

GRE VERBAL PRACTICE PAPER

Question 1

For questions 1 and 2, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.

Question

Julie and Katie were not being _____ with the other guests because they were too busy making long conversations with their other friends.

loquacious

untalkative

quiet

tight-lipped

inarticulate

Question 2

For questions 1 and 2, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.

Question

When I asked Rachel if the suit looks good on me, she _____ a response, avoiding the question by saying she needed it to be somewhere else.

confronted

equivocated

demonstrated



evinced



represented

Question 3

For questions 3 and 4, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.

Question

Though Sarah's husband is an _____ person who often beats her for _____ reasons, she has always tried to be nice to him.

Blank (1)



inimical



amiable



advantageous

Blank (2)



trivial



momentous



gargantuan

Question 4

PREV NEXT

For questions 3 and 4, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.

Question

The new technology has _____ great hope for the potential development of preventive methods for _____ genetic and severe chronic diseases such as glaucoma and cancer.

Blank (1)

destroyed

engendered

halted

Blank (2)

nontoxic

lethal

life-giving

Question 5

For questions 5 and 6, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.

Question

The _____ question is: Now what? If Trump had an iota of _____, he would resign - but he doesn't, and prevailing Justice Department guidelines hold that a president can't be indicted while in office. So the _____ is on Congress to act.

Blank (1)

inevitable

fortuitous

equivocal

Blank (2)

decency

discourtesy

vulgarity

Blank (3)

onus

forfeit

impunity

Question 6

For questions 5 and 6, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.

Question

A late and _____ tradition asserts that the family name became so discredited owing to the _____ conduct of John and Edward Baliol that it was _____ by its owners in favour of the form Baillie.

Blank (1)

dubious

unambiguous

probable

Blank (2)

stalwart

pusillanimous

gallant

Blank (3)

rescued

inhabited

abandoned

Question 7

PREV NEXT

Questions 7 and 8 are based on the following reading passage.

(1) William Le Baron Jenney is considered the founder of the Chicago School of architecture, as well as the father of the American skyscraper. He served as an engineering officer during the Civil War but by 1868 was a practicing architect. His greatest accomplishments were his mammoth commercial buildings, including the Home Insurance Building in Chicago, which was one of the first buildings to use a metal skeleton.

(2) This structure, in fact, would become the archetypical American skyscraper design. Other notable accomplishments included his 16-story Manhattan Building, which was the first edifice ever to achieve that height, and the Horticultural Building, which was the largest botanical conservatory ever erected.

(3) William Holabird also assisted in the evolution of the Chicago School, beginning as a draftsman for Jenney and then founding his own practice in 1880. Holabird invented the "Chicago window," which made buildings appear to be constructed of glass.

Question

Consider each of the following answer choices separately and select all that apply. According to the passage, which of the following describe William Jenney

He served as an architect during the Civil War.

He is credited with the development of a much-copied design for skyscrapers.

He designed buildings in New York, as well as Chicago.

Question 8

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(2) This structure, in fact, would become the archetypical American skyscraper design. Other notable accomplishments included his 16-story Manhattan Building, which was the first edifice ever to achieve that height, and the Horticultural Building, which was the largest botanical conservatory ever erected.

(3) William Holabird also assisted in the evolution of the Chicago School, beginning as a draftsman for Jenney and then founding his own practice in 1880. Holabird invented the "Chicago window," which made buildings appear to be constructed of glass.

Question

The author mentions the "Chicago window" in order to

- demonstrate the artistry of architecture
- highlight a feature of glass buildings
- provide an example of Holabird's contributions to the Chicago School

Question 9

Questions 9 to 11 are based on the following reading passage.

Of Homer's two epic poems, the *Odyssey* has always been more popular than the *Iliad*, perhaps because it includes more features of mythology that are accessible to readers. Its subject (to use Maynard Mack's categories) is "life-as-spectacle," for readers, diverted by its various incidents, observe its hero Odysseus primarily from without; the tragic *Iliad*, however, presents "life-as-experience": readers are asked to identify with the mind of Achilles, whose motivations render him a not particularly likable hero. In addition, the *Iliad*, more than the *Odyssey*, suggests the complexity of the gods' involvement in human actions, and to the extent that modern readers find this complexity a needless complication, the *Iliad* is less satisfying than the *Odyssey*, with its simpler 'scheme' of divine justice. Finally, since the *Iliad* presents a historically verifiable action, Troy's siege, the poem raises historical questions that are absent from the *Odyssey*'s blithely imaginative world.

Question

The passage is primarily concerned with

- resolving a dispute
- initiating a debate
- developing a contrast
- applying classifications
- distinguishing arguments

Question 10

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Question

The author uses Mack's "categories" (highlight text) most probably in order to

- argue that the *Iliad* should replace the *Odyssey* as the more popular poem
- indicate Mack's importance as a commentator on the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*
- suggest one way in which the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* can be distinguished
- point out some of the difficulties faced by readers of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*
- demonstrate that the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* can best be distinguished by comparing their respective heroes

Question 11

Questions 9 to 11 are based on the following reading passage.

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Question

It can be inferred from the passage that a reader of the *Iliad* is likely to have trouble identifying with the poem's hero for which of the following reasons?



The hero is eventually revealed to be unheroic.



The hero's psychology is not historically verifiable.



The hero's emotions often do not seem appealing to the reader.



The hero can be observed by the reader only from without.



The hero's emotions are not sufficiently various to engage the reader's attention.

Question 12

For questions 12 to 17, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

Question

Often, people suffering psychological disorders are considered by their families to be under the influence of _____ spirits, or showing sign of a physical affliction.



malign

- benevolent
- kind-hearted
- benign
- genial
- kind-hearted

Question 13

For questions 12 to 17, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

Question

Third world powers are hesitant about sending arms to aid the war, partially due to the _____ politics of the hostile political group abroad.

- agreeable
- fractious
- amicable
- docile
- accountable
- benign

Question 14

For questions 12 to 17, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

Question

Sam's dangerous and _____ escape, made her tremble; and so pale did he still look, that she could scarcely believe he was uninjured.

- disastrous
- inauspicious
- providential
- calamitous
- catastrophic
- catastrophic

For questions 12 to 17, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

Question

The heart of the ruthless monarch seems _____ to the plight of those people suffering in his kingdom.

- dispassionate
- biased
- prejudiced
- emotional
- passionate
- clairvoyant

Question 16
PREV NEXT

For questions 12 to 17, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

Question

Russia's public statement has been _____, menacing military action against the United States.

peaceful

warmhearted

conciliatory

appeasing

favorable

belligerent

Question 17

PREV NEXT

For questions 12 to 17, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

Question

During the recent riots, the crowd was _____ and went berserk as the police arrest their leader, washing away all that impeded it.

tumultuous

peaceful

harmonious

methodical

tranquil

Question 18
PREV NEXT

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the following reading passage.

(1) More selective than most chemical pesticides in that they ordinarily destroy only unwanted species, biocontrol agents (such as insects, fungi, and viruses) eat, infect, or parasitize targeted plant or animal pests. However, biocontrol agents can negatively affect nontarget species by, for example, competing with them for resources: a biocontrol agent might reduce the benefits conferred by a desirable animal species by consuming a plant on which the animal prefers to lay its eggs.

(2) Another example of indirect negative consequences occurred in England when a virus introduced to control rabbits reduced the amount of open ground (because large rabbit populations reduce the ground cover), in turn reducing underground ant nests and triggering the extinction of a blue butterfly that had depended on the nests to shelter its offspring. The paucity of known extinctions or disruptions resulting from indirect interactions may reflect not the infrequency of such mishaps but rather the failure to look for or to detect them: most organisms likely to be adversely affected by indirect interactions are of little or no known commercial value and the events linking a biocontrol agent with an adverse effect are often unclear. Moreover, determining the potential risks of biocontrol agents before they are used is difficult, especially when a nonnative agent is introduced, because, unlike a chemical pesticide, a biocontrol agent may adapt in unpredictable ways, so that it can feed on or otherwise harm new hosts.

Question

The passage suggests which of the following about the blue butterfly mentioned in the highlighted text?

The blue butterfly's survival was indirectly dependent on sustaining a rabbit population of a particular size.

The blue butterfly's survival was indirectly dependent on sustaining large amounts of vegetation in its habitat.

The blue butterfly's survival was threatened when the ants began preying on its offspring.

The blue butterfly was infected by the virus that had been intended to control rabbit populations.

The blue butterfly was adversely affected by a biocontrol agent that competed with it for resources.

Question 19
PREV NEXT

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the following reading passage.

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(2) Another example of indirect negative consequences occurred in England when a virus introduced to control rabbits reduced the amount of open ground (because large rabbit populations reduce the ground cover), in turn reducing underground ant nests and triggering the extinction of a blue butterfly that had depended on the nests to shelter its offspring. The paucity of known extinctions or disruptions resulting from indirect interactions may reflect not the infrequency of such mishaps but rather the failure to look for or to detect them: most organisms likely to be adversely affected by indirect interactions are of little or no known commercial value and the events linking a biocontrol agent with an adverse effect are often unclear. Moreover, determining the potential risks of biocontrol agents before they are used is difficult, especially when a nonnative agent is introduced, because, unlike a chemical pesticide, a biocontrol agent may adapt in unpredictable ways, so that it can feed on or otherwise harm new hosts.

Question

Which of the following is mentioned in the passage as an indirect effect of using a biocontrol agent?



Competition for resources with a largest species.



An unforeseen mutation in a target species



Reduction of the commercial value of a desirable animal species



Diminution of the positive effects conferred by a nontarget animal species.



An unintended proliferation of a nontarget animal species

Question 20

PREV

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the following reading passage.

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the benefits conferred by a desirable animal species by consuming a plant on which the animal prefers to lay its eggs.

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Question

According to the passage, which of the following is a concern that arises with biocontrol agents but not with chemical pesticides?

Biocontrol agents may change in unforeseen ways and thus be able to damage new hosts.

Biocontrol agents may be effective for only a short period of time.

Biocontrol agents are likely to destroy desirable species as well as undesirable ones.

Biocontrol agents are likely to have indirect as well as direct adverse effects on nontarget species.

Biocontrol agents may be ineffective in destroying targeted species.

Question 21

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. The _____ cat refused to walk around tamely on a leash, but the _____ dog not only heeled, but obeyed each of its master's commands obediently and never needed to be _____ for not listening.

- pernicious . . . prodigal . . . flouted
- truculent . . . complaisant . . . impeded
- credulous . . . insipid . . . aggrandized

- obstreperous . . . dogmatic . . . countenanced
- recalcitrant . . . tractable . . . admonished

Question 22

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. Romuald had wished to reform the _____ life at the old monastery. For years, the monks had been _____ regarding observation of their rule of life and had _____ many worldly customs.

- prayer . . . considerate . . . evaluated
- quotidian . . . negligent . . . adopted
- devotional . . . ecstatic . . . eschewed
- divine . . . considerate . . . spurned
- regular . . . zealous . . . embraced

Question 23

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. Her bedroom window was _____ by curtains, yet the material was so _____ that he could clearly see her form _____ by the setting sun.

- sequestered . . . evanescent . . . inured
- decorated . . . flimsy . . . shrouded
- revealed . . . substantial . . . silhouetted
- obscured . . . diaphanous . . . limned
- hidden . . . redolent . . . masked

Question 24

Choose the word or set of words that best completes the following sentence.

. He was _____ and never wasted words, but his sister was _____ and loved to _____ cheerfully to anyone about even the most inconsequential topics.

- enigmatic . . . ponderous . . . chatter

- terse . . . verbose . . . harangue
- lithe . . . boorish . . . lampoon
- hedonistic . . . ascetic . . . abstain
- laconic . . . loquacious . . . prattle

Question 25

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. The intern was _____ with stacks of paperwork that covered his entire desk on the first day of his new job, but luckily, he managed to sort through it by working _____ throughout the day and ignoring potential distractions, and _____ out of the office at the end of the day, tremendously proud of his clean desk.

- attenuated . . . perfidiously . . . vacillated
- inundated . . . assiduously . . . strutted
- overwhelmed . . . sedulously . . . burgeoned
- overrun . . . itinerantly . . . weltered
- palliated . . . solicitously . . . simpered

Question 26

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. The editor reduced the introduction from ten _____ pages to two _____ paragraphs by _____ all of the unnecessary verbal flourishes that riddled its sentences.

florid . . . trenchant . . . expiating
 immutable . . . intransigent . . . inhibiting
 tortuous . . . succinct . . . excising
 turgid . . . concise . . . qualifying
 officious . . . sedulous . . . bolstering

Question 27

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. The fashion show featured pieces inspired by _____ styles, and the models were _____ in pieces that _____ to Greek togas, knightly armor, and trailing dresses with underskirts and bustles.

- antiquated . . . arrayed . . . abated
- apocryphal . . . eulogized . . . impugned
- ancient . . . feigned . . . castigated
- banal . . . placated . . . appropriated
- archaic . . . garbed . . . alluded

Question 28

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

. The nanny _____ the little boy after she found him climbing _____ on a _____ balanced pile of boulders, completely unaware of the danger in which he was putting himself.

- castigated . . . resolutely . . . itinerantly
- harangued . . . perfidiously . . . intractably
- exhorted . . . sedulously . . . solicitously
- admonished . . . blithely . . . precariously
- excoriated . . . obliviously . . . propitiously