

Reading Mini-Test 1 Answer Explanations

- The correct answer is D.** Choices A and C are too extreme, while choice B is too mild and misses the main argument of the passage. The author is trying to encourage the reader to not only care about preservation, but also to turn *their best forces of mind and language into literature and into political power for the conservation movement* (lines 56–58). He describes his book as an alarm in line 16, supporting choice D.
- The correct answer is G.** In lines 39–40, the author claims that *nowhere is nature being destroyed so rapidly as in the United States*, best supporting choice G. Choice F is too broad, choice H is too narrow, and choice J is unsupported by the passage.
- The correct answer is C.** In lines 5–6, the author mentions *sentimental* (choice A), *educational* (choice D), and *legislative* (choice B), but not *economical*, so choice C is the correct option.
- The correct answer is G.** Choice F is unsupported by the passage. Battles are mentioned in the passage in relation to the struggle for preservation, not in comparison to nature, eliminating choice J. Feathers are mentioned in the context of inappropriate actions that hurt wildlife, not as a comparison to nature, eliminating choice H. In line 25, the author writes that people *no longer destroy great works of art*, suggesting that, instead, we destroy nature. Thus, choice G is the best option.
- The correct answer is C.** Choice A is unsupported by the passage, choice B is too extreme, and choice D contradicts the central argument in the passage. In the first sentence, the author says that preserving the planet should be *one of the foremost duties of men and women today* (lines 2–3). This assumption is echoed throughout the passage, so choice C is the correct option.
- The correct answer is H.** The author says we must present facts with irrefutable statistics in order to *establish the law, and to enforce it* (line 14), best supporting choice H. The passage does not suggest appealing to the opposition (choice F) or suggest traveling (choice G) or starting violent protests (choice J).
- The correct answer is B.** The author tells the reader that he has been to many places in the world and therefore is establishing his credibility so that he can state with authority that people in the United States are destroying nature the most rapidly. Thus, choice B is the best option. The author is not providing context, since he does not mention his travels elsewhere in the paragraph, eliminating choice A. Nor is the author boasting (choice C) or encouraging readers to travel (choice D).
- The correct answer is J.** The author is straightforward and determined to argue his case to the reader about preservation and activism, so choice J is the best choice. Choices F and G are too strong, while choice H does not capture the persuasive call to action that is inherent in and essential to the author's tone.
- The correct answer is A.** Choice B is too broad. Choice C misses the optimism in the final paragraph. Choice D is incorrect, since the paragraph does not detail existing conservation efforts. Choice A is the most accurate description of the value of the last paragraph. The author writes that although some Americans are destroying nature, others are changing and using their knowledge toward preserving the planet.
- The correct answer is G.** In lines 16–18, the author writes that his book is like the sounding of the bells in watchtowers of the Middle Ages, so choice G is correct. He does not compare his call to action to an alarm clock but rather an alarm, sounding out to alert people. Choice F can be eliminated because it distorts this detail. Choices H and J refer to changing attitudes and legislation to preserve nature, not to the narrator's call to raise awareness, so they can also be eliminated.

Reading Mini-Test 2 Answer Explanations

- 11. The correct answer is C.** The phrase *orders of architecture* first appears in paragraph 1 (lines 1–6). This paragraph describes two main orders of architecture, arranged and organic, so choice A can be eliminated. Both paragraphs 2 (lines 7–13) and 3 (lines 14–28) describe the qualities of arranged and organic architecture, so choices B and D can be eliminated. While paragraph 7 (lines 51–62) mentions the Middle Ages, it does not describe the name of the time period before the Middle Ages, so choice C is the best answer.
- 12. The correct answer is G.** Line 7 states that *arranged architecture is reasoned and artificial*, so choice J can be eliminated. Lines 19–22 say that *arranged architecture substitutes a Euclidian system of straight lines and (for the most part) circular curves, assembled and arranged according to a definite logic of its own*, so choices F and H can also be eliminated. In lines 22 and 23, the author states that arranged architecture is *created but not creative; it is imagined but not imaginative*, so choice G is the best answer.
- 13. The correct answer is D.** The answer choices are broad concepts that are probably not repeated word for word in the passage, so it is necessary to search for supporting details that will eliminate a few options. Paragraph 4 (lines 29–36) compares organic architecture to a violin, stating that *it has a way of betraying the man of talent and glorifying the genius*, which indicates that those with *intuition* are regarded as superior to those using *rationality*, so choice C can be eliminated. Paragraphs 2 through 4 (lines 7–36) are dedicated to describing the differences between organic and arranged architecture, so choice B can also be eliminated. Choice A is a little more difficult to eliminate, but since lines 9–11 state that organic architecture *is the product of some obscure inner necessity for self-expression, which is subconscious*, this at least in part addresses where it comes from. The word *origins* means in this sense *the point where something begins*. The *duality* mentioned in lines 3–6 refers to the difference between organic and arranged architecture, but there is no mention of organic architecture having a *paradoxical nature*. In this sentence, *paradoxical* means “contradictory.”
- 14. The correct answer is F.** The phrase *best describes* is a clue that there will likely not be an exact match between the answer choice and the passage. Lines 46–50 support choice F and help eliminate choice G: *But in so far as it is anything at all, aesthetically, our architecture is arranged, so if only by the operation of the law of opposites, or alternation, we might reasonably expect the next manifestation to be organic. There are other and better reasons, however, for such expectancy*. Choice H can be eliminated because paragraph 7 (lines 51–62) discusses the religious influence on organic architecture, but does not go so far as to say that organic architecture is mainly for religious buildings. Choice J is incorrect because lines 66–67 say that organic architecture is *the product not of self-assertive personalities*—so, since the author thinks future architecture will be organic, it does not fit that it would be the product of self-assertive personalities.

- 15. The correct answer is A.** The unique phrase *the house confines the spirit* is found in line 43. In the first sentence of this paragraph, in lines 37–40, the passage says that *there is one sure way by which each may be recognized and known*. It then goes on to talk about how to tell the difference between the two forms of architecture. For that reason, choice A is the best answer. Choice B can be eliminated because *the law of opposites* mentioned in paragraph 6, in line 48, is not referring to the house that *confines the spirit*. While *confines* means “keep or restrict within limits,” the phrase is not used to criticize the arranged form or talk about its size or arrangement, so choice C is incorrect. Choice D is also incorrect because it is organic architecture that is described as *ever a flower of the religious spirit* in lines 51–52, not the arranged form.
- 16. The correct answer is J.** Paragraph 9 (lines 69–83) includes mention of *the earthquake of the war*, and a *stark, strange, devastated landscape*, so choices F, G, and H can be eliminated. Paragraph 10 mentions a *Great Mystery* in line 87, but this does not appear in paragraph 9 (lines 69–83), so choice J is the best answer.
- 17. The correct answer is A.** Lines 46–49, located in paragraph 6, provide supporting details for choice A: *But in so far as it is anything at all, aesthetically, our architecture is arranged, so if only by the operation of the law of opposites, or alternation, we might reasonably expect the next manifestation to be organic. A manifestation, in this sense, means “an appearance.”* The end of paragraph 8, in line 68, mentions a *spiritual democracy* but does not clearly support the claims of choice B. Choices C and D are not supported by the details in the passage.
- 18. The correct answer is H.** Lines 88–89 in the last paragraph state that *the most imaginative artist can imagine only in terms of the already-existent*, which supports choice H and makes it the best answer. Choices F and G have words that are mentioned in the passage but that do not support the answer choices. Choice J is contradicted by lines 84–88 in the last paragraph, which means that the author does not know what the future architectural style will look like. *Discerned*, in this sense, means “perceived or recognized.”
- 19. The correct answer is A.** Paragraph 3 (lines 14–28) best supports choice A. The phrase *assembled and arranged* describing arranged architecture supports the concept of it being structured, while the statement that *organic architecture is both creative and imaginative* supports the concept of organic style being more imaginative. Choice B is incorrect because paragraphs 1 through 4 (lines 1–36) do not mention a spiritual style, and furthermore the passage later describes the organic style as being spiritual but does not list a spiritual form as its own style of architecture. Paragraph 1 (lines 1–6) states there are two orders of architecture, and the passage describes how to tell them apart, which contradicts choice C. While paragraph 6 (lines 46–50) describes an alternation, the question limits you only to paragraphs 1 through 4 (lines 1–36), so choice D is also incorrect.
- 20. The correct answer is H.** Choice F is not mentioned in paragraph 4 (lines 29–36) and should be eliminated. A *lack of discord* is used to describe a piano, not a violin (*A piano is an instrument that does not give forth discords if one follows the rules*) (lines 31–33), so choice J can be eliminated. The description of arranged architecture in lines 7–8, *arranged architecture is reasoned and artificial; produced by talent and governed by taste*, better fits a piano than a violin, which means that the violin represents organic architecture. This eliminates choice G, and also means choice H is best supported by the passage.