

Opening Gate to the University



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Part 1

Passage 1

Except for the education of very young children, there was no coeducation in ancient Rome: boys were given one kind of education, girls another. This is not to imply that Roman women were less learned than Roman men; on the contrary, they had more time for education, and they made the most of it. Many contemporary male commentators considered Roman women far better informed than the men; some complained that learned women were likely to be ostentatious about their knowledge.

Perhaps one reason why the women were so well taught is that once they reached their teen they did not get a formal education, but were given individual instruction in the homes instead. Both boys and girls of well-to-do families attended elementary classes where a litterator instructed them in reading, writing, and arithmetic. At twelve or thirteen, the girls returned home for special tutoring.

1. The passage suggests that formal education was not as effective as

- a) social interaction
- b) practical experience

- c) personal instruction
- d) parental guidance

2. The passage indicates that some Roman men felt that women displayed their learning with

- a) excessive pride
- b) great respect
- c) modest interest
- d) obvious indifference

3. Compared to Roman girls, Roman boys were at a disadvantage as students because they

- a) received less attention in elementary classes
- b) had less time to spend on their studies
- c) had fewer opportunities for conversation with adults
- d) dealt with a greater variety of information

Passage 2

The spider is one of Nature's most successful wanderers. Found all over the world, it is able to travel huge distances. When a traveling spider approaches a stream or river, it uses a unique method of locomotion. Rolling over on its back, the spider shoots out a glue-tipped glob of web material attached to a line, gradually paying out more and more line as the wind carries the "anchor." If the arrowing line strikes a secure target on the favored side of the water, the spider then climbs a bush and walks over the bridge. Another method of locomotion is even more dramatic. The spider again spins out a sticky line ending in a swollen tip. If the line is kept short and the spider does not attach itself firmly to an anchoring bush or rock, the wind will carry the creature far away to an unknown destination. Such sailing spiders have been

scraped off the superstructures of ship several hundred miles away from the nearest land.

4. As used in this passage, "locomotion" most nearly means

- a) attacking
- b) moving
- c) shooting
- d) spinning

5. The author feels that it is especially dramatic that the spider

- a) rolls over on its back
- b) spins out a sticky line
- c) anchors to rocks and bushes
- d) sails through the air

6. From the way "superstructures" is used in the last sentence, it is probable that such ship parts are to be found

- a) inside the ship
- b) at the waterline
- c) near the propeller
- d) on the top section

Passage 3

It was 1900 and there was no weather forecaster on television or weather-service jet plane monitoring a tropical storm. But there was a weather observer in Galveston, Texas -- Isaac Cline. when he visited the beach soon after dawn on Saturday, September 8, 1900, he noticed that the wind had maintained a constant northerly direction through the night and the tide level had continued to rise steadily. Because he understood the significance of these concurrent conditions, several thousand lives were saved later that day and night. Yet, even Cline

underestimated the total force of nature's coming onslaught, a storm that would go down in history because it took 7,200 lives. Cline himself nearly perished.

Realizing that his meteorological instruments were warning of the approach of a hurricane that would bring with it a storm wave of dangerous proportions, Cline rode up and down the beaches on horseback warning people of the impending danger. He urged residents near the beaches to move to higher ground near the center of the city and advised summer visitors still in Galveston to take the first train for Houston. But, sadly enough, many failed to heed his warning.

7. The passage is mainly concerned with

- a) what one person did in a crisis
- b) how people react to danger
- c) how little we know about nature
- d) how one person prevented a natural disaster

8. In the second paragraph, "meteorological instruments" are best defined as instruments that measure

- a) water pressure
- b) wave strength
- c) ground speed
- d) atmospheric conditions

9. It can be inferred that Cline thought the greatest danger during the storm would be

- a) train accidents
- b) high winds
- c) flooding from the sea
- d) panic among the inhabitants

Passage 4

The use of coal and oil by electric power companies creates some very serious environmental problems. One of these problems is nitrogen oxide. When you burn the oxygen out of the air, you are left with nitrogen. Nitrogen, when exposed to air at high temperature, forms nitrogen oxide. It comes out of the power-plant stack, gets mixed with moisture in the air to make various acids, and these get inhaled.

When coal and oil are burned, they give off impurities that contribute to air pollution. They all have a certain percentage of sulfur. Sulfur oxides come out of the stacks and form acids, which are irritant to the mucous membrane, and thus a public health problem. Another pollutant is mercury. Combustion of coal and oil is responsible for about one-third of the mercury that gets into our environment annually.

To get clean air, we can invest money in a stack chemical-process plant to clean the waste gases that result from the combustion of coal and oil. Such plants are now being experimented with, but utility companies are reluctant to install expensive stack cleanup systems that they are not sure will work. Solutions will be developed to handle the problem. They will be expensive, and their use might raise the cost of power to the public ten to twenty percent.

10. According to the passage, why may the cost of power go up?

- a) Stopping pollution will be expensive.
- b) Power companies will need to make a larger profit.
- c) We will use more power.
- d) The price of coal and oil will rise.

11. According to the passage, what does nitrogen need to form nitrogen oxide?

- a) Moisture

- b) Air and great heat
- c) Air free of oxygen
- d) The great heat caused by acids

12. What does the passage say coal and oil are being used for?

- a) To get rid of waste gases
- b) To manufacture chemicals
- c) To purify the air
- d) To create electric power

Passage 5

Today the ruins of Casa Grande form the Casa Grande National Monument in Arizona. They remain a tribute to their builders, who came to Arizona long before Columbus set foot on North American soil.

The Hohokam Indians were the first known settlers in the area. They began irrigating the Salt and Gila river valleys as early as A.D. 700. They built irrigation canals more than 20 miles long, up to 25 feet wide, and 15 feet deep. During the twelfth century a group of Pueblo Indians from the north came into those valleys, moving alongside the Hohokam. These Pueblos built Casa Grande or Big House.

Originally four stories high (although the first story was filled with dirt), the building was constructed of caliche, a limelike clay. The one-room observation tower atop it provided an excellent view of the surrounding country.

The Casa Grande was occupied for about 150 years before it was abandoned in 1450.

13. The passage is primarily concerned with

- a) why a region around Casa Grande was settled
- b) who chose Casa Grande as a national monument

- c) why Casa Grande was built
- d) how Casa Grande came into existence

14. The passage indicates that all of the following were characteristics of the people who settled the region near Casa Grande EXCEPT:

- a) They were farmers.
- b) They built Casa Grande for religious reasons.
- c) They were peaceable.
- d) They built an extensive system of irrigation.

15. Which of the following questions does the passage answer?

- a) Who built Casa Grande?
- b) Why was Casa Grande left uninhabited?
- c) When was Casa Grande made into a national monument?
- d) Are the canals near Casa Grande still used today?

Part 2

One of the most dangerous drugs for pregnant women to consume is alcohol. Because alcohol is delivered quickly into the blood and passes quickly into the tissues and membranes, the human fetus is particularly vulnerable to **its** effects. In fact, the negative effects on a fetus are so **pronounced** that babies born after exposure to alcohol are said to be suffering from fetal alcohol syndrome.

As a pregnant woman drinks alcohol, the alcohol is passed into her bloodstream almost simultaneously. Moreover, because the bloodstream of the fetus is **inextricably** tied to that of the

mother, the alcohol passes directly into the bloodstream of the fetus as well. And, what is more, the concentration of alcohol in the fetus is exactly the same as in the mother.

For the mother, this concentration is not a problem because her liver can remove one ounce of alcohol from her system per hour. However, the fetus's liver is not completely developed (how developed it is depends on its stage of development). The rate at which it is able to eliminate the alcohol from the blood of the fetus is much slower.

Eventually, the alcohol will be returned to the mother's system by passing across the placenta, but this process is slow. By the time this takes place, major neurological damage may have already occurred. Research has shown that as little as one drink of alcohol can produce significant, irreversible damage to the fetus.

Babies born after exposure to alcohol generally exhibit facial distortion, inability to concentrate, and difficulty in remembering. Simply speaking, it is imperative that pregnant women avoid alcohol.

1. What is the main topic of this reading?
 - A. Women and drugs
 - B. The dangers of pregnancy
 - C. The fetus and alcohol
 - D. Drinking and the human body
2. In line 5 the word "its" refers to
 - A. the fetus
 - B. the blood
 - C. the tissue
 - D. the alcohol
3. In line 7, the word "pronounced" most closely means
 - A. evident
 - B. spoken
 - C. described
 - D. unfortunate

4. How much time can it be inferred that it takes alcohol to enter a woman's bloodstream after she takes a drink?
 - A. about one hour
 - B. a few seconds
 - C. several minutes
 - D. at least 24 hours
5. In line 13 the word "inextricably" most nearly means
 - A. unexplainedly
 - B. formerly
 - C. forcefully
 - D. inseparably
6. According to the passage, how does the concentration of alcohol in a fetus compare to that in the mother?
 - A. The concentration is more.
 - B. The concentration is less.
 - C. The concentration is equivalent.
 - D. The concentration cannot be measured.
7. It can be inferred that the development of a fetal liver depends on
 - A. how many months pregnant the mother is
 - B. how much alcohol the mother has consumed
 - C. how large the fetus is
 - D. how well the mother has taken care of the fetus
8. According to the passage, how is alcohol finally returned to the mother's system?
 - A. it is carried through the bloodstream
 - B. it is transferred across the placenta
 - C. it is expelled by the fetus's liver
 - D. it is not completely returned
9. Which one of the following was NOT mentioned as a sign of fetal alcohol syndrome?
 - A. disfigurement of the face
 - B. concentration difficulties
 - C. increased aggression
 - D. memory problems
10. At what place in the passage does the author discuss the quantity of alcohol necessary to produce negative results?
 - A. Lines 2-3
 - B. Lines 11-13

C.Lines 30-31

D.Lines 36-37

Part 3

Passge 1

A viable affirmative action program must contain specific procedures designed to achieve equal employment opportunities for specified groups. Appropriate procedures, without necessary determination to carry them out, are useless. Determination, without well defined procedures, will achieve only partial success. (2.5 points)

1. The paragraph best supports the statement that:

a. Well defined procedures will assure the success of an affirmative action program.

b. A high degree of determination is necessary and sufficient for a highly successful affirmative action program.

c. An agency may guarantee success of its affirmative action program by developing and implementing well defined procedures.

d. Two important ingredients of a successful affirmative action program are well defined procedures and a sincere resolve to implement those procedures.

Passage 2

Claimants who have become unemployed by voluntarily leaving the job, by refusing to accept suitable work, or due to misconduct should be temporarily disqualified from receiving benefits. However, the disqualification period should never be longer than the average period required for a worker to find employment. Unemployment insurance is designed to alleviate

hardship due to unemployment. Benefits should definitely be paid if unemployment continues beyond a certain point and the claimant can show that he has made an honest effort to find employment.

2. The paragraph best supports the statement that:

a. If a claimant cannot find work after a certain period of time, he/she should no longer receive benefits.

b. In cases of willful misconduct, disqualification should continue indefinitely.

c. The reasons for unemployment change as the period of unemployment gets longer.

d. If a claimant cannot find employment after a certain period of time, he/she should be allowed to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

Passage 3

Education in the United States is a state responsibility, a local function and a federal concern. Unlike other social service programs, this arrangement also places state governments between the federal government and local governing bodies.

3. The paragraph best supports the statement that:

a. Enforcement of federal education policies is left to state discretion.

b. The federal government plays an advisory role only in matters concerning education.

c. Federal educational policies are generally implemented by local governments under the direction of the state.

d. No federal funds are used to support local educational programs.

Passage 4

Technological and psychological conditions are changing so rapidly that most agencies and organizations must continually adapt to new situations in order to remain viable.

4. The paragraph best supports the statement that:

a. Changes in general conditions determine the effectiveness of an organization.

b. The effectiveness of an organization depends more on technological advances than on psychological changes.

c. Organizations must be able to adapt to technological and psychological changes in order to maintain effectiveness.

d. The effectiveness of an organization is equally dependent upon technological advances and psychological changes.

Part 4

1. Everyone thought that he loved his job. We were shocked by his (announce) _____ at the meeting that he was going to quit.
2. Due to my father's strong (believe) _____ in the importance of education, he has decided to give \$1 million to help illiterate people learn how to read and write.
3. Did you see the movie "(Beautiful) _____ and the Beast"?
4. They were (report) _____ killed in the car crash last week.

5. MSN is one of the latest (technology) _____
advances that everyone should know how to
use it for education and career.
 6. I don't know how to use "Let's paint the
city red." That is a new (express) _____ to
me.
 7. Our King has made a great (contribute) _____
to the better living condition of Thai
people.
 8. Can you play any (music) _____ instrument?
 9. He is a very (remark) _____ speaker?
 10. There are many places of (fascinate)
_____ in Thailand.
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