

GRE VERBAL PRACTICE PAPER

SENTENCE EQUIVALENCE

QUESTION 1

The chief executive of the business described the charges as _____ – he had proof that the allegations were coming from a group of people that were consciously wanting to spoil his reputation.

[**Note:** Select 2 answer choices]

A spiteful

B boisterous

C strident

D assertive

E malicious

F vehement

QUESTION 2

The agreeable disposition of the old woman was in sharp contrast to her husband's _____ demeanor.

[**Note:** Select 2 answer choices]

A loquacious

B cantankerous

C garrulous

D peevish

E complaisant

F artful

QUESTION 3

The business magnate challenged the indictment that he was _____ by furnishing data on the substantial amounts that he had given away to philanthropic and charitable organizations.

[**Note:** Select 2 answer choices]

Aprodigal

Bimpecunious

Cparsimonious

Daffluent

Ealtruistic

Fmiserly

QUESTION 4

Any subject of study needs _____: its advocates must explain why it is worth attention.

[**Note:** Select 2 answer choices]

Aelimination

Bindemnification

Crationalization

Djustification

Emobilization

Fabnegation

QUESTION 5

The promoters of the not-for-profit organization are a _____ group of activists, celebrities, politicians, and students.

[**Note:** Select 2 answer choices]

Adecorous

Bmotley

Camiable

Diverse

Eabstemious

Findulgent

READING COMPREHENSION

QUESTION 1

Passage

From their earliest writings, the Euro–American colonists portrayed the native American women as overburdened drudges who performed masculine chores that exceeded their physical strength, suffered abuse by their husbands, and had no rights or privileges, while the native American men idled and routinely engaged in the frivolous diversions of hunting and fishing. Though this perception of stark disparity between the genders in the native American society has persisted for four hundred years, it was wrong.

The division of labor in the native American society was far more equitable and complementary than most Euro–Americans believed. While women were responsible for agriculture, childcare and household management, men performed the more physically arduous tasks like hunting, clearing forests to make new land fit for agriculture, making tools and weapons, and fighting wars. The work done by women was both socially and economically important, and therefore, rather than being a marker of their low social status, conferred prestige and respect upon them in the community.

Moreover, most native American tribes practiced matrilineal patterns of inheritance and were matrilineal, which meant that the husband moved into his wife's house upon marriage. The wife owned both the house and the agricultural land and tools, and she remained their sole proprietor upon marriage. If mistreated by her husband or loaded with unjust labor by him, a woman could easily divorce him or evict him from her house. While public roles and positions of authority were usually taken up by men, most men acted in consultation with their wives in important family and communal decisions. The marital relationship was often egalitarian.

The distorted picture of native American gender–relations that the Euro–Americans presented was a result of their ethnocentric biases. They viewed their own ethnic group as civilized, and therefore, believed that a civilized society was one in which men worked hard to provide sustenance for their families through economic activities like farming and trade, hunting and fishing were gentlemanly sports for the unproductive rich, and women occupied a "privileged" position in which they were exempt from hard physical labor and economic activities and had time for leisure pursuits. The perceived slothfulness of the native American men and the perceived drudgery of the native American women were, therefore, in stark contrast to the Euro–American ideals of civility – masculine diligence and feminine idleness. The Euro–Americans concluded that the native Americans were savage and contemptible. This perceived superiority of the Euro–American culture served to provide a moral justification for continued usurpation of native American land and destruction of native American society.

Sub-Question 1 of 7

In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with

A defending a stereotype of one ethnic group that was propagated by another ethnic group

B explaining how one ethnic group came to believe that another ethnic group represented the exact counter–images of its cultural ideals

C disproving a long–held belief that one ethnic group had about another ethnic group

D describing the ill–consequences of a mistaken perception that one ethnic group had formed of another ethnic group

E illustrating that an ethnic group might propagate lies about another ethnic group to serve its own selfish interests

Sub-Question 2 of 7

It can be inferred from the passage that the Euro-American colonists started to write about the native American society

- A before the sixteenth century
- B in the first half of the sixteenth century
- C in the second half of the sixteenth century
- D in the first half of the seventeenth century
- E in the second half of the seventeenth century

Sub-Question 3 of 7

It can be inferred from the passage that the Euro-American colonists described the work done by the native American women as "masculine chores" because

- A the native American women did not indulge in hunting and fishing, which were regarded to be idle pursuits
- B it was not the most prestigious or privileged work that was available in the native American society
- C the work done by the native American women required physical instead of mental effort
- D the Euro-Americans regarded farming to be a masculine activity
- E the native American women were physically stronger than the Euro-American women

Sub-Question 4 of 7

To support his argument that the social status of native American women was better than what most Euro-American colonists believed, the author of the passage uses each of the following EXCEPT

- A Their right to own property
- B Their right to initiate divorce
- C Fair division of work between the genders
- D Their ability to influence communal decisions

E Their exemption from economic activities

Sub-Question 5 of 7

In the context in which it appears, the word 'savage' most nearly means

A ruthless

B bad-mannered

C indolent

D overburdened

E crude

Sub-Question 7 of 7

Which of the following best describes the function of the last sentence of the passage ("This perceived ... society.") in the context of the passage as a whole?

A To describe how the Euro-Americans suffered due to their mistaken perception of native American gender-relations

B To imply that the Euro-American culture was not actually superior to the native American culture

C To suggest that the Euro-Americans' beliefs about the native American culture assisted their imperialist expansion in America

D To caution present-day Euro-Americans against the formation of ethnic stereotypes under the influence of ethnocentric biases

E To describe the measures taken by the Euro-American colonists to civilize the native American society