SAT PRACTICE PAPER

MATHS

1. The function f is defined by $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{5}{4}x + \frac{3}{2}$ for $-2 \le x \le 3$.
   What is the difference between the maximum and minimum values of f?

   a. 1.04
   b. 2.05
   c. 2.91
   d. 3.07
   e. 5.00

2. Suppose the graph of $f(x) = -x^2$ is translated 3 units left and 1 unit up. If the resulting graph represents $g(x)$, what is the value of $g(-1.6)$?

   a. 2.96
   b. -0.96
   c. -1.56
   d. -1.96
   e. -2.56

3. A sequence is recursively defined by $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2}$, for $n > 2$. If $a_1 = 0$ and $a_2 = 1$, what is the value of a_6?

   a. 5
   b. 8
   c. 11
   d. 13
   e. 21

4. The diameter and height of a right circular cylinder are equal. If the volume of the cylinder is 2, what is the height of the cylinder?

   a. 1.37
   b. 1.08
   c. 0.86

d. 0.80
e. 0.68

5. If $\sin\theta = 0.57$, then $\sin(\pi-\theta) = $?
   a. -0.57
   b. -0.43
   c. 0
   d. 0.43
   e. 0.57

6. A line has parametric equations $x = 5+t$ and $y = 7+t$, where t is the parameter. The slope of the line is

a. $\dfrac{5}{7}$
b. 1
c. $\dfrac{7+t}{5+t}$
d. $\dfrac{7}{5}$
e. 7

7. What is the range of the function defined by $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{x} + 2$?

   A All real numbers

   B All real numbers except $-\dfrac{1}{2}$

   C All real numbers except 0

   D All real numbers except 2

E All real numbers between 2 and 3

8.

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
MODEL X	20	18	3
MODEL Y	16	5	8
MODEL Z	19	11	10

The table above shows the number of digital cameras that were sold during a three-day sale. The prices of models X, Y, and Z were $\$99$, $\$199$, and $\$299$, respectively. Which of the following matrix representations gives the total income, in dollars, received from the sale of the cameras for each of the three days?
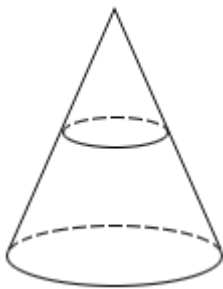
A. $\begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 99 & 199 & 299 \end{bmatrix}$

B. $\begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 99 \\ 199 \\ 299 \end{bmatrix}$

C.

$$[99 \ 199 \ 299] \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

D.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 99 \\ 199 \\ 299 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

E.

$$99 \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix} + 199 \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix} + 299 \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 18 & 3 \\ 16 & 5 & 8 \\ 19 & 11 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$
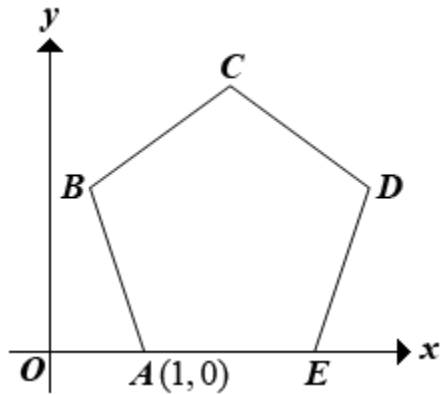

9.

The right circular cone above is sliced horizontally forming two pieces, each of which has the same height. What is the ratio of the volume of the smaller piece to the volume of the larger piece?

a. ½

b. ⅓

c. ⅙

d. 1/7

e. ⅛

10.

In the figure above, $ABCDE$ is a regular pentagon with side of length 2. What is the x-coordinate of D ?

    a. 2.62
    b. 3.62
    c. 3.73
    d. 3.90
    e. 4.90

11. For a class test, the mean score was 65, the median score was 71, and the standard deviation of the scores was 7. The teacher decided to add 5 points to each score due to a grading error. Which of the following statements must be true for the new scores?

I.	The new mean score is 70.

II.	The new median score is 76.
III.	The new standard deviation of the scores is 12.

    a. None

    b. I only

    c. II only

    d. I and II only

    e. I,II, and III

12. A game has two spinners. For the first spinner, the probability of landing on blue is $\frac{4}{5}$. Independently, for the second spinner, the probability of landing on blue is $\frac{1}{7}$ What is the probability that the first spinner lands on blue and the second spinner does **not** land on blue?

    a. 1/35

    b. 4/35

    c. 6/35

    d. 11/35

    e. 24/35

13. In January 1990 the world's population was 5.3 billion. Assuming a growth rate of 2 percent per year, the world's population, in billions, for t years after 1990 can be modeled by the equation $P = 5.3(1.02)^t$. According to the model, the population growth from January 1995 to January 1996 was

   a. 106,000,000
   b. 114,700,000
   c. 117,000,000
   d. 445,600,000
   e. 562,700,000

14. What is the measure of one of the larger angles of a parallelogram in the $xy-\text{plane}$ that has vertices with coordinates $(2,1)$, $(5,1)$, $(3,5)$ and $(6,5)$?

   a. $93.4°$
   b. $96.8°$
   c. $104.0°$
   d. $108.3°$
   e. $119.0°$

15. For some real number t, the first three terms of an arithmetic sequence are $2t$, $5t-1$, and $6t+2$. What is the numerical value of the fourth term?

   a. 4

b. 8

c. 10

d. 16

e. 19

16. In a group of 10 people, 60 percent have brown eyes. Two people are to be selected at random from the group. What is the probability that <u>neither</u> person selected will have brown eyes?

a. 0.13

b. 0.16

c. 0.25

d. 0.36

e. 0.64

17. If $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x^3 + 1}$, what is $f^{-1}(1.5)$?

a. 3.4

b. 2.4

c. 1.6

d. 1.5

e. 1.3

18.

x	-9.8	-0.9	5.2	8.8
y	0.12	2.43	18.46	68.4

Which of the following equations best models the data in the table above?

a. $y = -3.3(1.4)^x$

b. $y = -1.4(3.3)^x$

c. $y = 1.4(3.3)^x$

d. $y = 3.3(1.4)^x$

e. $y = 1.4x^{3.3}$

19.
$$C = -1.02F + 93.63$$

The linear regression model above is based on an analysis of nutritional data from 14 varieties of cereal bars to relate the percent of calories from fat (F) to the percent of calories from carbohydrates (C). Based on this model, which of the following statements must be true?

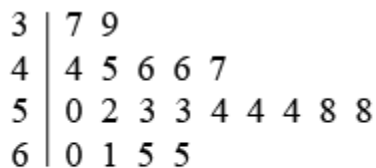| I.	There is a positive correlation between C and F.
II.	When 20 percent of calories are from fat, the predicted percent of calories from carbohydrates is approximately 73.
III.	The slope indicates that as F increases by 1, C decreases by 1.02.

A II only
B I and II only
C I and III only
D II and III only
E I, II, and III

20. The number of hours of daylight, d, in Hartsville can be modeled by

$$d = \frac{35}{3} + \frac{7}{3}\sin(\frac{2\pi}{365}t)$$

, where t is the number of days after March 21. The day with the greatest number of hours of daylight has how many _more_ daylight hours than May 1? (March and May have 31 days each. April and June have 30 days each.)

    a. 0.8 hr
    b. 1.5 hr
    c. 2.3 hr
    d. 3.0 hr
    e. 4.7 hr

21.

```
3 | 7 9
4 | 4 5 6 6 7
5 | 0 2 3 3 4 4 4 8 8
6 | 0 1 5 5
```

3 | 7 = 37 inches

The stem-and-leaf plot above gives the height, in inches, of evergreens in a nursery. What percent of the evergreens are over 55 inches tall?
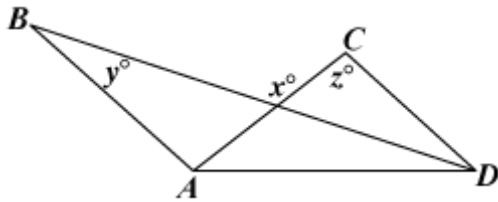
    a. 20%
    b. 25%
    c. 30%
    d. 40%
    e. 70%

22. A band wants to distribute its music on compact discs (CDs). The equipment to produce the CDs costs $250, and blank CDs cost $5.90 for a package of 10. Which of the following represents the total cost, in dollars, to produce n CDs, where n is a multiple of 10?

    a. $(250+0.59)n$

b. $250 + 0.59n$

c. $(250 + 5.90)n$

d. $250 + 5.90n$

e. $250n + 5.90$

23.

In the figure above $\overline{AB}$ and $\overline{CD}$ are parallel. What is x in terms of y and z?

A
$y + z$

B
$2y + z$

C
$2y - z$

D
$180 - y - z$

E
$180 + y - z$

24. A number n is increased by 8. If the cube root of that result equals -0.5, what is the value of n?

A
-15.625

B
-8.794

C
-8.125

D
−7.875

E
421.875

25.

Tickets for a show cost $3 or $5. If 50 tickets were sold for a total of $230, how many tickets were sold for $3?

A
10

B
20

C
25

D
30

E
40

Reading

Questions 1-5 are based on the following passage.
This passage is adapted from Edith Wharton, Ethan Frome, originally published in 1911. Mattie Silver is Ethan's household employee.
Line Mattie Silver had lived under Ethan's roof for a year, and from early morning till they met at supper he had frequent chances of seeing her; but no moments in her company were comparable to those when, her arm in his, and her light step flying to keep time with his long stride, they walked back
5 through the night to the farm. He had taken to the girl from the first day, when he had driven over to the Flats to meet her, and she had smiled and waved to him from the train, crying out, "You must be Ethan!" as she jumped down with her bundles, while he reflected, looking over her slight person: "She doesn't look much on housework, but she ain't a fretter, anyhow." But it was not only that
10 the coming to his house of a hopeful young life was like the lighting of a fire on a cold hearth. The girl was more than the bright serviceable creature he had thought of her. She had an eye to see and an ear to hear: he could show her things and tell her things,

and taste the bliss of feeling that all he imparted left long reverberations and echoes he could wake at will.

15 It was during their night walks back to the farm that he felt most intensely the sweetness of this communion. He had always been more sensitive than the people about him to the appeal of natural beauty. His unfinished studies had given form to this sensibility and even in his unhappiest moments field and sky spoke to him with a deep and powerful persuasion. But hitherto the

20 emotion had remained in him as a silent ache, veiling with sadness the beauty that evoked it. He did not even know whether any one else in the world felt as he did, or whether he was the sole victim of this mournful privilege. Then he learned that one other spirit had trembled with the same touch of wonder: that at his side, living under his roof and eating his bread, was a

25 creature to whom he could say: "That's Orion down yonder; the big fellow to the right is Aldebaran, and the bunch of little ones—like bees swarming—they're the Pleiades..." or whom he could hold entranced before a ledge of granite thrusting up through the fern while he unrolled the huge panorama of the ice age, and the long dim stretches of succeeding time. The fact that

30 admiration for his learning mingled with Mattie's wonder at what he taught was not the least part of his pleasure. And there were other sensations, less definable but more exquisite, which drew them together with a shock of silent joy: the cold red of sunset behind winter hills, the flight of cloud-flocks over slopes of golden stubble, or the intensely blue shadows of hemlocks on sunlit

35 snow. When she said to him once: "It looks just as if it was painted!" it seemed to Ethan that the art of definition could go no farther, and that words had at last been found to utter his secret soul....

As he stood in the darkness outside the church these memories came back with the poignancy of vanished things. Watching Mattie whirl down the floor

40 from hand to hand he wondered how he could ever have thought that his dull talk interested her. To him, who was never gay but in her presence, her gaiety seemed plain proof of indifference. The face she lifted to her dancers was the same which, when she saw him, always looked like a window that had caught the sunset. He even noticed two or three gestures which, in his fatuity, he had

45 thought she kept for him: a way of throwing her head back when she was amused, as if to taste her laugh before she let it out, and a trick of sinking her lids slowly when anything charmed or moved her.

Select an Answer

Question -1
Over the course of the passage, the main focus of the narrative shifts from the

A
reservations a character has about a person he has just met to a growing appreciation that character has of the person's worth.

B
ambivalence a character feels about his sensitive nature to the character's recognition of the advantages of having profound emotions.

C
intensity of feeling a character has for another person to the character's concern that that intensity is not reciprocated.

D
value a character attaches to the wonders of the natural world to a rejection of that sort of beauty in favor of human artistry.

Question -2
In the context of the passage, the author's use of the phrase "her light step flying to keep time with his long stride" (line 4) is primarily meant to convey the idea that

A
Ethan and Mattie share a powerful enthusiasm.

B
Mattie strives to match the speed at which Ethan works.

C
Mattie and Ethan playfully compete with each other.

D
Ethan walks at a pace that frustrates Mattie.

Question -3
The description in the first paragraph indicates that what Ethan values most about Mattie is her

A
fitness for farm labor.

B
vivacious youth.

C
receptive nature.

D
freedom from worry.

Question -4
Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

A
Lines 1–5 ("Mattie...farm")

B

Lines 5–9 ("He had...anyhow")

C

Lines 9–11 ("But it...hearth")

D

Lines 12–14 ("She had...will")

Question -5

The author includes the descriptions of the sunset, the clouds, and the hemlock shadows (lines 33–35) primarily to

A

suggest the peacefulness of the natural world.

B

emphasize the acuteness of two characters' sensations.

C

foreshadow the declining fortunes of two characters.

D

offer a sense of how fleeting time can be.

Writing language

Questions 1-11 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

A Life in Traffic

A subway system is expanded to provide service to a growing suburb. A bike-sharing program is adopted to encourage nonmotorized transportation. **1** To alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area, stoplight timing is coordinated. When any one of these changes **2** occur, it is likely the result of careful analysis conducted by transportation planners.
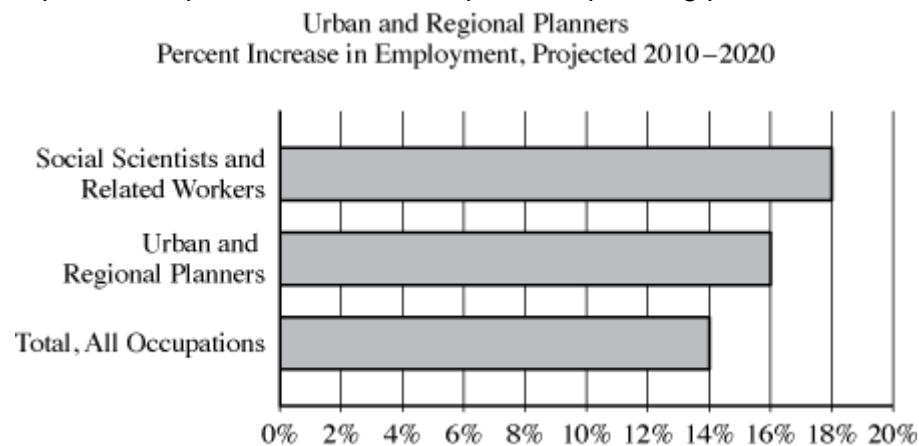
The work of transportation planners generally includes evaluating current transportation needs, assessing the effectiveness of existing facilities, and improving those facilities or **3** they design new ones. Most transportation planners work in or near cities, **4** but some are employed in rural areas. Say, for example, a large factory is built on the outskirts of a small town. Traffic to and from that location would increase at the beginning and end of work shifts. The transportation **5** planner's job might involve conducting a traffic count to determine the daily number of vehicles traveling on the road to the new factory. If analysis of the traffic count indicates that there is more traffic than the **6** current roads as it is designed at this time can efficiently accommodate, the transportation planner might recommend widening the road to add another lane.

Transportation planners work closely with a number of community stakeholders, such as government officials and other interested organizations and individuals. **7** Next, representatives from the local public health department might provide input in designing a network of trails and sidewalks to encourage people to walk more. **8** According to the American Heart Association,

walking provides numerous benefits related to health and well-being. Members of the Chamber of Commerce might share suggestions about designing transportation and parking facilities to support local businesses.

9 People who pursue careers in transportation planning have a wide variety of educational backgrounds. A two-year degree in transportation technology may be sufficient for some entry-level jobs in the field. Most jobs, however, require at least a bachelor's degree; majors of transportation planners are **10** varied, including fields such as urban studies, civil engineering, geography, or transportation and logistics management. For many positions in the field, a master's degree is required.

Transportation planners perform critical work within the broader field of urban and regional planning. As of 2010, there were approximately 40,300 urban and regional planners employed in the United States. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts steady job growth in this field, **11** projecting that 16 percent of new jobs in all occupations will be related to urban and regional planning. Population growth and concerns about environmental sustainability are expected to spur the need for transportation planning professionals.

Urban and Regional Planners
Percent Increase in Employment, Projected 2010–2020

	0%	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%	14%	16%	18%	20%
Social Scientists and Related Workers										18%	
Urban and Regional Planners									16%		
Total, All Occupations								14%			

Select an Answer

Question -1 read passage
Which choice best maintains the sentence pattern already established in the paragraph?

A
NO CHANGE

B
Coordinating stoplight timing can help alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area.

C
Stoplight timing is coordinated to alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area.

D
In a congested downtown area, stoplight timing is coordinated to alleviate rush hour traffic jams.

Question -2 read passage
A
NO CHANGE

B
occur, they are
C
occurs, they are
D
occurs, it is

Question -3 read passage

A
NO CHANGE
B
to design
C
designing
D
design

Question -4 read passage

Which choice results in the most effective transition to the information that follows in the paragraph?
A
NO CHANGE
B
where job opportunities are more plentiful.
C
and the majority are employed by government agencies.
D
DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.

Question - 5 read passage

A
NO CHANGE
B
planner's job
C
planners job,
D
planners job

Question -6 read passage

A
NO CHANGE
B
current design of the road right now
C
road as it is now currently designed
D
current design of the road

Question -7 read passage

A
NO CHANGE
B
For instance,
C
Furthermore,
D
Similarly,

Question -8 read passage

A
Kept, because it provides supporting evidence about the benefits of walking.
B
Kept, because it provides an additional example of a community stakeholder with whom transportation planners work.
C
Deleted, because it blurs the paragraph's focus on the community stakeholders with whom transportation planners work.
D
Deleted, because it doesn't provide specific examples of what the numerous benefits of walking are.

Question -9 read passage

A
NO CHANGE
B
People, who pursue careers in transportation planning,
C
People who pursue careers, in transportation planning,
D
People who pursue careers in transportation planning,

Question -10 read passage

A
NO CHANGE
B
varied, and including
C
varied and which include
D
varied, which include

Question -11 read passage

Which choice completes the sentence with accurate data based on the graph?
A
NO CHANGE
B
warning, however, that job growth in urban and regional planning will slow to 14 percent by 2020.
C
predicting that employment of urban and regional planners will increase 16 percent between 2010 and 2020.
D
indicating that 14 to 18 percent of urban and regional planning positions will remain unfilled.

Essay

Prompt-1

As you read the passage below, consider how Paul Bogard uses
- evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
- reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
- stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.

At my family's cabin on a Minnesota lake, I knew woods so dark that my hands disappeared before my eyes. I knew night skies in which meteors left smoky trails across sugary spreads of

stars. But now, when 8 of 10 children born in the United States will never know a sky dark enough for the Milky Way, I worry we are rapidly losing night's natural darkness before realizing its worth. This winter solstice, as we cheer the days' gradual movement back toward light, let us also remember the irreplaceable value of darkness.

All life evolved to the steady rhythm of bright days and dark nights. Today, though, when we feel the closeness of nightfall, we reach quickly for a light switch. And too little darkness, meaning too much artificial light at night, spells trouble for all.

Already the World Health Organization classifies working the night shift as a probable human carcinogen, and the American Medical Association has voiced its unanimous support for "light pollution reduction efforts and glare reduction efforts at both the national and state levels." Our bodies need darkness to produce the hormone melatonin, which keeps certain cancers from developing, and our bodies need darkness for sleep. Sleep disorders have been linked to diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease and depression, and recent research suggests one main cause of "short sleep" is "long light." Whether we work at night or simply take our tablets, notebooks and smartphones to bed, there isn't a place for this much artificial light in our lives.

The rest of the world depends on darkness as well, including nocturnal and crepuscular species of birds, insects, mammals, fish and reptiles. Some examples are well known—the 400 species of birds that migrate at night in North America, the sea turtles that come ashore to lay their eggs—and some are not, such as the bats that save American farmers billions in pest control and the moths that pollinate 80% of the world's flora. Ecological light pollution is like the bulldozer of the night, wrecking habitat and disrupting ecosystems several billion years in the making. Simply put, without darkness, Earth's ecology would collapse....

In today's crowded, louder, more fast-paced world, night's darkness can provide solitude, quiet and stillness, qualities increasingly in short supply. Every religious tradition has considered darkness invaluable for a soulful life, and the chance to witness the universe has inspired artists, philosophers and everyday stargazers since time began. In a world awash with electric light...how would Van Gogh have given the world his "Starry Night"? Who knows what this vision of the night sky might inspire in each of us, in our children or grandchildren?

Yet all over the world, our nights are growing brighter. In the United States and Western Europe, the amount of light in the sky increases an average of about 6% every year. Computer images of the United States at night, based on NASA photographs, show that what was a very dark country as recently as the 1950s is now nearly covered with a blanket of light. Much of this light is wasted energy, which means wasted dollars. Those of us over 35 are perhaps among the last generation to have known truly dark nights. Even the northern lake where I was lucky to spend my summers has seen its darkness diminish.

It doesn't have to be this way. Light pollution is readily within our ability to solve, using new lighting technologies and shielding existing lights. Already, many cities and towns across North America and Europe are changing to LED streetlights, which offer dramatic possibilities for controlling wasted light. Other communities are finding success with simply turning off portions of their public lighting after midnight. Even Paris, the famed "city of light," which already turns off its monument lighting after 1 a.m., will this summer start to require its shops, offices and public buildings to turn off lights after 2 a.m. Though primarily designed to save energy, such reductions in light will also go far in addressing light pollution. But we will never truly address the

problem of light pollution until we become aware of the irreplaceable value and beauty of the darkness we are losing.

Write an essay in which you explain how Paul Bogard builds an argument to persuade his audience that natural darkness should be preserved. In your essay, analyze how Bogard uses one or more of the features in the directions that precede the passage (or features of your own choice) to strengthen the logic and persuasiveness of his argument. Be sure that your analysis focuses on the most relevant features of the passage.

Your essay should not explain whether you agree with Bogard's claims, but rather explain how Bogard builds an argument to persuade his audience.

Prompt-2

As you read the passage below, consider how Dana Gioia uses
- evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
- reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
- stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.

Adapted from Dana Gioia, "Why Literature Matters" ©2005 by The New York Times Company. Originally published April 10, 2005.

[A] strange thing has happened in the American arts during the past quarter century. While income rose to unforeseen levels, college attendance ballooned, and access to information increased enormously, the interest young Americans showed in the arts—and especially literature—actually diminished.

According to the 2002 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, a population study designed and commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts (and executed by the US Bureau of the Census), arts participation by Americans has declined for eight of the nine major forms that are measured....The declines have been most severe among younger adults (ages 18–24). The most worrisome finding in the 2002 study, however, is the declining percentage of Americans, especially young adults, reading literature.

That individuals at a time of crucial intellectual and emotional development bypass the joys and challenges of literature is a troubling trend. If it were true that they substituted histories, biographies, or political works for literature, one might not worry. But book reading of any kind is falling as well.

That such a longstanding and fundamental cultural activity should slip so swiftly, especially among young adults, signifies deep transformations in contemporary life. To call attention to the trend, the Arts Endowment issued the reading portion of the Survey as a separate report, "Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America."

The decline in reading has consequences that go beyond literature. The significance of reading has become a persistent theme in the business world. The February issue of Wired magazine, for example, sketches a new set of mental skills and habits proper to the 21st century, aptitudes

decidedly literary in character: not "linear, logical, analytical talents," author Daniel Pink states, but "the ability to create artistic and emotional beauty, to detect patterns and opportunities, to craft a satisfying narrative." When asked what kind of talents they like to see in management positions, business leaders consistently set imagination, creativity, and higher-order thinking at the top.

Ironically, the value of reading and the intellectual faculties that it inculcates appear most clearly as active and engaged literacy declines. There is now a growing awareness of the consequences of nonreading to the workplace. In 2001 the National Association of Manufacturers polled its members on skill deficiencies among employees. Among hourly workers, poor reading skills ranked second, and 38 percent of employers complained that local schools inadequately taught reading comprehension.

The decline of reading is also taking its toll in the civic sphere....A 2003 study of 15- to 26-year-olds' civic knowledge by the National Conference of State Legislatures concluded, "Young people do not understand the ideals of citizenship… and their appreciation and support of American democracy is limited."

It is probably no surprise that declining rates of literary reading coincide with declining levels of historical and political awareness among young people. One of the surprising findings of "Reading at Risk" was that literary readers are markedly more civically engaged than nonreaders, scoring two to four times more likely to perform charity work, visit a museum, or attend a sporting event. One reason for their higher social and cultural interactions may lie in the kind of civic and historical knowledge that comes with literary reading....

The evidence of literature's importance to civic, personal, and economic health is too strong to ignore. The decline of literary reading foreshadows serious long-term social and economic problems, and it is time to bring literature and the other arts into discussions of public policy. Libraries, schools, and public agencies do noble work, but addressing the reading issue will require the leadership of politicians and the business community as well....

Reading is not a timeless, universal capability. Advanced literacy is a specific intellectual skill and social habit that depends on a great many educational, cultural, and economic factors. As more Americans lose this capability, our nation becomes less informed, active, and independent-minded. These are not the qualities that a free, innovative, or productive society can afford to lose.

Write an essay in which you explain how Dana Gioia builds an argument to persuade his audience that the decline of reading in America will have a negative effect on society. In your essay, analyze how Gioia uses one or more of the features in the directions that precede the passage (or features of your own choice) to strengthen the logic and persuasiveness of his argument. Be sure that your analysis focuses on the most relevant features of the passage. Your essay should not explain whether you agree with Gioia's claims, but rather explain how Gioia builds an argument to persuade his audience.