainty of moving by sharing information, housing, employment contacts, and social support. That can make a destination more attractive and contribute to chain migration. Migration decisions can also involve economic, political, environmental, and personal factors rather than one universal cause.

75. A — An incentive is a reward or penalty that changes the costs or benefits associated with a choice and can influence behavior. The discount rewards customers for returning containers, making recycling more attractive. Scarcity, latitude, and judicial precedent are real concepts, but they do not describe the economic role of the discount.

76. D — Productivity measures output relative to inputs such as labor time. If the same workers can produce more loaves per hour because of improved equipment, labor productivity has increased. Technology can raise productivity without changing the length of the day, the business's geographic coordinates, or unrelated civic rules such as voting age.

77. B — When two goods can serve similar purposes, a change in their relative prices can lead consumers to switch toward the less expensive alternative. The family substitutes store-brand cereal after the name-brand price rises. This does not mean every consumer must switch, but it illustrates how price differences can influence choices among substitute goods within a household budget.

78. D — Saving postpones some present consumption so resources remain available for future goals and may earn interest depending on the account. The trade-off is therefore between spending now and retaining purchasing power for later. Saving does not eliminate scarcity, guarantee stable prices, or increase current spending at the same time. That distinction supports the keyed response.

79. C — An entrepreneur organizes resources to create or operate a business and accepts uncertainty about costs, revenues, and potential profit or loss. The person in the scenario invests savings and takes business risk. Consumers purchase goods and services, jurors participate in courts, and cartographers make maps; those roles do not capture the business activity described.

80. A — Sound public-policy reasoning combines relevant evidence with consideration of stakeholders, trade-offs, feasibility, and likely consequences. Traffic and crash data, accessibility needs, public comments, and cost estimates illuminate different parts of the decision. Relying on one speaker, rejecting evidence, or assuming all locations are equivalent prevents officials from comparing alternatives responsibly and transparently.

81. A — Jamestown was founded in 1607, before the Mayflower Compact of 1620, the Boston Tea Party of 1773, and the Constitution of 1787. Sequencing these events helps students distinguish early English colonization from later revolutionary and national developments. The distractors all occurred substantially later in the chronology. That distinction supports the keyed response.

82. D — Tobacco became a valuable export crop in Virginia because strong European demand made commercial cultivation profitable. Its expansion influenced land use, labor systems, and Atlantic trade. It did not eliminate food production, end overseas commerce, or grow without farmland. The crop became economically important precisely because it connected colonial production to external markets.

83. B — The Stamp Act helped intensify the constitutional dispute over Parliament's authority to tax colonists who lacked elected representatives there. Colonial resistance often centered on the principle of taxation without representation. The controversy was not about eliminating paper, relocating Parliament, or abolishing all local taxation administered by colonial governments. That distinction supports the keyed response.

84. C — The victory at Saratoga strengthened foreign confidence that the American rebellion could succeed and helped lead France to enter a formal alliance with the United States in 1778. French money, supplies, troops, and naval power became important to the war effort. The victory did not produce the Constitution, transfer all Spanish colonies, or reunite the new nation with Britain.

85. C — The British surrender at Yorktown in October 1781 effectively ended major combat operations in the American Revolution and strengthened movement toward peace negotiations. The Treaty of Paris followed in 1783. Yorktown did not begin the war, ratify the later Constitution, or cause the nineteenth-century Louisiana Purchase. That distinction supports the keyed response.

86. D — A bicameral legislature is divided into two chambers. The U.S. Congress consists of the House of Representatives and the Senate, so bicameral is the precise term. A unitary executive concerns executive leadership, judicial review concerns courts evaluating constitutionality, and direct democracy refers to citizens voting directly on policies rather than a two-house legislature.

87. B — The Fourth Amendment protects people against unreasonable searches and seizures and establishes constitutional requirements related to warrants. The scenario concerns government intrusion into a home, so that protection is directly relevant. The other answer choices refer to voting age, abolition of slavery, and direct election of senators, which are associated with different constitutional amendments and historical changes.

88. A — The Fifth Amendment includes protection against being compelled in a criminal case to be a witness against oneself. This safeguard is commonly described as the privilege against self-incrimination. The other situations concern elections, separation of powers, or search-and-seizure protections and do not describe the specific Fifth Amendment guarantee asked about.

89. B — The cotton gin greatly increased the speed of separating short-staple cotton fibers from seeds, making cotton processing more profitable and encouraging expansion of cotton cultivation. That expansion was closely tied to the growth of enslaved labor rather than its elimination. The machine did not block exports or replace southern agriculture with iron manufacturing.

90. D — The transcontinental railroad connected rail networks across the continent, sharply reducing travel time and facilitating movement of people, goods, mail, and information between eastern and western markets. It transformed settlement and commerce but did not instantly eliminate every other form of transportation or make rivers, ports, and local routes irrelevant.

91. A — The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified in 1920 and prohibits denying or abridging the right of U.S. citizens to vote on account of sex. The Thirteenth abolished slavery, the Seventeenth established direct election of U.S. senators, and the Twenty-sixth protected voting rights for citizens eighteen and older. Connecting each amendment to its central change distinguishes the choices.

92. C — The Harlem Renaissance was a major period of African American artistic, literary, and intellectual creativity, especially associated with Harlem in the 1920s. Writers, musicians, and artists explored Black life, identity, history, and modern experience. The movement did not end racism, result from a compulsory relocation program, or replace jazz with colonial music.

93. D — The Dust Bowl refers to severe drought, wind erosion, and dust storms that devastated parts of the Great Plains during the 1930s, worsening economic hardship and contributing to migration. The Gold Rush, War of 1812, and Erie Canal belong to different regions and periods and do not explain the described environmental crisis.

94. C — The incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II raises fundamental questions about civil liberties, racial discrimination, due process, and the reach of government power during wartime. Studying the policy requires examining both official justifications and its human consequences. The distractors concern unrelated geographic or economic questions rather than constitutional rights.

95. A — A map legend or key explains the meaning of symbols, colors, line styles, and other visual conventions used on the map. A scale shows the relationship between map distance and real distance, latitude identifies north-south position relative to the equator, and a compass rose indicates directions. That distinction supports the keyed response.

96. B — Tropical rainforest climates are characterized by consistently warm temperatures and abundant precipitation through the year. Polar, tundra, and cold-desert environments have much lower temperatures, much less precipitation, or strong seasonal cold. Reading a climate graph requires combining both temperature and precipitation patterns rather than relying on one variable alone. That distinction supports the keyed response.

97. B — Limited resources can be allocated to different productive uses, so choosing more of one output generally means giving up some potential output of another. The bicycle-scooter example illustrates trade-offs created by scarcity. Owning machinery does not make resources unlimited, and production alternatives do not automatically have identical opportunity costs. That distinction supports the keyed response.

98. A — A tariff is a tax imposed on imported goods. Lowering it reduces the tax cost attached to bringing those goods into the country, which can affect prices, quantities, and competition depending on market conditions. The policy does not directly change weather, end trade, or make a currency worthless by itself.

99. C — When principal, fees, repayment period, and other terms are the same, a lower interest rate generally means less interest paid over the life of the loan. Interest is the cost of borrowing money. The comparison changes if other terms differ, but the stem holds those factors constant to isolate the effect of the rate.

100. D — Civic inquiry should move from gathering evidence to evaluating alternatives and explaining a reasoned recommendation. Ridership, geography, stakeholder comments, and budget constraints illuminate different consequences of the route change. A strong conclusion weighs that evidence transparently rather than selecting only confirming information or pretending that public choices have no trade-offs.