

For Teachers: Please read each dialogue to the student as well as the titles of the pieces. Do read the question, but do not read the answers to the question to the student. The answer choices are here for your review. Please have the student read the answer rather than merely saying the number. After each question, please wait for the student to answer the question before continuing.

Part 2 – Passages



LP1E 12-1

In this part, you will hear six passages, (A) through (F). Each passage will be followed by two questions, No. 13 through No. 24. For each question, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The passage and the questions will be given only once. Now, let's begin.

(A) Corn in Zambia

White corn is a staple food in Zambia, and it is the main ingredient in a favorite Zambian dish. However, white corn is low in vitamin A, a lack of which causes thousands of Zambian children to go blind each year. To help prevent this, Zambian researchers have developed a new variety of corn that is rich in vitamin A. Yields, water requirements, and seed costs for the new corn are the

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Questions

No. 13 What do we learn about the new corn?

No. 13

- 1 It needs less water than white corn*
- 2 It is more expensive than white corn*
- 3 It could improve the health of Zambian children.*
- 4 It immediately became popular with Zambian children.*

No. 14 What is one problem the Zambian government is facing?

No. 14

- 1 Marketing trials have not gone well.*
- 2 Zambians do not trust the government.*
- 3 There is little land available to grow the new corn.*
- 4 Zambians are used to the taste of the white corn.*

(B) The Value of Names

In U.S. schools, teachers usually line students up in alphabetical order by family name. A recent study by Kurt Carlson of Georgetown University in the U.S. suggests that this may have a greater effect than people realize. He says that kids who are always towards the back of the line grow up feeling they are at a disadvantage. He says this may influence their spending habits later in life. They are likely to find bargain sales hard to resist because they feel a need to take advantage of special offers they see.

Assuming the study's conclusion is correct, businesses promoting limited-time offers should first target people whose family names fall towards the end of the alphabet. Emphasizing that supplies are limited may also boost sales to these people. For the sake of fairness, though, perhaps educators should vary the order in which they make kids line up.

Questions:

No. 15 What did Kurt Carlson's study show?

No. 15

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- 1 Researchers conduct further studies.
- 2 Companies avoid limited-time offers.
- 3 **Teachers change the way they line children up.**
- 4 Shoppers consider their purchases more carefully.

(C) Studying Whales

A team of researchers from the University of Queensland in Australia has discovered that the songs of male humpback whales spread to neighboring humpback populations. The team found new songs that emerged in a population off the east coast of Australia spread eastward. These songs reached populations in French Polynesia around a year later. This is the first time such widespread cultural exchange has been shown in any species other than humans.

Many mysteries surround the songs of male humpbacks. Most scientists believe they are a mating behavior, but whether they are a warning to other males or a way to attract females is unknown. What *is* known is that once a new song

appears in a population, it quickly spreads to all males. Unfortunately, research on humpback whales is both difficult and expensive as they are too big to study in captivity.

Questions:

No. 17 What did the Australian researchers discover about male humpback whales?

No. 17

- 1 They stay with the same population for life.
- 2 **They pass songs from population to population.**
- 3 They migrate to French Polynesia each year.
- 4 They copy certain human behaviors.

No. 18 What restricts research on humpback whales?

No. 18

- 1 **They have to be studied in the wild.**

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their performance was outmatched by that of airplanes. When the Hindenburg, a massive German-made airship, exploded in front of the world's media in 1937, everyone assumed the passenger airships would disappear forever. However, thanks to recent improvements in safety and efficiency, some people believe airships could make a comeback.

Supporters say that airships release fewer greenhouse gases, are quieter, and cost less to run than airplanes. Moreover, they do not require expensive infrastructure such as runways. A number of factors, though, suggest it will not be easy for airships to regain their place in passenger air transport. One big drawback is capacity. Current airships can only carry about a dozen passengers. Future models could accommodate more, but nowhere near as many as airplanes.

Questions:

No. 19 What is one reason airships lost their popularity?

No. 19

- 1 *The cost of running them was too high.*

- 2 *They were too big to be practical.*
- 3 *The company that built them closed down.*
- 4 ***They could not compete with airplanes.***

No. 20 What do supporters of airships claim?

No. 20

- 1 *Airships can use the same fuel as airplanes.*
- 2 *Airships are more comfortable than airplanes.*
- 3 ***Airships cause less environmental damage than airplanes.***
- 4 *Airships can carry more passengers than airplanes.*

(E) Science Education in the U.S.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science recently concluded that school science teachers have been failing to teach scientific reasoning, an essential part of science education. The association believes teachers have been

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Questions:

No. 21 Why does the American Association for the Advancement of Science criticize science teachers?

No. 21

- 1 *They do not grade students strictly enough.*
- 2 ***They focus too much on teaching students facts.***
- 3 *Their knowledge of science is less than in the past.*
- 4 *Their teaching methods have made science unpopular.*

No. 22 What does the association say is true of American society today?

No. 22

- 1 *The media is covering more science issues.*
- 2 ***People believe scientifically unsupported arguments.***
- 3 *The public is demanding more debate on global warming.*
- 4 *People are unfamiliar with school curriculums.*

(F) The Changing Face of Crime

Most people find it easy to recognize faces but difficult to describe them accurately. This causes a problem for police when they use witnesses to create likenesses of criminals. Until now, the police have asked witnesses to describe individual features, such as the eyes or the nose. These are then fitted together to create a composite face. However, because people have difficulty remembering individual features, the likenesses are often poor. Recently, new software from the U.K. called EvoFIT has been achieving better results. EvoFIT first generates a random set of many different faces. From these, the witness then simply picks the faces that most resemble the criminals. Next, EvoFIT makes a new face by combining the faces chosen by the witness. It then adds small variations to produce a new set of faces. By repeating this process several times, a closer likeness can be achieved.

Questions:

No. 23 What has been the problem with creating likenesses until now?

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No. 24

- 1 *It creates faces using feedback from witnesses.*
- 2 *It contains a large database of convicted criminals.*
- 3 *It has been criticized in the U.K.*
- 4 *It needs improvements before it can be used.*