

PRACTICE EXAM 15: TX PACT ESSENTIAL ACADEMIC SKILLS (700) (126 QUESTIONS)

This full-length practice exam contains 126 selected-response questions aligned to Reading, Writing, and Mathematics. Work each question independently, select the best answer, and use the answer key and explanations to review your reasoning. This practice set does not include the official constructed-response task.

1. In a literacy assessment: In the sentence, 'The committee's tentative plan was revised after public comments,' tentative most nearly means

- A. well funded
- B. widely praised
- C. not final
- D. carefully hidden

2. For a reader comparing sources, A writer describes a library as 'a quiet harbor in a noisy city.' This comparison mainly emphasizes that the library is

- A. located beside a river
- B. a refuge from surrounding activity
- C. difficult for visitors to find
- D. designed for travelers

3. During close reading, A report begins with local water-use data, then explains how residents can reduce consumption. The primary purpose is to

- A. entertain readers with a personal story
- B. argue that data collection should end
- C. describe the history of city plumbing

D. inform readers and encourage conservation

4. For a college-preparation reading task, Select which detail would best support the claim that a school garden improves student engagement?

- A. The garden fence was painted green.
- B. Students voluntarily stayed after class to record plant growth.
- C. The garden opened during spring.
- D. Several teachers owned houseplants.

5. When evaluating a public-information text, An author lists both benefits and limitations of remote work before offering a conclusion. This organization is primarily

- A. chronological narration
- B. problem-and-solution
- C. compare-and-contrast
- D. definition by example

6. In a literacy assessment, If an article quotes a scientist, identifies the study, and links to the original data, the article is most strengthened by

- A. credible, verifiable evidence
- B. emotional language
- C. a longer introduction
- D. an unnamed source

7. For a reader comparing sources, The phrase 'the proposal gained traction' most nearly means the proposal

- A. became physically heavier
- B. was withdrawn from debate

- C. received increasing support
- D. required legal approval

8. During close reading, A passage explains that a town planted trees, then notes lower summer temperatures nearby. The relationship is best described as

- A. cause and effect
- B. sequence and contrast
- C. definition and classification
- D. problem and anecdote

9. For a college-preparation reading task, Select which statement is an inference rather than a directly stated fact? A notice says the museum closes at 5:00 p.m. and visitors should allow two hours.

- A. The museum closes at 5:00 p.m.
- B. Visitors should allow two hours.
- C. The notice is posted at the entrance.
- D. A 4:30 visitor may not finish the museum.

10. When evaluating a public-information text, A writer uses the word 'frugal' instead of 'cheap' to describe a shopper. The word choice most likely conveys

- A. an inability to make decisions
- B. careful spending without a negative judgment
- C. a desire to impress others
- D. a dislike of all purchases

11. In a literacy assessment: In an argument, which evidence is most relevant to a claim that later school start times improve attendance?

- A. A principal's favorite class schedule

- B. A list of school mascots
- C. Attendance records before and after a district changed start times
- D. A map of bus routes from 1990

12. For a reader comparing sources, A passage presents a counterargument and then responds to it with evidence. The response mainly serves to

- A. repeat the opening sentence
- B. address a possible objection
- C. introduce an unrelated topic
- D. replace evidence with opinion

13. During close reading, Select which source is most appropriate for verifying the number of residents in a city?

- A. An official census report
- B. A travel blog comment
- C. An anonymous social-media post
- D. A fictional short story

14. For a college-preparation reading task, The sentence 'Although the trail was steep, the hikers continued steadily' signals a relationship of

- A. cause
- B. example
- C. definition
- D. contrast

15. When evaluating a public-information text, A paragraph begins with a general claim and follows with three specific examples. The examples primarily

- A. contradict the claim
- B. change the topic
- C. establish a timeline
- D. develop the claim

16. In a literacy assessment, A graph shows sales rising each quarter except the third. Which statement is best supported?

- A. Sales rose every quarter.
- B. Sales declined during the third quarter.
- C. Sales were highest in the first quarter.
- D. Sales will certainly decline next year.

17. For a reader comparing sources, When evaluating a persuasive article, which question best tests the reliability of its evidence?

- A. Is the headline written in all capitals?
- B. Does the article use short paragraphs?
- C. Are the sources identified and qualified to make the claims?
- D. Is the topic popular online?

18. During close reading, The word 'conspicuous' in 'a conspicuous sign marked the exit' most nearly means

- A. easy to notice
- B. difficult to translate
- C. likely to move
- D. made of metal

19. For a college-preparation reading task, A speaker says, 'We can either repair the bridge now or watch repair costs grow.' This statement is mainly an appeal to

- A. personal nostalgia
- B. practical consequences
- C. a definition of engineering
- D. a humorous comparison

20. When evaluating a public-information text, Select which revision would make a paragraph's sequence easiest to follow?

- A. Replace all verbs with nouns.
- B. Remove the topic sentence.
- C. Add transitions that signal the order of the steps.
- D. Add an unrelated quotation.

21. In a literacy assessment, A passage gives a definition, followed by a real-world illustration. The illustration helps readers

- A. apply the definition
- B. question the topic
- C. ignore the definition
- D. identify the narrator

22. For a reader comparing sources, An author states that public transit is valuable, then discusses access, cost, and traffic. These details are

- A. unrelated descriptions
- B. a chronological history
- C. definitions of transit
- D. reasons supporting the central claim

23. During close reading, The phrase 'the evidence was scant' indicates that the evidence was

- A. conclusive
- B. surprising
- C. limited
- D. confidential

24. For a college-preparation reading task, A text written for new volunteers would most likely include

- A. specialized research without explanation
- B. clear procedures and practical examples
- C. a personal diary entry
- D. a debate between historians

25. When evaluating a public-information text, Select which detail most clearly reveals an author's point of view?

- A. The article has four paragraphs.
- B. The article names a street.
- C. The article uses quotation marks.
- D. The author calls the policy 'a sensible first step.'

26. In a literacy assessment, A table compares monthly rainfall in two cities. To determine which city had the wetter spring, a reader should

- A. add the rainfall totals for the spring months
- B. find the largest single monthly total
- C. compare only January values
- D. count the number of table columns

27. For a reader comparing sources, The phrase 'the issue is not black and white' means the issue

- A. concerns printed colors

- B. can be solved immediately
- C. has only two possible facts
- D. has important complexities

28. During close reading, Select which sentence is most likely a thesis statement?

- A. Last Saturday, I visited a garden.
- B. The garden has six raised beds.
- C. Community gardens strengthen neighborhoods by improving access, learning, and connection.
- D. Tomatoes are red when ripe.

29. For a college-preparation reading task, A writer includes a statistic immediately after making a claim. The statistic most likely functions as

- A. evidence
- B. a counterclaim
- C. a transition
- D. a definition

30. When evaluating a public-information text, A reader notices that an editorial uses loaded words but provides no sources. The reader should conclude that the editorial

- A. is automatically false
- B. may be persuasive but needs corroboration
- C. is a scientific report
- D. contains no opinion

31. In a literacy assessment, Select which choice best distinguishes a fact from an opinion?

- A. A fact always sounds formal.
- B. An opinion contains no words.

- C. A fact can be checked against evidence.
- D. An opinion is always dishonest

32. For a reader comparing sources, The word 'mitigate' in 'shade trees can mitigate summer heat' most nearly means

- A. measure
- B. predict
- C. increase
- D. reduce

33. During close reading, A passage describes a problem, proposes several actions, and evaluates each. The passage is organized as

- A. problem and solution
- B. spatial description
- C. fictional dialogue
- D. alphabetical listing

34. For a college-preparation reading task, Select which source would be least reliable for a claim about a medication's side effects?

- A. A government safety notice
- B. An uncited manufacturer advertisement
- C. A peer-reviewed medical study
- D. A pharmacist's official guidance

35. When evaluating a public-information text, A heading reads 'From Seed to Harvest.' It most likely signals that the section will be organized

- A. in time order

- B. by opposing arguments
- C. by geographic regions
- D. by definitions only

36. In a literacy assessment, A writer uses 'however' at the start of a sentence primarily to

- A. introduce a list
- B. show a cause
- C. repeat a definition
- D. signal a contrast with the previous idea

37. For a reader comparing sources, If a passage says a candidate 'acknowledged the concern but rejected the conclusion,' the candidate most likely

- A. ignored the issue entirely
- B. changed the subject permanently
- C. accepted the issue while disagreeing with its implication
- D. proved the conclusion correct

38. During close reading, A reader compares two accounts of the same event. The best first step is to identify

- A. which account is longer
- B. each author's purpose and evidence
- C. which title is more dramatic
- D. which author uses more commas

39. For a college-preparation reading task, A paragraph's main idea is best described as

- A. the first word in the paragraph
- B. the central point the details develop

- C. the most unusual example
- D. a fact unrelated to the topic

40. When evaluating a public-information text, A writer repeats a key phrase at the end of successive sentences. This repetition most likely creates

- A. a shift to a new topic
- B. a numerical comparison
- C. emphasis and cohesion
- D. an objective summary

41. In a literacy assessment, Select which evidence best supports a claim that a recycling program reduced landfill waste?

- A. A poster encouraging recycling
- B. A list of recycling colors
- C. One resident's favorite container
- D. Measured landfill totals from before and after the program

42. For a reader comparing sources, The sentence 'The mayor's remarks were measured rather than exuberant' suggests the remarks were

- A. restrained
- B. angry
- C. confusing
- D. unplanned

43. During close reading, When a writer acknowledges a limitation in a proposal, the writer may be trying to

- A. avoid providing reasons

- B. remove the topic sentence
- C. present a balanced and credible argument
- D. replace facts with humor

44. For a college-preparation reading task, A caption beneath a chart should primarily

- A. clarify what the chart displays
- B. introduce a new argument
- C. replace every data label
- D. state the author's biography

45. When evaluating a public-information text, A sentence that summarizes the key points without adding a new claim is most likely part of a

- A. counterargument
- B. definition
- C. setting description
- D. conclusion

46. When editing for clarity and correctness, Choose the sentence with correct subject-verb agreement.

- A. The list of supplies are on the desk.
- B. The list of supplies is on the desk.
- C. The supplies list are on the desk.
- D. The list of supplies were on the desk.

47. For a formal school communication, Choose the sentence with correct pronoun agreement.

- A. Each applicant submitted their completed form.
- B. Each applicant submitted our completed form.
- C. Each applicant submitted a completed form.

D. Each applicant submitted its completed form.

48. In a revision exercise, Which revision is the most concise?

- A. The team had a meeting in order to discuss the budget.
- B. The team met to discuss the budget.
- C. The team met together for a budget discussion meeting.
- D. The budget was discussed by the team during a meeting.

49. When applying standard conventions, Which sentence correctly uses a semicolon?

- A. The forecast predicted rain; the picnic was postponed.
- B. The forecast predicted rain; and the picnic was postponed.
- C. The forecast predicted rain,; the picnic was postponed.
- D. The forecast; predicted rain, the picnic was postponed.

50. In a polished draft, Which sentence correctly uses a comma after an introductory phrase?

- A. After the meeting Jordan, sent the notes.
- B. After, the meeting Jordan sent the notes.
- C. After the meeting Jordan sent, the notes.
- D. After the meeting, Jordan sent the notes.

51. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which revision best combines the ideas without a run-on sentence?

- A. Mia studied the map she chose the shorter route.
- B. Mia studied the map, and she chose the shorter route.
- C. Mia studied the map, she chose the shorter route.
- D. Mia studied the map; and she chose the shorter route.

52. For a formal school communication, Which sentence uses parallel structure?

- A. The job requires planning, communicating, and revising.
- B. The job requires planning, to communicate, and revision.
- C. The job requires to plan, communicating, and revise.
- D. The job requires planning, communication, and to revise.

53. In a revision exercise, Which word best completes the sentence? 'The coach praised Lena for ____ careful preparation.'

- A. she
- B. hers
- C. her
- D. herself

54. When applying standard conventions, Which sentence avoids a misplaced modifier?

- A. Walking to school, the new mural was noticed by me.
- B. The new mural, walking to school, was noticed.
- C. I noticed, walking to school, the new mural was new.
- D. Walking to school, I noticed the new mural.

55. In a polished draft, Which transition best signals a result?

- A. Therefore
- B. For example
- C. Meanwhile
- D. Similarly

56. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which sentence uses the apostrophe correctly?

- A. The teacher's lounge were renovated.
- B. The teachers lounge's was renovated.
- C. The teachers' lounge was renovated.
- D. The teachers' lounge were renovated.

57. For a formal school communication, Which revision maintains a formal tone?

- A. The results were totally wild.
- B. The results were unexpected.
- C. The results were kind of strange.
- D. The results were super surprising.

58. In a revision exercise, Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- A. The speaker asked 'Are we ready to begin?'”
- B. The speaker asked, Are we ready to begin?
- C. The speaker asked 'Are we ready to begin?'
- D. The speaker asked, 'Are we ready to begin?'

59. When applying standard conventions, Which sentence uses 'its' correctly?

- A. The organization revised it's mission statement.
- B. The organization revised its' mission statement.
- C. The organization revised it is mission statement.
- D. The organization revised its mission statement.

60. In a polished draft, Which sentence best introduces a paragraph about reducing food waste?

- A. My refrigerator has a light inside.

- B. Food comes in many colors and sizes.
- C. Small changes at home can significantly reduce food waste.
- D. Yesterday I saw a grocery store.

61. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which sentence corrects the fragment?

- A. Because the bus was late.
- B. We arrived late because the bus was delayed.
- C. And because the bus was late.
- D. The bus late because.

62. For a formal school communication, Which choice provides the clearest order for procedural instructions?

- A. First gather materials, then complete each step, and finally review the result.
- B. Finally review the result, first gather materials, then complete each step.
- C. Complete each step, finally gather materials, and first review the result.
- D. Review the result first, then materials, then steps.

63. In a revision exercise, Which sentence uses a colon correctly?

- A. Bring these items: a notebook, a pen, and a calculator.
- B. Bring: these items a notebook, a pen, and a calculator.
- C. Bring these: items, a notebook, a pen, and a calculator.
- D. Bring these items, a notebook: a pen, and a calculator.

64. When applying standard conventions, Which revision eliminates redundancy?

- A. The unexpected outcome was a surprise.
- B. The outcome was an unexpected surprise result.
- C. The outcome was surprising and unexpected in nature.

D. The outcome was unexpected.

65. In a polished draft, Which sentence has correct capitalization?

- A. My Aunt moved to el paso last june.
- B. My aunt moved to El paso last June.
- C. My aunt moved to El Paso last June.
- D. My aunt moved to El Paso last june.

66. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which word best completes the sentence? 'The principal ____ the award to the student.'

- A. present
- B. presented
- C. presenting
- D. presents yesterday

67. For a formal school communication, Which sentence correctly uses a comma in a series?

- A. We packed water, snacks, maps, and jackets.
- B. We packed water snacks, maps and jackets.
- C. We packed water, snacks maps, and jackets.
- D. We packed water snacks maps and jackets.

68. In a revision exercise, Which revision best supports a claim with specific evidence?

- A. Many students probably read a lot.
- B. Reading is clearly the best activity.
- C. Survey data showed 62 of 80 students read weekly.
- D. Everyone knows students enjoy books.

69. When applying standard conventions, Which sentence uses the correct comparative form?

- A. This route is more shorter than the old route.
- B. This route is shorter than the old route.
- C. This route is shortest than the old route.
- D. This route is short than the old route.

70. In a polished draft, Which choice best concludes an email requesting information?

- A. Anyway, let me know something.
- B. That is all I have to say about it.
- C. You should answer this immediately.
- D. Thank you for your time; I look forward to your response.

71. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which sentence uses 'who' correctly?

- A. The student whom volunteered organized the materials.
- B. The student who's volunteered organized the materials.
- C. The student which volunteered organized the materials.
- D. The student who volunteered organized the materials.

72. For a formal school communication, Which revision corrects the verb tense?

- A. Yesterday, the class completes the experiment.
- B. Yesterday, the class will complete the experiment.
- C. Yesterday, the class completed the experiment.
- D. Yesterday, the class completing the experiment.

73. In a revision exercise, Which sentence is free of a comma splice?

- A. The store closed early, so we returned the next day.
- B. The store closed early, we returned the next day.
- C. The store closed early, returning the next day.
- D. The store closed early, the next day we returned.

74. When applying standard conventions, Which phrase best replaces 'a lot of' in formal writing?

- A. tons of
- B. many
- C. a bunch of
- D. loads of

75. In a polished draft, Which sentence correctly uses a dash to add emphasis?

- A. One detail - surprised us all the lake had frozen overnight.
- B. One detail surprised us all - the lake had frozen overnight.
- C. One detail surprised - us all the lake had frozen overnight.
- D. One detail surprised us all the lake - had frozen overnight.

76. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which revision best maintains consistent point of view?

- A. A driver should check your mirrors before changing lanes.
- B. You should check a driver's mirrors before changing lanes.
- C. Drivers should check his mirrors before changing lanes.
- D. A driver should check mirrors before changing lanes.

77. For a formal school communication, Which sentence correctly uses 'fewer'?

- A. Fewer visitors attended on Monday.
- B. Less visitors attended on Monday.
- C. Fewer traffic attended on Monday.

D. Less people attended on Monday.

78. In a revision exercise, Which topic sentence best fits a paragraph describing three benefits of exercise?

- A. Exercise can occur indoors or outdoors.
- B. My neighbor owns running shoes.
- C. Regular exercise supports physical health, mood, and focus.
- D. Some people like sports.

79. When applying standard conventions, Which sentence corrects an unclear pronoun reference?

- A. After Ava spoke with Priya, she sent the schedule.
- B. After Ava spoke with Priya, Ava sent the schedule.
- C. After she spoke with Priya, Ava sent it.
- D. After Ava spoke with her, she sent it.

80. In a polished draft, Which sentence is most appropriate for an academic report?

- A. The data totally prove practice is awesome.
- B. The data are pretty cool and obvious.
- C. The data suggest a relationship between practice time and accuracy.
- D. The data make everyone happy about practice.

81. When editing for clarity and correctness, Which revision best corrects the sentence? 'Neither the coach nor the players was prepared.'

- A. Neither the coach nor the players were prepared.
- B. Neither the coach nor the players is prepared yesterday.
- C. Neither the coach nor the players be prepared.
- D. Neither the coach nor the players has prepared.

82. What is 40% of 300?

- A. 110
- B. 130
- C. 140
- D. 120

83. A \$110 item is discounted 30%. What is the sale price?

- A. 77
- B. 33.0
- C. 109.7
- D. 143

84. Solve: $7x + 10 = 101$.

- A. 11
- B. 14
- C. 16
- D. 13

85. What is the mean of 14, 18, 22, and 26?

- A. 18
- B. 21
- C. 20
- D. 26

86. A rectangle is 12 units long and 9 units wide. What is its area?

- A. 21
- B. 108
- C. 42
- D. 120

87. A bus travels 520 miles in 8 hours. What is its average speed?

- A. 55
- B. 75
- C. 65
- D. 520

88. What is $\frac{7}{10}$ expressed as a decimal?

- A. 0.7
- B. 0.8
- C. 0.6
- D. 1.4

89. What is the perimeter of a square with side length 13?

- A. 26
- B. 39
- C. 169
- D. 52

90. A recipe needs 6 cups of flour for one batch. How many cups are needed for 7 batches?

- A. 13

- B. 42
- C. 36
- D. 48

91. Convert 5.7 kilometers to meters.

- A. 5700
- B. 570
- C. 57
- D. 57000

92. What is the value of 2^7 ?

- A. 21
- B. 128
- C. 64
- D. 50

93. A \$100 bill is split equally among 10 people. How much does each person pay?

- A. 8
- B. 12
- C. 90
- D. 10

94. A triangle has angles of 54 degrees and 66 degrees. What is its third angle?

- A. 50
- B. 70
- C. 60
- D. 120

95. A tank holds 120 liters and is $\frac{9}{10}$ full. How many liters are in it?

- A. 12
- B. 60
- C. 228
- D. 108

96. What is the slope of a line through (6, 7) and (10, 31)?

- A. 6
- B. 5
- C. 7
- D. 24

97. What is 45% of 330?

- A. 138.5
- B. 148.5
- C. 158.5
- D. 168.5

98. A \$120 item is discounted 35%. What is the sale price?

- A. 42
- B. 119.65
- C. 78
- D. 162

99. Solve: $8x + 11 = 131$.

- A. 15
- B. 13
- C. 16
- D. 18

100. What is the mean of 15, 19, 23, and 27?

- A. 19
- B. 21
- C. 22
- D. 27

101. A rectangle is 13 units long and 10 units wide. What is its area?

- A. 23
- B. 46
- C. 142
- D. 130

102. A bus travels 630 miles in 9 hours. What is its average speed?

- A. 60
- B. 80
- C. 70
- D. 630

103. What is $\frac{8}{10}$ expressed as a decimal?

- A. 0.9

- B. 0.8
- C. 0.7
- D. 1.6

104. What is the perimeter of a square with side length 14?

- A. 56
- B. 28
- C. 42
- D. 196

105. A recipe needs 7 cups of flour for one batch. How many cups are needed for 8 batches?

- A. 15
- B. 49
- C. 56
- D. 63

106. Convert 6.7 kilometers to meters.

- A. 670
- B. 67
- C. 67000
- D. 6700

107. What is the value of 2^8 ?

- A. 24
- B. 128
- C. 256
- D. 65

108. A \$121 bill is split equally among 11 people. How much does each person pay?

- A. 9
- B. 11
- C. 13
- D. 110

109. A triangle has angles of 57 degrees and 68 degrees. What is its third angle?

- A. 45
- B. 65
- C. 125
- D. 55

110. A tank holds 130 liters and is 10/10 full. How many liters are in it?

- A. 130
- B. 0
- C. 65
- D. 260

111. What is the slope of a line through (7, 8) and (11, 36)?

- A. 7
- B. 6
- C. 8
- D. 28

112. What is 50% of 360?

- A. 170
- B. 190
- C. 200
- D. 180

113. A \$130 item is discounted 40%. What is the sale price?

- A. 52
- B. 78
- C. 129.6
- D. 182

114. Solve: $9x + 12 = 165$.

- A. 15
- B. 18
- C. 17
- D. 20

115. What is the mean of 16, 20, 24, and 28?

- A. 20
- B. 23
- C. 22
- D. 28

116. A rectangle is 14 units long and 11 units wide. What is its area?

- A. 25

- B. 154
- C. 50
- D. 166

117. A bus travels 750 miles in 10 hours. What is its average speed?

- A. 65
- B. 85
- C. 750
- D. 75

118. What is $\frac{9}{10}$ expressed as a decimal?

- A. 0.9
- B. 1
- C. 0.8
- D. 1.8

119. What is the perimeter of a square with side length 15?

- A. 30
- B. 45
- C. 225
- D. 60

120. A recipe needs 8 cups of flour for one batch. How many cups are needed for 9 batches?

- A. 17
- B. 64
- C. 72
- D. 80

121. Convert 7.7 kilometers to meters.

- A. 770
- B. 7700
- C. 77
- D. 77000

122. What is the value of 2^9 ?

- A. 512
- B. 27
- C. 256
- D. 82

123. A \$144 bill is split equally among 12 people. How much does each person pay?

- A. 12
- B. 10
- C. 14
- D. 132

124. A triangle has angles of 60 degrees and 70 degrees. What is its third angle?

- A. 40
- B. 60
- C. 130
- D. 50

125. A tank holds 140 liters and is $\frac{11}{10}$ full. How many liters are in it?

- A. -14
- B. 70
- C. 154
- D. 294

126. What is the slope of a line through (8, 9) and (12, 41)?

- A. 7
- B. 8
- C. 9
- D. 32

Practice Exam 15: Answer Key and Explanations

1. C — C is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

2. B — B is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

3. D — D is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

4. B — B is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

5. C — C is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an

appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

6. A — A is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

7. C — C is the best answer because it follows directly from the language and structure of the passage. Strong reading answers are supported by stated details or reasonable inferences, rather than by an appealing but unsupported association. The other choices either overstate the evidence, focus on a minor detail, or introduce an idea the passage does not establish.

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123. A — A is correct because the relevant quantities must be represented with the stated operation before any arithmetic is performed. Estimating the result can help check whether the computed value is reasonable. The other options reflect common errors such as reversing an operation, using only one part of the information, or confusing related units or formulas.

124. D — D is correct because the relevant quantities must be represented with the stated operation before any arithmetic is performed. Estimating the result can help check whether the computed value is reasonable. The other options reflect common errors such as reversing an operation, using only one part of the information, or confusing related units or formulas.

125. C — C is correct because the relevant quantities must be represented with the stated operation before any arithmetic is performed. Estimating the result can help check whether the computed value is reasonable. The other options reflect common errors such as reversing an operation, using only one part of the information, or confusing related units or formulas.

126. B — B is correct because the relevant quantities must be represented with the stated operation before any arithmetic is performed. Estimating the result can help check whether the computed value is reasonable. The other options reflect common errors such as reversing an operation, using only one part of the information, or confusing related units or formulas.