

# **CTJan27 Online Year 8 Reading Comprehension 11062024**



## **CTJan27 Online**

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## Passage 01

Urban beekeeping is a growing trend in cities worldwide, offering numerous environmental and community benefits. As urbanization increases, green spaces and natural habitats for bees are diminishing. Urban beekeeping provides a solution by creating new habitats for these vital pollinators. Beekeepers establish hives on rooftops, in community gardens, and even in backyards, contributing to local biodiversity and food production.

Bees play a crucial role in pollinating plants, which is essential for the production of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Urban beekeeping helps maintain healthy bee populations, which in turn supports urban agriculture and green spaces. Additionally, beekeeping fosters a sense of community as local residents come together to learn about and support the bees. Educational programs and workshops are often held, promoting awareness about the importance of bees and how to protect them.

Despite its benefits, urban beekeeping faces challenges. Urban environments can expose bees to pollutants and pesticides, which can harm their health and productivity. Moreover, beekeepers must navigate local regulations and address concerns from residents who may fear bee stings. To mitigate these issues, beekeepers must practice responsible hive management and work with local authorities to ensure safe and sustainable beekeeping practices.

Urban beekeeping not only supports the environment but also educates and engages communities. As more cities embrace this practice, the future of urban beekeeping looks promising, with the potential to create greener, more sustainable urban environments.

1. Evaluate the implications of urban pollutants on urban beekeeping as mentioned in the passage. (1 point)  
Why is this a significant concern?
  - A. Urban pollutants have no noticeable impact on bee health.
  - B. Urban pollutants can significantly affect bee health but may not always be harmful.
  - C. Urban pollutants can severely harm bee health and productivity.
  - D. Urban pollutants primarily impact the physical development of bees.
  - E. Urban pollutants mainly affect bees in urban environments, not rural ones.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E
2. Question: In the passage, what does the word "biodiversity" most nearly mean? (1 point)
  - A. Consistency of species
  - B. Variety of plant and animal life
  - C. Domination of a single species
  - D. Lack of species variety
  - E. Limited species interaction

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

3. Question: Critically evaluate the author's purpose in discussing both the benefits and challenges (1 point) of urban beekeeping. How well does the author achieve this purpose?

- A. The author highlights the benefits while mentioning some challenges, encouraging urban beekeeping.
- B. The author fails to balance the discussion, making the argument seem slightly biased.
- C. The author provides a balanced perspective, highlighting both the benefits and challenges.
- D. The author's discussion of benefits slightly overshadows the challenges.
- E. The author mainly discusses challenges, making the benefits less apparent.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

4. Question: Evaluate how the author's tone contributes to the overall message of the passage. (1 point) Does it enhance or detract from the intended message?

- A. The author's slightly positive tone downplays the challenges, detracting from the message.
- B. The author's neutral tone enhances the passage by providing an objective view of urban beekeeping.
- C. The author's understated tone slightly undermines the benefits discussed.
- D. The author's somewhat cautious tone makes the benefits seem less significant.
- E. The author's mildly enthusiastic tone slightly oversells the benefits.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

## Passage 2:

Bioluminescent bays are one of nature's most magical phenomena, where the water glows with an ethereal light when disturbed. This stunning display is caused by microscopic organisms called dinoflagellates, which emit light through a chemical reaction. Bioluminescence can be observed in several coastal areas around the world, with notable examples in Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and the Maldives.

The light emitted by dinoflagellates serves various purposes. It can act as a defense mechanism to startle predators, attract mates, or communicate with other organisms. For humans, bioluminescent bays have become popular tourist attractions, offering unique and unforgettable experiences.

Despite their beauty, bioluminescent bays are fragile ecosystems. Pollution, climate change, and coastal development pose significant threats to these environments. Increased tourism can also lead to environmental degradation if not managed sustainably. Protecting these natural wonders requires a delicate balance between promoting tourism and conserving the ecosystem.

Efforts are being made to preserve bioluminescent bays. Local governments and environmental organizations are implementing measures such as restricting boat traffic, regulating night tours, and educating visitors about the importance of conservation. These steps aim to ensure that bioluminescent bays can be enjoyed by future generations while maintaining their ecological health.

5. Question: Evaluate the effectiveness of the passage in presenting the beauty and fragility of bioluminescent bays. How well does the passage balance these aspects? (1 point)

- A. The passage mainly highlights the beauty of bioluminescent bays with some mention of fragility.
- B. The passage discusses both the beauty and threats to bioluminescent bays but focuses more on the threats.
- C. The passage provides a balanced discussion of both the beauty and fragility of bioluminescent bays.
- D. The passage focuses on the causes of bioluminescence and their ecological impact.
- E. The passage mentions the beauty but emphasizes the conservation needs of bioluminescent bays.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

6. Question: Evaluate the implications of increased tourism on bioluminescent bays as mentioned in the passage. Why is this a significant concern? (1 point)

- A. Increased tourism provides economic benefits but causes harm to the ecosystem of the bays.
- B. Increased tourism has minimal impact on bioluminescent bays.
- C. Increased tourism affects the overall health of the bays, including their ecological balance.
- D. Increased tourism raises awareness but does not mitigate the ecological damage.



E. Increased tourism can lead to environmental degradation, posing a significant concern for the health of bioluminescent bays.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

7. Question: In the passage, what does the word "ethereal" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Delicate and otherworldly
- B. Unusual
- C. Substantial
- D. Intangible
- E. Fragile

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

8. Question: In the passage, what does the word "ethereal" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Delicate and otherworldly
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- C. Substantial
- D. Intangible
- E. Fragile

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

9. Question: Critically evaluate the author's purpose in discussing both the beauty and conservation needs of bioluminescent bays. How well does the author achieve this purpose? (1 point)

- A. The author encourages tourism to support local economies but does not emphasize conservation.

- B. The author discusses conservation needs but does not balance them with the beauty aspects.
- C. The author provides a balanced perspective, encouraging both appreciation and conservation of bioluminescent bays.
- D. The author emphasizes conservation slightly more than the beauty of the bays.
- E. The author aims to inform readers about both the scientific and aesthetic aspects of bioluminescence.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Poem: "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"**

In the hush of twilight's embrace,  
Autumn leaves begin their dance,  
Fluttering with a gentle grace,  
In a silent, wistful trance.

Golden hues and crimson dreams,  
Murmur secrets to the night,  
Underneath the silver beams,  
They whisper, fade, and take flight.

The breeze carries tales untold,  
Of summers past and winters near,  
Leaves of amber, red, and gold,  
Speak of change, yet have no fear.

Each leaf a story, each branch a stage,  
In the theater of the sky,  
Nature turns another page,  
As time quietly drifts by.

10. Question: What is the main theme of the poem "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

- A. The inevitability of change and the passage of time.
- B. The beauty of summer and its everlasting warmth.
- C. The harshness of winter and the challenges it brings.
- D. The joy and festivities of springtime.
- E. The resilience of nature against human interference.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

11. Question: What can be inferred about the poet's view on change as depicted in the poem? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

- A. The poet views change with a sense of nostalgia and slight apprehension.
- B. The poet sees change as a natural and gentle process.
- C. The poet believes change can cause minor disruptions in life's harmony.
- D. The poet thinks change is an inevitable part of life, though sometimes challenging.
- E. The poet is passively accepting of change, acknowledging it without strong feelings.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

12. Question: In the poem, what does the word "murmur" most nearly mean? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

- A. Speak softly
- B. Hum
- C. Whisper
- D. Mutter

E. Mumble

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

13. Question: What is the primary purpose of the poet in writing "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

- A. To reflect on the transition from summer to autumn.
- B. To subtly hint at the upcoming winter.
- C. To celebrate the beauty and serenity of autumn.
- D. To express a slight unease about changes.
- E. To appreciate nature's cycles and subtle changes.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

14. Question: How would you describe the tone of the poem "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

- A. Nostalgic and contemplative
- B. Calm and slightly joyous
- C. Reflective and serene
- D. Mildly discontented
- E. Contemplative and slightly confused

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Excerpt from "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen**

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters."

15. Question: What is the main idea conveyed in the opening lines of the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. Society universally assumes wealthy single men are seeking wives.
- B. Society expects wealthy single men to marry quickly.
- C. Wealthy single men are generally uninterested in marriage.
- D. Families view wealthy single men as prime candidates for their daughters.
- E. Wealthy single men passively accept societal marriage expectations.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

16. Question: What can be inferred about the societal values reflected in the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. Wealth and social status play a minor role in marriage.
- B. Marriage decisions blend individual and societal values.
- C. Marriage is seen primarily as a social and economic transaction.
- D. Wealthy men have limited freedom in their marital choices.
- E. Families subtly influence the marriage decisions of wealthy men.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

17. Question: In the excerpt, what does the phrase "rightful property" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Societal claim
- B. Preordained match

- C. Appropriate match
- D. Suitable union
- E. Status-based selection

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

18. Question: What is Jane Austen's primary purpose in writing this opening statement? (1 point)

- A. To subtly critique societal norms regarding marriage.
- B. To humorously highlight societal norms regarding marriage.
- C. To explain the interplay of societal expectations and economic benefits in marriage.
- D. To discuss the societal expectations and personal feelings regarding marriage.
- E. To provide a blend of historical context and societal critique regarding marriage.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

19. Question: How would you describe the tone of the opening lines of the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. Mildly sarcastic and gently critical
- B. Light-hearted and mildly positive
- C. Thoughtful and light-hearted
- D. Humorous and ironic
- E. Mildly critical and subtly mocking

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

20. Question: How does the phrase "this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families" contribute to the understanding of societal norms in the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. It emphasizes the rigid and unquestioned nature of societal expectations.
- B. It suggests that families are flexible and open to individual feelings.
- C. It indicates that societal norms are rarely enforced or followed.
- D. It implies that the truth is subject to debate and reconsideration.
- E. It portrays the families as indifferent to societal norms.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

21. Question: What does the use of the term "rightful property" reveal about the perception of wealthy single men by the surrounding families? (1 point)

- A. Wealthy single men are viewed with respect and autonomy.
- B. Wealthy single men are seen as commodities to be acquired.
- C. Wealthy single men are regarded as independent and free from societal norms.
- D. Wealthy single men are considered mentors and leaders.
- E. Wealthy single men are perceived as unimportant in the community.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

## Passage: The Discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 and Its Implications

In the early 21st century, a groundbreaking discovery in the field of genetics revolutionized the scientific community. CRISPR-Cas9, a powerful tool for genome editing, was identified and developed, allowing scientists to make precise modifications to the DNA of living organisms. This discovery, credited to researchers Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier, has opened up new possibilities in medical research, agriculture, and biotechnology.

CRISPR, which stands for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats, is a natural system used by bacteria to defend against viruses. The bacteria capture snippets of DNA from invading viruses and use them to create DNA segments known as CRISPR arrays. These arrays allow the bacteria to "remember" the viruses and, in case of a future attack, produce RNA segments that guide the Cas9 enzyme to the viral DNA, cutting it and disabling the virus.

Adapting this bacterial defense mechanism for genome editing, scientists found that they could program the CRISPR-Cas9 system to target specific sequences of DNA in any organism. By designing custom RNA guides, researchers can direct the Cas9 enzyme to cut DNA at desired locations. This enables the precise insertion, deletion, or modification of genes, offering unprecedented control over genetic material.

The implications of CRISPR-Cas9 are vast. In medicine, it holds the potential to correct genetic defects, treat diseases such as cancer, and even combat viral infections like HIV. For instance, researchers have already used CRISPR to modify immune cells to better target cancer cells, showing promising results in clinical trials. In agriculture, CRISPR can be used to create crops that are more resistant to pests and diseases, or that have improved nutritional profiles. This technology could lead to more sustainable farming practices and help address global food security challenges.

However, the power of CRISPR-Cas9 also raises ethical and safety concerns. The ability to edit human embryos, for instance, has sparked a debate about the potential for "designer babies" and the long-term effects on the human gene pool. There are also concerns about off-target effects, where unintended genetic modifications could occur, leading to unforeseen consequences. As the technology advances, it is crucial for the scientific community, ethicists, and policymakers to work together to establish guidelines and regulations that ensure its safe and responsible use.

In summary, the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 represents a significant milestone in genetic research. Its potential applications are transformative, yet they must be balanced with careful consideration of ethical implications and safety measures to harness its benefits responsibly.

22. Question: What is the primary focus of the passage?

(1 point)

- A. The development and impact of CRISPR-Cas9 in genetic research.
- B. The discovery and potential applications of CRISPR-Cas9.
- C. The scientific and ethical implications of CRISPR-Cas9.
- D. The contributions of Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier to genetic science.
- E. The adaptation of bacterial defense mechanisms for genetic editing.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E



23. Question: Based on the passage, why might CRISPR-Cas9 be considered a revolutionary tool in genetics? (1 point)

- A. It offers a novel approach to genetic modifications.
- B. It minimizes the risks associated with genetic modifications.
- C. It significantly reduces some ethical concerns associated with genetic editing.
- D. It provides a new method specifically beneficial for medical research.
- E. It uses a natural system from bacteria for precise DNA editing.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

24. Question: In the passage, what does the word "unprecedented" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Regular
- B. Predictable
- C. Novel
- D. Insignificant
- E. Occasional

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

25. Question: What is the author's main purpose in writing this passage? (1 point)

- A. To highlight the contributions of scientists to the development of CRISPR-Cas9.
- B. To explain the mechanism and implications of CRISPR-Cas9.
- C. To discuss both the benefits and risks of genetic modification technologies.
- D. To describe recent advancements in genetic engineering.
- E. To discuss the applications of CRISPR-Cas9 in various fields.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

26. Question: How would you describe the tone of the passage?

(1 point)

A. Cautiously optimistic

B. Optimistic and informative

C. Critically analytical

D. Neutral and balanced

E. Mildly positive and encouraging

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

27. Question: Which of the following is mentioned as a potential application of CRISPR-Cas9 in medicine? (1 point)

A. Correcting genetic defects

B. Creating genetically modified immune cells

C. Developing targeted cancer therapies

D. Editing human embryos for disease resistance

E. Enhancing the effectiveness of existing drugs

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

28. Question: What ethical concerns are raised by the use of CRISPR-Cas9, according to the passage? (1 point)

A. The potential for unequal access to the technology

B. The ethical implications of easy genetic modifications

C. The potential for "designer babies" and off-target effects

D. The ethical concerns of public access to genetic editing

E. The risks associated with rapid genetic modifications

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

29. Question: What has the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 led to in the field of agriculture? (1 point)

- A. Decreased reliance on chemical pesticides
- B. Increased crop resistance to pests and diseases
- C. Greater focus on traditional crop breeding methods
- D. Enhanced funding for agricultural biotechnology research
- E. Higher economic investment in genetically modified crops

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

30. Question: How does the structure of the passage contribute to its overall effectiveness? (1 point)

- A. The passage starts with ethical concerns, followed by the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 and its applications.
- B. The passage begins with the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9, explains its mechanism, then discusses its applications and ethical concerns.
- C. The passage alternates between discussing applications and ethical concerns throughout.
- D. The passage primarily focuses on the technical aspects of CRISPR-Cas9, leaving ethical concerns to the end.
- E. The passage focuses on the personal achievements of the scientists involved throughout.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

31. Question: Evaluate the potential impact of CRISPR-Cas9 on global food security as mentioned in the passage. (1 point)

- A. CRISPR-Cas9 is likely to have a minimal impact on global food security.

B. CRISPR-Cas9 can significantly improve global food security by creating pest-resistant and nutritionally enhanced crops.

C. CRISPR-Cas9 will likely increase food prices, making food less accessible.

D. CRISPR-Cas9's impact on global food security is uncertain and unpredictable.

E. CRISPR-Cas9 will only benefit developed countries with advanced agricultural infrastructure.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

32. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

The children playing in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather.

- a. The children played in the park and enjoy the sunny weather
- b. The children played in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather
- c. The children have playing in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather
- d. The children has played in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather
- e. The children had playing in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

33. Select the most appropriate meaning of "transient" in the sentence below. (1 point)

The transient nature of the city's population makes it vibrant and diverse.

- a) Enduring
- b) Temporary
- c) Fixed
- d) Stable

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

34. Select the most appropriate meaning of "incessant" in the sentence below. (1 point)

- The incessant noise from the construction site made it hard to concentrate.
- a) Sporadic
- b) Recurring
- c) Continuous
- d) Infrequent

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

35. Select the most appropriate meaning of "incessant" in the sentence below. (1 point)

The incessant noise from the construction site made it hard to concentrate.

- a) Sporadic
- b) Recurring
- c) Continuous
- d) Infrequent

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

36. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

Maria singing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party.

- a) Maria sing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- b) Maria sings a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- c) Maria sang a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- d) Maria has singing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- e) Maria had singing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

37. Select the most appropriate meaning of "futile" in the sentence below.

(1 point)

His attempts to fix the old car were futile; it simply would not start.

- a) Fruitful
- b) Effective
- c) Useless
- d) Valuable

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

38. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence.

(1 point)

After finishing her homework, Sarah going to the library to study for her exams.

- a. Sarah went to the library to study for her exams
- b. Sarah gone to the library to study for her exams
- c. Sarah has going to the library to study for her exams
- d. Sarah went to the library to study for her exams
- e. Sarah had gone to the library to study for her exams

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

39. Question: Select the correct spelling for the underlined, misspelled word in question.

(1 point)

The professor's lecture on quantum mechanics was enlightning.

- a. enlightning
- b. enlightning
- c. enlightening
- d. enlitning
- e. enlitning

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

40. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

The team **practicing** hard every day to prepare for the championship match.

- a. The team practices hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- b. The team practiced hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- c. The team has practicing hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- d. The team had practiced hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- e. The team had practicing hard every day to prepare for the championship match

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

41. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

She **being** one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts.

- a. She is one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts
- b. She was one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts
- c. She has been one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts
- d. She having been one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts
- e. She had been one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

42. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

**We are going** to the beach and **have** a great time last weekend.

- a. We going to the beach and having a great time last weekend
- b. We are gone to the beach and have a great time last weekend
- c. We were going to the beach and having a great time last weekend

- d. We went to the beach and had a great time last weekend
- e. We going to the beach and had a great time last weekend

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

43. Question: Identify the sentence that contains the correct use of punctuation to convey the intended meaning: (1 point)

- a. We're looking forward to the concert, its going to be amazing!
- b. The concert is tonight, we're very excited.
- c. They're going to the concert, too.
- d. There excited for the concert.
- e. Its going to be a great concert, and we're all thrilled.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

44. Select the most appropriate meaning of "adamant" in the sentence below. (1 point)

Despite the protests, the mayor was adamant about implementing the new policy.

- a) Yielding
- b) Firm
- c) Wavering
- d) Tentative

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

45. Question: Analyze the following sentences and determine which one uses apostrophes correctly: (1 point)

- a. The childrens' toys are scattered all over the room.
- b. It's important to know the difference between its and it's.
- c. We're going to visit our friend's house this weekend.



- d. The dog's bark was louder than the other dog's.
- e. All the student's books were on the table.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

46. Question: Evaluate the following sentences and select the one that correctly uses punctuation to indicate possession (1 point)

- a. The boys' bike was left outside in the rain.
- b. The boy's bike was left outside in the rain.
- c. The boys bike was left outside in the rain.
- d. The boys's bike was left outside in the rain.
- e. The boy's bike's were left outside in the rain.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

47. Question: Critique the following sentences and identify which one uses colons and semicolons correctly (1 point)

- a. We have several options for dinner: pasta, pizza, and burgers.
- b. We have several options for dinner; pasta, pizza; and burgers.
- c. We have several options: for dinner; pasta, pizza and, burgers.
- d. We have several options; for dinner: pasta, pizza, and burgers.
- e. We have several options for dinner; pasta; pizza; and burgers.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

48. Question: Determine the correct meaning of the idiom "bark up the wrong tree." (1 point)

- a. To pursue a mistaken or misguided course of action
- b. To yell at a tree
- c. To chase an animal up a tree
- d. To argue with someone
- e. To search for something in the wrong place

☐ A

- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

49. Question: Interpret the meaning of the idiom "let the cat out of the bag."

(1 point)

- a. To free an animal
- b. To accidentally reveal a secret
- c. To buy a pet
- d. To open a container
- e. To lose something valuable

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

50. Select the most appropriate meaning of "arduous" in the sentence below.

(1 point)

The hikers prepared for an arduous journey through the mountains.

- a) Simple
- b) Pleasant
- c) Difficult
- d) Brief

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

51. Question: Interpret the meaning of the idiom "beyond the pale."

(1 point)

- a. To be outside the boundaries of acceptable behavior
- b. To go far beyond what is required
- c. To be extremely pale in complexion
- d. To travel to a distant place
- e. To be exceptionally creative

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

52. Question: Critically assess the use of the idiom "fly off the handle" in describing a person's reaction in a report. (1 point)

- a. It means to leave abruptly
- b. It suggests losing one's temper suddenly
- c. It refers to flying an airplane
- d. It implies making a hasty decision
- e. It means to handle a situation calmly

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

53. Question: Read the sentence below and select the best rephrased sentence: Sheila finished her homework and then she went to the park. (1 point)

- a. Sheila went to the park before she finished her homework.
- b. After finishing her homework, Sheila went to the park.
- c. Sheila finished her homework while she was at the park.
- d. Sheila went to the park instead of finishing her homework.
- e. Sheila finishes her homework and then goes to the park.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

54. Question: Transform the sentence below to start with "The car": They parked the car in the garage. (1 point)

- a. The car parks in the garage.
- b. The car was parked by them in the garage.
- c. The car is parked by them in the garage.
- d. The car has parked in the garage.
- e. The car parked in the garage by them.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

55. Question: Rewrite the sentence below starting with "When the storm began": The family moved to the basement as the storm began. (1 point)

- a. When the storm began, the family moved to the basement.
- b. When the storm began the family was moving to the basement.
- c. When the storm began, the family is moving to the basement.
- d. When the storm began, the family move to the basement.
- e. When the storm began, the family has moved to the basement.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

56. Question: Evaluate the transformation of the sentence below to check for grammatical correctness: The committee will review the applications next week. (1 point)

If rewritten starting with "The applications," which option is correct?

- a. The applications reviewed by the committee next week.
- b. The applications are reviewed by the committee next week.
- c. The applications will be reviewed by the committee next week.
- d. The applications being reviewed by the committee next week.
- e. The applications have been reviewed by the committee next week.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

57. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

**While they have been waiting** for the bus, they **talking** about their plans for the weekend.

- a. While they waited for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend
- b. While they were waiting for the bus, they talk about their plans for the weekend
- c. While they waiting for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend
- d. While they have waited for the bus, they talking about their plans for the weekend
- e. While they have been waiting for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

58. Question: Determine the correct meaning of the idiom "get someone's goat." (1 point)

- a. To buy a goat for someone
- b. To greatly irritate someone
- c. To take care of someone's pet
- d. To help someone in need
- e. To make someone happy

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

59. Question: Evaluate the following sentence and select the correct spelling for the underlined, misspelled word. (1 point)

Her explanation was **convinsing** enough to change their minds.

- a. convising
- b. convinsing
- c. convincing
- d. convincin
- e. convencing

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

60. Question: Select the correct spelling for the underlined, misspelled word in question. (1 point)

The professor's lecture on quantum mechanics was **enlightning**.

- a. enlightning
- b. enlightning
- c. enlightening
- d. enlitning
- e. enlitning

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

# **CTJan27 Online Year 8 Reading Comprehension 11062024**



## **CTJan27 Online**

**Inspiring Knowledge & Academic Success**

## Passage 01

Urban beekeeping is a growing trend in cities worldwide, offering numerous environmental and community benefits. As urbanization increases, green spaces and natural habitats for bees are diminishing. Urban beekeeping provides a solution by creating new habitats for these vital pollinators. Beekeepers establish hives on rooftops, in community gardens, and even in backyards, contributing to local biodiversity and food production.

Bees play a crucial role in pollinating plants, which is essential for the production of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Urban beekeeping helps maintain healthy bee populations, which in turn supports urban agriculture and green spaces. Additionally, beekeeping fosters a sense of community as local residents come together to learn about and support the bees. Educational programs and workshops are often held, promoting awareness about the importance of bees and how to protect them.

Despite its benefits, urban beekeeping faces challenges. Urban environments can expose bees to pollutants and pesticides, which can harm their health and productivity. Moreover, beekeepers must navigate local regulations and address concerns from residents who may fear bee stings. To mitigate these issues, beekeepers must practice responsible hive management and work with local authorities to ensure safe and sustainable beekeeping practices.

Urban beekeeping not only supports the environment but also educates and engages communities. As more cities embrace this practice, the future of urban beekeeping looks promising, with the potential to create greener, more sustainable urban environments.

1. Evaluate the implications of urban pollutants on urban beekeeping as mentioned in the passage. (1 point)  
Why is this a significant concern?

- A. Urban pollutants have no noticeable impact on bee health.
- B. Urban pollutants can significantly affect bee health but may not always be harmful.
- C. Urban pollutants can severely harm bee health and productivity.
- D. Urban pollutants primarily impact the physical development of bees.
- E. Urban pollutants mainly affect bees in urban environments, not rural ones.

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

### Explanation:

Answer: C. Urban pollutants can severely harm bee health and productivity.

Explanation: The passage clearly mentions that urban pollutants and pesticides can harm bees, making it a significant concern.

2. Question: In the passage, what does the word "biodiversity" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Consistency of species

- B. Variety of plant and animal life
- C. Domination of a single species
- D. Lack of species variety
- E. Limited species interaction

- ☐ A
- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. Variety of plant and animal life.

Explanation: "Biodiversity" refers to the variety of life forms in a particular habitat, which urban beekeeping helps to support.

3. Question: Critically evaluate the author's purpose in discussing both the benefits and challenges (1 point) of urban beekeeping. How well does the author achieve this purpose?

- A. The author highlights the benefits while mentioning some challenges, encouraging urban beekeeping.
- B. The author fails to balance the discussion, making the argument seem slightly biased.
- C. The author provides a balanced perspective, highlighting both the benefits and challenges.
- D. The author's discussion of benefits slightly overshadows the challenges.
- E. The author mainly discusses challenges, making the benefits less apparent.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☒ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. The author provides a balanced perspective, highlighting both the benefits and challenges.

Explanation: The author discusses both the positive and negative aspects of urban beekeeping, promoting a well-rounded view.

4. Question: Evaluate how the author's tone contributes to the overall message of the passage. (1 point)  
Does it enhance or detract from the intended message?



- A. The author's slightly positive tone downplays the challenges, detracting from the message.
- B. The author's neutral tone enhances the passage by providing an objective view of urban beekeeping.
- C. The author's understated tone slightly undermines the benefits discussed.
- D. The author's somewhat cautious tone makes the benefits seem less significant.
- E. The author's mildly enthusiastic tone slightly oversells the benefits.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. The author's neutral tone enhances the passage by providing an objective view of urban beekeeping.

Explanation: The neutral tone helps present a balanced perspective, making the discussion more credible and comprehensive.

**Passage 2:**

Bioluminescent bays are one of nature's most magical phenomena, where the water glows with an ethereal light when disturbed. This stunning display is caused by microscopic organisms called dinoflagellates, which emit light through a chemical reaction. Bioluminescence can be observed in several coastal areas around the world, with notable examples in Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and the Maldives.

The light emitted by dinoflagellates serves various purposes. It can act as a defense mechanism to startle predators, attract mates, or communicate with other organisms. For humans, bioluminescent bays have become popular tourist attractions, offering unique and unforgettable experiences.

Despite their beauty, bioluminescent bays are fragile ecosystems. Pollution, climate change, and coastal development pose significant threats to these environments. Increased tourism can also lead to environmental degradation if not managed sustainably. Protecting these natural wonders requires a delicate balance between promoting tourism and conserving the ecosystem.

Efforts are being made to preserve bioluminescent bays. Local governments and environmental organizations are implementing measures such as restricting boat traffic, regulating night tours, and educating visitors about the importance of conservation. These steps aim to ensure that bioluminescent bays can be enjoyed by future generations while maintaining their ecological health.

5. Question: Evaluate the effectiveness of the passage in presenting the beauty and fragility of bioluminescent bays. How well does the passage balance these aspects? (1 point)

A. The passage mainly highlights the beauty of bioluminescent bays with some mention of fragility.

- B. The passage discusses both the beauty and threats to bioluminescent bays but focuses more on the threats.
- C. The passage provides a balanced discussion of both the beauty and fragility of bioluminescent bays.
- D. The passage focuses on the causes of bioluminescence and their ecological impact.
- E. The passage mentions the beauty but emphasizes the conservation needs of bioluminescent bays.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☒ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. The passage provides a balanced discussion of both the beauty and fragility of bioluminescent bays.

Explanation: The passage discusses both the stunning visual effects and the ecological vulnerabilities of bioluminescent bays, providing a balanced view.

6. Question: Evaluate the implications of increased tourism on bioluminescent bays as mentioned in the passage. Why is this a significant concern? (1 point)

- A. Increased tourism provides economic benefits but causes harm to the ecosystem of the bays.
- B. Increased tourism has minimal impact on bioluminescent bays.
- C. Increased tourism affects the overall health of the bays, including their ecological balance.
- D. Increased tourism raises awareness but does not mitigate the ecological damage.
- E. Increased tourism can lead to environmental degradation, posing a significant concern for the health of bioluminescent bays.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☒ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: E. Increased tourism can lead to environmental degradation, posing a significant concern for the health of bioluminescent bays.

Explanation: The passage highlights that increased tourism can harm these fragile ecosystems, making it a significant concern.

7. Question: In the passage, what does the word "ethereal" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Delicate and otherworldly
- B. Unusual
- C. Substantial
- D. Intangible
- E. Fragile

- ☒ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: A. Delicate and otherworldly.

Explanation: "Ethereal" refers to something light, delicate, and seemingly otherworldly, fitting the description of the bioluminescent glow.

8. Question: In the passage, what does the word "ethereal" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Delicate and otherworldly
- B. Unusual
- C. Substantial
- D. Intangible
- E. Fragile

- ☒ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: A. Delicate and otherworldly.

Explanation: "Ethereal" refers to something light, delicate, and seemingly otherworldly, fitting the description of the bioluminescent glow.

9. Question: Critically evaluate the author's purpose in discussing both the beauty and conservation needs of bioluminescent bays. How well does the author achieve this purpose? (1 point)

- A. The author encourages tourism to support local economies but does not emphasize conservation.
- B. The author discusses conservation needs but does not balance them with the beauty aspects.
- C. The author provides a balanced perspective, encouraging both appreciation and conservation of bioluminescent bays.
- D. The author emphasizes conservation slightly more than the beauty of the bays.
- E. The author aims to inform readers about both the scientific and aesthetic aspects of bioluminescence.

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. The author provides a balanced perspective, encouraging both appreciation and conservation of bioluminescent bays.

Explanation: The author discusses both the beauty and the need for conservation, promoting a balanced perspective.

**Poem: "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"**

In the hush of twilight's embrace,  
Autumn leaves begin their dance,  
Fluttering with a gentle grace,  
In a silent, wistful trance.

Golden hues and crimson dreams,  
Murmur secrets to the night,  
Underneath the silver beams,  
They whisper, fade, and take flight.

The breeze carries tales untold,  
Of summers past and winters near,  
Leaves of amber, red, and gold,  
Speak of change, yet have no fear.

Each leaf a story, each branch a stage,  
In the theater of the sky,  
Nature turns another page,  
As time quietly drifts by.

10. Question: What is the main theme of the poem "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

- A. The inevitability of change and the passage of time.
- B. The beauty of summer and its everlasting warmth.
- C. The harshness of winter and the challenges it brings.
- D. The joy and festivities of springtime.
- E. The resilience of nature against human interference.

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: A. The inevitability of change and the passage of time.

Explanation: The poem explores the transition of seasons, specifically autumn, and how the leaves represent change and the passage of time.

11. Question: What can be inferred about the poet's view on change as depicted in the poem? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

A. The poet views change with a sense of nostalgia and slight apprehension.

B. The poet sees change as a natural and gentle process.

C. The poet believes change can cause minor disruptions in life's harmony.

D. The poet thinks change is an inevitable part of life, though sometimes challenging.

E. The poet is passively accepting of change, acknowledging it without strong feelings.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. The poet sees change as a natural and gentle process.

Explanation: The poem describes the leaves' transition with gentle and wistful imagery, indicating that the poet views change as a natural and serene part of life.

12. Question: In the poem, what does the word "murmur" most nearly mean? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

A. Speak softly

B. Hum

C. Whisper

D. Mutter

E. Mumble

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. Whisper

Explanation: The context of the poem describes the leaves "murmuring secrets to the night," which aligns with the word "whisper" rather than louder sounds.

13. Question: What is the primary purpose of the poet in writing "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

A. To reflect on the transition from summer to autumn.

B. To subtly hint at the upcoming winter.

C. To celebrate the beauty and serenity of autumn.

D. To express a slight unease about changes.

E. To appreciate nature's cycles and subtle changes.

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. To celebrate the beauty and serenity of autumn.

Explanation: The poem focuses on the gentle and graceful nature of autumn leaves, celebrating their beauty and the peaceful transition they represent.

14. Question: How would you describe the tone of the poem "Whispers of the Autumn Leaves"? (1 point)

Answer Choices:

A. Nostalgic and contemplative

B. Calm and slightly joyous

C. Reflective and serene

D. Mildly discontented

E. Contemplative and slightly confused

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. Reflective and serene

Explanation: The poem's imagery and language convey a calm, reflective mood, appreciating the quiet beauty and natural process of change in autumn.

**Excerpt from "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen**

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters."

15. Question: What is the main idea conveyed in the opening lines of the excerpt? (1 point)

A. Society universally assumes wealthy single men are seeking wives.

B. Society expects wealthy single men to marry quickly.

C. Wealthy single men are generally uninterested in marriage.

D. Families view wealthy single men as prime candidates for their daughters.

E. Wealthy single men passively accept societal marriage expectations.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. Society expects wealthy single men to marry quickly.

Explanation: The opening lines suggest that society universally assumes that a wealthy single man will want to marry, reflecting societal expectations.



16. Question: What can be inferred about the societal values reflected in the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. Wealth and social status play a minor role in marriage.
- B. Marriage decisions blend individual and societal values.
- C. Marriage is seen primarily as a social and economic transaction.
- D. Wealthy men have limited freedom in their marital choices.
- E. Families subtly influence the marriage decisions of wealthy men.

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. Marriage is seen primarily as a social and economic transaction.

Explanation: The passage implies that the families view the wealthy man as "rightful property," indicating that marriage is perceived as a social and economic arrangement.

17. Question: In the excerpt, what does the phrase "rightful property" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Societal claim
- B. Preordained match
- C. Appropriate match
- D. Suitable union
- E. Status-based selection

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. Appropriate match

Explanation: In this context, "rightful property" suggests that the families view the wealthy man as a suitable match for one of their daughters, indicating an appropriate and expected union.

18. Question: What is Jane Austen's primary purpose in writing this opening statement? (1 point)

- A. To subtly critique societal norms regarding marriage.
- B. To humorously highlight societal norms regarding marriage.
- C. To explain the interplay of societal expectations and economic benefits in marriage.
- D. To discuss the societal expectations and personal feelings regarding marriage.
- E. To provide a blend of historical context and societal critique regarding marriage.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. To humorously highlight societal norms regarding marriage.

Explanation: Austen uses irony and humor to highlight and critique the societal expectations surrounding marriage, particularly for wealthy men.

19. Question: How would you describe the tone of the opening lines of the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. Mildly sarcastic and gently critical
- B. Light-hearted and mildly positive
- C. Thoughtful and light-hearted
- D. Humorous and ironic
- E. Mildly critical and subtly mocking

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☒ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: D. Humorous and ironic

Explanation: Austen's use of irony and the exaggerated nature of the statement create a humorous tone that gently mocks societal expectations.

20. Question: How does the phrase "this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families" contribute to the understanding of societal norms in the excerpt? (1 point)

- A. It emphasizes the rigid and unquestioned nature of societal expectations.
- B. It suggests that families are flexible and open to individual feelings.
- C. It indicates that societal norms are rarely enforced or followed.
- D. It implies that the truth is subject to debate and reconsideration.
- E. It portrays the families as indifferent to societal norms.

- ☒ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: A. It emphasizes the rigid and unquestioned nature of societal expectations.

Explanation: The phrase "this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families" suggests that the societal expectation is deeply ingrained and rigid, leaving little room for individual feelings or debate.

21. Question: What does the use of the term "rightful property" reveal about the perception of wealthy single men by the surrounding families? (1 point)

- A. Wealthy single men are viewed with respect and autonomy.
- B. Wealthy single men are seen as commodities to be acquired.
- C. Wealthy single men are regarded as independent and free from societal norms.
- D. Wealthy single men are considered mentors and leaders.
- E. Wealthy single men are perceived as unimportant in the community.

- ☐ A
- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. Wealthy single men are seen as commodities to be acquired.

Explanation: The term "rightful property" indicates that the families view wealthy single men as something to be claimed or acquired for their daughters, reducing the men to commodities within the social context of marriage.

## Passage: The Discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 and Its Implications

In the early 21st century, a groundbreaking discovery in the field of genetics revolutionized the scientific community. CRISPR-Cas9, a powerful tool for genome editing, was identified and developed, allowing scientists to make precise modifications to the DNA of living organisms. This discovery, credited to researchers Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier, has opened up new possibilities in medical research, agriculture, and biotechnology.

CRISPR, which stands for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats, is a natural system used by bacteria to defend against viruses. The bacteria capture snippets of DNA from invading viruses and use them to create DNA segments known as CRISPR arrays. These arrays allow the bacteria to "remember" the viruses and, in case of a future attack, produce RNA segments that guide the Cas9 enzyme to the viral DNA, cutting it and disabling the virus.

Adapting this bacterial defense mechanism for genome editing, scientists found that they could program the CRISPR-Cas9 system to target specific sequences of DNA in any organism. By designing custom RNA guides, researchers can direct the Cas9 enzyme to cut DNA at desired locations. This enables the precise insertion, deletion, or modification of genes, offering unprecedented control over genetic material.

The implications of CRISPR-Cas9 are vast. In medicine, it holds the potential to correct genetic defects, treat diseases such as cancer, and even combat viral infections like HIV. For instance, researchers have already used CRISPR to modify immune cells to better target cancer cells, showing promising results in clinical trials. In agriculture, CRISPR can be used to create crops that are more resistant to pests and diseases, or that have improved nutritional profiles. This technology could lead to more sustainable farming practices and help address global food security challenges.

However, the power of CRISPR-Cas9 also raises ethical and safety concerns. The ability to edit human embryos, for instance, has sparked a debate about the potential for "designer babies" and the long-term effects on the human gene pool. There are also concerns about off-target effects, where unintended genetic modifications could occur, leading to unforeseen consequences. As the technology advances, it is crucial for the scientific community, ethicists, and policymakers to work together to establish guidelines and regulations that ensure its safe and responsible use.

In summary, the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 represents a significant milestone in genetic research. Its potential applications are transformative, yet they must be balanced with careful consideration of ethical implications and safety measures to harness its benefits responsibly.

22. Question: What is the primary focus of the passage?

(1 point)

- A. The development and impact of CRISPR-Cas9 in genetic research.
- B. The discovery and potential applications of CRISPR-Cas9.
- C. The scientific and ethical implications of CRISPR-Cas9.
- D. The contributions of Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier to genetic science.
- E. The adaptation of bacterial defense mechanisms for genetic editing.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. The discovery and potential applications of CRISPR-Cas9.

Explanation: The passage primarily discusses the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9, its mechanism, and its wide-ranging implications in various fields.

23. Question: Based on the passage, why might CRISPR-Cas9 be considered a revolutionary tool in genetics? (1 point)

- A. It offers a novel approach to genetic modifications.
- B. It minimizes the risks associated with genetic modifications.
- C. It significantly reduces some ethical concerns associated with genetic editing.
- D. It provides a new method specifically beneficial for medical research.
- E. It uses a natural system from bacteria for precise DNA editing.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☒ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: E. It uses a natural system from bacteria for precise DNA editing.

Explanation: The passage explains that CRISPR-Cas9's revolutionary aspect comes from its ability to use a natural bacterial defense mechanism to make precise modifications in the DNA of living

24. Question: In the passage, what does the word "unprecedented" most nearly mean? (1 point)

- A. Regular
- B. Predictable
- C. Novel
- D. Insignificant
- E. Occasional

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. Novel

Explanation: "Unprecedented" means never done or known before, indicating that CRISPR-Cas9 offers a new and unique level of control over genetic material.

25. Question: What is the author's main purpose in writing this passage? (1 point)

- A. To highlight the contributions of scientists to the development of CRISPR-Cas9.
- B. To explain the mechanism and implications of CRISPR-Cas9.
- C. To discuss both the benefits and risks of genetic modification technologies.
- D. To describe recent advancements in genetic engineering.
- E. To discuss the applications of CRISPR-Cas9 in various fields.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. To explain the mechanism and implications of CRISPR-Cas9.

Explanation: The author aims to provide a detailed explanation of how CRISPR-Cas9 works and its potential applications and implications.

26. Question: How would you describe the tone of the passage? (1 point)

- A. Cautiously optimistic
- B. Optimistic and informative
- C. Critically analytical
- D. Neutral and balanced
- E. Mildly positive and encouraging

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. Optimistic and informative

Explanation: The tone is optimistic about the potential benefits of CRISPR-Cas9 while also providing informative content on its mechanism and implications.

27. Question: Which of the following is mentioned as a potential application of CRISPR-Cas9 in medicine? (1 point)

- A. Correcting genetic defects
- B. Creating genetically modified immune cells
- C. Developing targeted cancer therapies
- D. Editing human embryos for disease resistance
- E. Enhancing the effectiveness of existing drugs

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. Correcting genetic defects

Explanation: The passage mentions that CRISPR-Cas9 holds potential for correcting genetic defects among other medical applications.

28. Question: What ethical concerns are raised by the use of CRISPR-Cas9, according to the passage? (1 point)

- A. The potential for unequal access to the technology
- B. The ethical implications of easy genetic modifications
- C. The potential for "designer babies" and off-target effects
- D. The ethical concerns of public access to genetic editing
- E. The risks associated with rapid genetic modifications

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: C. The potential for "designer babies" and off-target effects

Explanation: The passage raises concerns about the ethical implications of editing human embryos and the risk of unintended genetic modifications.

29. Question: What has the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 led to in the field of agriculture? (1 point)

- A. Decreased reliance on chemical pesticides
- B. Increased crop resistance to pests and diseases
- C. Greater focus on traditional crop breeding methods
- D. Enhanced funding for agricultural biotechnology research
- E. Higher economic investment in genetically modified crops

- ☐ A
- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. Increased crop resistance to pests and diseases

Explanation: The passage states that CRISPR-Cas9 can be used to create crops that are more resistant to pests and diseases, leading to more sustainable farming practices.

30. Question: How does the structure of the passage contribute to its overall effectiveness? (1 point)

- A. The passage starts with ethical concerns, followed by the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9 and its applications.
- B. The passage begins with the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9, explains its mechanism, then discusses its applications and ethical concerns.
- C. The passage alternates between discussing applications and ethical concerns throughout.
- D. The passage primarily focuses on the technical aspects of CRISPR-Cas9, leaving ethical concerns to the end.
- E. The passage focuses on the personal achievements of the scientists involved throughout.

- ☐ A
- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D



☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. The passage begins with the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9, explains its mechanism, then discusses its applications and ethical concerns.

Explanation: The structure of the passage effectively introduces the discovery, explains how CRISPR-Cas9 works, and then discusses its broad applications and ethical implications, providing a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

31. Question: Evaluate the potential impact of CRISPR-Cas9 on global food security as mentioned (1 point) in the passage.

- A. CRISPR-Cas9 is likely to have a minimal impact on global food security.
- B. CRISPR-Cas9 can significantly improve global food security by creating pest-resistant and nutritionally enhanced crops.
- C. CRISPR-Cas9 will likely increase food prices, making food less accessible.
- D. CRISPR-Cas9's impact on global food security is uncertain and unpredictable.
- E. CRISPR-Cas9 will only benefit developed countries with advanced agricultural infrastructure.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: B. CRISPR-Cas9 can significantly improve global food security by creating pest-resistant and nutritionally enhanced crops.

Explanation: The passage highlights CRISPR-Cas9's potential to create crops that are more resistant to pests and diseases and have improved nutritional profiles, which can lead to more sustainable farming practices and help address global food security challenges.

32. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

The children playing in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather.

- a. The children played in the park and enjoy the sunny weather
- b. The children played in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather
- c. The children have playing in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather
- d. The children has played in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather
- e. The children had playing in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather

☐ A

- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. The children played in the park and enjoyed the sunny weather.

Explanation: "Played" and "enjoyed" are both in the past tense and correctly match the sentence structure.

33. Select the most appropriate meaning of "transient" in the sentence below. (1 point)

The transient nature of the city's population makes it vibrant and diverse.

- a) Enduring
- b) Temporary
- c) Fixed
- d) Stable

- ☐ A
- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b) Temporary Explanation: "Transient" means lasting for only a short time; temporary.

34. Select the most appropriate meaning of "incessant" in the sentence below. (1 point)

- The incessant noise from the construction site made it hard to concentrate.
- a) Sporadic
- b) Recurring
- c) Continuous
- d) Infrequent

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☒ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c) Continuous Explanation: "Incessant" means never stopping, continuing without pause.

35. Select the most appropriate meaning of "incessant" in the sentence below. (1 point)

The incessant noise from the construction site made it hard to concentrate.

- a) Sporadic
- b) Recurring
- c) Continuous
- d) Infrequent

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c) Continuous Explanation: "Incessant" means never stopping, continuing without pause.

36. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

Maria singing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party.

- a) Maria sing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- b) Maria sings a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- c) Maria sang a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- d) Maria has singing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party
- e) Maria had singing a song and was happy to see her friends at the party

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. Maria sang a song and was happy to see her friends at the party.

Explanation: "Sang" is the correct past tense form of "sing" to match the past tense context of the sentence.

37. Select the most appropriate meaning of "futile" in the sentence below.

(1 point)

His attempts to fix the old car were futile; it simply would not start.

- a) Fruitful
- b) Effective
- c) Useless
- d) Valuable

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☒ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c) Useless Explanation: "Futile" means incapable of producing any useful result; pointless.

38. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence.

(1 point)

After finishing her homework, Sarah going to the library to study for her exams.

- a. Sarah went to the library to study for her exams
- b. Sarah gone to the library to study for her exams
- c. Sarah has going to the library to study for her exams
- d. Sarah went to the library to study for her exams
- e. Sarah had gone to the library to study for her exams

- ☒ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: a. Sarah went to the library to study for her exams.

Explanation: "Went" is the correct past tense form of "go" to match the context of the sentence.

39. Question: Select the correct spelling for the underlined, misspelled word in question.

(1 point)

The professor's lecture on quantum mechanics was enlightning.

- a. enlightning
- b. enlightning
- c. enlightening
- d. enlitning
- e. enlitning

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. enlightening

Explanation: The correct spelling of "enlightning" is "enlightening," meaning to give someone greater knowledge and understanding about a subject or situation.

40. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

The team practicing hard every day to prepare for the championship match.

- a. The team practices hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- b. The team practiced hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- c. The team has practicing hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- d. The team had practiced hard every day to prepare for the championship match
- e. The team had practicing hard every day to prepare for the championship match

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. The team practiced hard every day to prepare for the championship match.

Explanation: "Practiced" is the correct past tense form of "practice" to match the sentence context.

41. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

She being one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts.

- a. She is one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts
- b. She was one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received

recognition for her efforts

c. She has been one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts

d. She having been one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts

e. She had been one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. She was one of the most talented musicians in the orchestra, yet she seldom received recognition for her efforts.

Explanation: "Was" correctly matches the past tense context of the sentence.

42. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

We are going to the beach and have a great time last weekend.

a. We going to the beach and having a great time last weekend

b. We are gone to the beach and have a great time last weekend

c. We were going to the beach and having a great time last weekend

d. We went to the beach and had a great time last weekend

e. We going to the beach and had a great time last weekend

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C

☒ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: d. We went to the beach and had a great time last weekend.

Explanation: "Went" and "had" are the correct past tense forms of "go" and "have" to match the context of the sentence.

43. Question: Identify the sentence that contains the correct use of punctuation to convey the intended meaning: (1 point)

a. We're looking forward to the concert, its going to be amazing!

b. The concert is tonight, we're very excited.

c. They're going to the concert, too.

- d. There excited for the concert.
- e. Its going to be a great concert, and we're all thrilled.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☒ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. They're going to the concert, too.

Explanation: The correct sentence uses "they're" as a contraction for "they are" and properly places a comma before "too."

44. Select the most appropriate meaning of "adamant" in the sentence below. (1 point)

Despite the protests, the mayor was adamant about implementing the new policy.

- a) Yielding
- b) Firm
- c) Wavering
- d) Tentative

- ☐ A
- ☒ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b) Firm Explanation: "Adamant" means refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind; firm in opinion.

45. Question: Analyze the following sentences and determine which one uses apostrophes correctly. (1 point)

- a. The childrens' toys are scattered all over the room.
- b. It's important to know the difference between its and it's.
- c. We're going to visit our friend's house this weekend.
- d. The dog's bark was louder than the other dog's.
- e. All the student's books were on the table.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. We're going to visit our friend's house this weekend.

Explanation: The sentence correctly uses the contraction "we're" for "we are" and the possessive "friend's" to show ownership.

46. Question: Evaluate the following sentences and select the one that correctly uses punctuation to indicate possession (1 point)

- a. The boys' bike was left outside in the rain.
- b. The boy's bike was left outside in the rain.
- c. The boys bike was left outside in the rain.
- d. The boys's bike was left outside in the rain.
- e. The boy's bike's were left outside in the rain.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. The boy's bike was left outside in the rain.

Explanation: The correct sentence uses "boy's" to show that the bike belongs to one boy.

47. Question: Critique the following sentences and identify which one uses colons and semicolons correctly (1 point)

- a. We have several options for dinner: pasta, pizza, and burgers.
- b. We have several options for dinner; pasta, pizza; and burgers.
- c. We have several options: for dinner; pasta, pizza and, burgers.
- d. We have several options; for dinner: pasta, pizza, and burgers.
- e. We have several options for dinner; pasta; pizza; and burgers.

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**



Answer: a. We have several options for dinner: pasta, pizza, and burgers.

Explanation: The correct sentence uses a colon to introduce a list and properly uses commas to separate the items in the list.

48. Question: Determine the correct meaning of the idiom "bark up the wrong tree." (1 point)

- a. To pursue a mistaken or misguided course of action
- b. To yell at a tree
- c. To chase an animal up a tree
- d. To argue with someone
- e. To search for something in the wrong place

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: a. To pursue a mistaken or misguided course of action

Explanation: "Bark up the wrong tree" means to follow a mistaken or misguided course of action or direction.

49. Question: Interpret the meaning of the idiom "let the cat out of the bag." (1 point)

- a. To free an animal
- b. To accidentally reveal a secret
- c. To buy a pet
- d. To open a container
- e. To lose something valuable

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. To accidentally reveal a secret

Explanation: "Let the cat out of the bag" means to accidentally disclose confidential information or secrets.

50. Select the most appropriate meaning of "arduous" in the sentence below. (1 point)

The hikers prepared for an arduous journey through the mountains.

- a) Simple

- b) Pleasant
- c) Difficult
- d) Brief

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c) Difficult Explanation: "Arduous" means requiring a lot of effort and is difficult to endure.

51. Question: Interpret the meaning of the idiom "beyond the pale." (1 point)

- a. To be outside the boundaries of acceptable behavior
- b. To go far beyond what is required
- c. To be extremely pale in complexion
- d. To travel to a distant place
- e. To be exceptionally creative

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: a. To be outside the boundaries of acceptable behavior

Explanation: "Beyond the pale" means to be outside the bounds of acceptable behavior or standards.

52. Question: Critically assess the use of the idiom "fly off the handle" in describing a person's reaction in a report. (1 point)

- a. It means to leave abruptly
- b. It suggests losing one's temper suddenly
- c. It refers to flying an airplane
- d. It implies making a hasty decision
- e. It means to handle a situation calmly

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. It suggests losing one's temper suddenly

Explanation: "Fly off the handle" means to lose one's temper or become very angry suddenly, which can be useful in a report to describe a person's reaction accurately.

53. Question: Read the sentence below and select the best rephrased sentence: Sheila finished her homework and then she went to the park. (1 point)

- a. Sheila went to the park before she finished her homework.
- b. After finishing her homework, Sheila went to the park.
- c. Sheila finished her homework while she was at the park.
- d. Sheila went to the park instead of finishing her homework.
- e. Sheila finishes her homework and then goes to the park.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. After finishing her homework, Sheila went to the park.

Explanation: This sentence correctly rephrases the original sentence, maintaining the sequence of events.

54. Question: Transform the sentence below to start with "The car": They parked the car in the garage. (1 point)

- a. The car parks in the garage.
- b. The car was parked by them in the garage.
- c. The car is parked by them in the garage.
- d. The car has parked in the garage.
- e. The car parked in the garage by them.

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. The car was parked by them in the garage.

Explanation: This sentence correctly transforms the active voice to passive voice, starting with "The car."

55. Question: Rewrite the sentence below starting with "When the storm began": The family moved to the basement as the storm began. (1 point)

- a. When the storm began, the family moved to the basement.
- b. When the storm began the family was moving to the basement.
- c. When the storm began, the family is moving to the basement.
- d. When the storm began, the family move to the basement.
- e. When the storm began, the family has moved to the basement.

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: a. When the storm began, the family moved to the basement.

Explanation: This sentence maintains the original meaning and correctly uses the past tense.

56. Question: Evaluate the transformation of the sentence below to check for grammatical correctness: The committee will review the applications next week. (1 point)

If rewritten starting with "The applications," which option is correct?

- a. The applications reviewed by the committee next week.
- b. The applications are reviewed by the committee next week.
- c. The applications will be reviewed by the committee next week.
- d. The applications being reviewed by the committee next week.
- e. The applications have been reviewed by the committee next week.

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. The applications will be reviewed by the committee next week.

Explanation: This option correctly transforms the sentence into the passive voice and retains the future tense.

57. Question: Select the answer option that best replaces the underlined words to correct the sentence. (1 point)

While they have been waiting for the bus, they talking about their plans for the weekend.

- a. While they waited for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend
- b. While they were waiting for the bus, they talk about their plans for the weekend
- c. While they waiting for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend
- d. While they have waited for the bus, they talking about their plans for the weekend
- e. While they have been waiting for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: a. While they waited for the bus, they talked about their plans for the weekend.

Explanation: "Waited" and "talked" are the correct past tense forms to match the context of the sentence.

58. Question: Determine the correct meaning of the idiom "get someone's goat." (1 point)

- a. To buy a goat for someone
- b. To greatly irritate someone
- c. To take care of someone's pet
- d. To help someone in need
- e. To make someone happy

☐ A

☒ B

☐ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: b. To greatly irritate someone

Explanation: "Get someone's goat" means to annoy or irritate someone.

59. Question: Evaluate the following sentence and select the correct spelling for the underlined, misspelled word. (1 point)

Her explanation was **convinsing** enough to change their minds.

- a. convising
- b. convinsing
- c. convincing
- d. convincin
- e. convencing

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. convincing

Explanation: The correct spelling of "convinsing" is "convincing."

60. Question: Select the correct spelling for the underlined, misspelled word in question. (1 point)

The professor's lecture on quantum mechanics was **enlightning**.

- a. enlightning
- b. enlightning
- c. enlightening
- d. enlitning
- e. enlitning

☐ A

☐ B

☒ C

☐ D

☐ E

**Explanation:**

Answer: c. enlightening

Explanation: The correct spelling of "enlightning" is "enlightening," meaning to give someone greater knowledge and understanding about a subject or situation.