

---

**Read the statement or passage and then choose the best answer to the question. Answer the question based on what is stated or implied in the statement or passage.**

The woman who became famous and widely-quoted as Abigail Van Buren through her “Dear Abby” newspaper column was actually named Pauline Phillips. Phillips and twin sister Esther “Eppie” Lederer—better known as Ann Landers—were America’s leading newspaper advice columnists for more than fifty years. Lederer started writing in 1955, taking over a *Chicago Sun-Times* advice column called “Ann Landers.” Phillips soon followed in January 1956, writing the “Dear Abby” column for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. In a time before Oprah Winfrey and the intrusive world of the Internet, the sisters’ columns provided a glimpse into Americans’ private lives and a forum for discussing relationships, children and the rapidly changing values of the 1950s, ’60s and ’70s.

1. The author mentions Oprah Winfrey most probably as an example of
  - A. a celebrity written about by gossip columnists
  - B. someone who brought certain formerly private topics into the open
  - C. someone who helped bring Internet news into the mainstream
  - D. a famous woman who was influenced by Phillips and Lederer

***In this passage from a novel, the narrator recalls a man who played an important role in his life during his childhood in South India.***

One of my father’s earliest business contacts was Francis Adirubasamy. He became a good friend of the family. I called him Mamaji, *mama* being the Tamil word for *uncle* and *ji* being a suffix used in India to indicate respect and affection. When he was a young man, long before I was born, Mamaji was a champion competitive swimmer, the champion of all South India. He looked the part his whole life. My brother Ravi once told me that when Mamaji was born he didn’t want to give up on breathing water and so the doctor, to save his life, had to take him by the feet and swing him above his head round and round.

“It did the trick!” said Ravi, wildly spinning his hand above his head. “He coughed out water and started breathing air, but it forced all his flesh and blood to his upper body. That’s why his chest is so thick and his legs are so skinny.”

I believed him. (Ravi was a merciless teaser. The first time he called Mamaji “Mr. Fish” to my face I left a banana peel in his bed.) Even in his sixties, when he was a little stooped and a lifetime of counter-obstetric gravity had begun to nudge his flesh downwards, Mamaji swam thirty lengths every morning at the pool of the Aurobindo Ashram.

He tried to teach my parents to swim, but he never got them to go beyond wading up to their knees at the beach and making ludicrous round motions with their arms, which, if they were practicing the breaststroke, made them look as if they were walking through a jungle, spreading the tall grass ahead of them, or, if it was the front crawl, as if they were running down a hill and flailing their arms so as not to fall. Ravi was just as unenthusiastic.

Mamaji had to wait until I came into the picture to find a willing disciple. The day I came of swimming age, which, to Mother's distress, Mamaji claimed was seven, he brought me down to the beach, spread his arms seaward and said, "This is my gift to you."

2. The narrator indicates that the name "Mamaji" is intended to be
  - A. Ridiculous and amusing
  - B. Unusual and impressive
  - C. Rude and dismissive
  - D. Fond and Respectful
  
3. Which of the following best characterizes Mother's attitude toward swimming?
  - A. Wholehearted excitement and devotion
  - B. Lack of interest for herself and fear for her son
  - C. Enthusiasm for her family but fear for herself
  - D. Contempt worsened by Mr. Adirubasamy's actions
  
4. The passage is best described as
  - A. An impersonal account
  - B. A wistful recollection
  - C. A character sketch
  - D. A record of an event

American copyright laws, laws that prohibit the use, distribution, or adaptation of another's product without permission, first applied only to the copying of books, but now cover such diverse products as sound recordings, motion pictures, and computer programs. The federal Copyright Act of 1790 allowed copyright protection for 14 years with one 14-year extension allowed (if the author survived the first 14-year term). The Copyright Act of 1909 extended copyright protection to 28 years with a 28-year renewal, and the Copyright Act of 1976 extended it further, to 75 years.

5. Which best describes the main idea of the passage?
- A. Copyright protections have been extended over time.
  - B. Copyright laws have been upheld despite repeated challenges.
  - C. Copyright protections have been weakened in recent years.
  - D. Copyright laws are now more than necessary than ever before.

***In this passage from a novel, two young women visit a bookshop in the fictional town of Brahmpur, India.***

The Imperial Book Depot was one of the two best bookshops in town, and was located on Nabiganj, the fashionable street that was the last bulwark of modernity before the labyrinthine alleys and ancient, cluttered neighbourhoods of Old Brahmpur. Though it was a couple of miles away from the university proper it had a greater following among students and teachers than the University and Allied Bookshop, which was just a few minutes away from campus. The Imperial Book Depot was run by two brothers, Yashwant and Balwant, both almost illiterate in English, but both (despite their prosperous roundness) so energetic and entrepreneurial that it apparently made no difference. They had the best stock in town, and were extremely helpful to their customers. If a book was not available in the shop, they asked the customer himself to write down its name on the appropriate order form.

Twice a week an impoverished university student was paid to sort new arrivals onto the designated shelves. And since the bookshop prided itself on its academic as well as general stock, the proprietors unashamedly collared university teachers who wandered in to browse, sat them down with a cup of tea and a couple of publishers' lists, and made them tick off titles that they thought the bookshop should consider ordering. These teachers were happy to ensure that books they needed for their courses would be readily available to their students. Many of them resented the University and Allied Bookshop for its entrenched, lethargic, unresponsive and high-handed ways.

After classes, Lata and Malati, both dressed casually in their usual salwaar-kameez\*, went to Nabiganj to wander around and have a cup of coffee at the Blue Danube coffee house. This activity, known to university students as "ganjing," they could afford to indulge in about once a week. As they passed the Imperial book Depot, they were drawn magnetically in. Each wandered off to her favourite shelves and subjects. Malati headed straight for the novels, Lata went for poetry. On the way, however, she paused by the science shelves, not because she understood much science, but, rather, because she did not. Whenever she opened a scientific book and saw whole paragraphs of incomprehensible words and symbols, she felt a sense of wonder at the great territories of learning that lay beyond her – the sum of so many noble and purposive attempts to make objective sense of the world. She enjoyed the feeling; it suited her serious moods; and this afternoon she was feeling serious.

*\*A salwaar-kameez is a traditional Indian garment.*

6. The first paragraph suggests which of the following about the relationship between university students and teachers and the Imperial Book Depot?
  - A. University people avoid Yashwant and Balwant because the two do not speak English well.
  - B. Students will soon start buying their books from a newer and more modern bookshop.
  - C. Both students and teachers prefer the Imperial Book Depot to the bookshops closer to campus.
  - D. Teachers dislike using complicated handwritten forms to order books for their classes.
  
7. In the second paragraph, the narrator indicates which of the following about Imperial Book Depot business practices?
  - A. The staff acquire only those books that are most in demand.
  - B. The clerks prefer to help people find nonacademic books and magazines.
  - C. The owners employ students and rely on teachers for information.
  - D. Staff members are generally lazy and take too many breaks for tea.
  
8. The third paragraph suggests that Lata regards science as
  - A. a topic that is less engaging than fiction
  - B. an interest that is not worth pursuing
  - C. a simple but appealing field of study
  - D. an unfamiliar but intriguing subject

Feudalism was a type of social system that existed in parts of Europe during the Middle Ages. Essentially, there were several different classes within a feudal society. The king controlled all of the land in his jurisdiction. He divided this land among a few barons. The barons then divided up the land they were given and distributed it to knights. It was then split up again and distributed to serfs, who were the lowest members of feudal society. They were permitted to farm a small section of land, but they had to give a portion of their food to the knights in exchange for this privilege. They also had to give free labor to the knights who allowed them to use their land. Serfs had very few rights; they weren't even allowed to leave their land without permission from the knight who controlled the land. The system of feudalism ended when money began to be used as currency instead of land.

9. It can be concluded that
- A. Serfs were in a better position when the economy changed to a money-based one.
  - B. There were more knights in a typical feudal society than barons.
  - C. The knights did not have to do anything for the barons in exchange for land.
  - D. Most feudal societies in Europe were ruled by more than one king.

A bird's feathers are extremely important, and when they clean and smooth them, it is known as preening. Birds in the wild preen their feathers on a regular basis. This is true of most captive birds as well, but not all. For example, some birds do not preen their feathers at all. This problem is most common in birds that are taken from their mothers at a very young age. Presumably, the absence of preening is due to the fact that they were never shown how to do it properly. A more common problem among captive birds is excessive preening. Some birds may pull out large numbers of their feathers or bite them down to the skin. It should be noted that wild birds never exhibit this kind of behavior. There are several suggestions about how the problem of excessive preening can be solved. Giving birds baths or placing them in an area that has more activity to prevent boredom are suggestions. However, these measures are often not sufficient to solve the problem.

10. The purpose of the passage is
- A. to compare captive birds to wild birds.
  - B. to discuss why preening is important.
  - C. to give an overview of abnormal preening in birds.
  - D. to explain how excessive preening problems can be solved.
11. After the reading the passage, the word "excessive" most nearly means
- A. Extreme
  - B. Insufficient
  - C. Moderate
  - D. Minimal

Hibernation in animals is an extremely fascinating phenomenon, one that biologists are not yet close to understanding fully. However, it is quite easy to understand why animals hibernate during the cold winter months. Usually, it is because their food is quite scarce during this time. Animals that are herbivores will find the winters extremely tough, because all of the vegetation

will have died off by the time winter arrives. Hibernation is essentially a way of dealing with this food shortage. Animals like birds rely on seeds and small insects for sustenance. Obviously, these will also be quite scarce in the winter when the ground becomes covered and frozen. Many birds address their upcoming food shortage in quite a different way: they migrate to warmer areas where their sources of food will be plentiful.

12. The main reason animals hibernate is
- A. to travel to a warmer area where food will be more plentiful.
  - B. to avoid food shortages that occur during the winter months.
  - C. to cut down on their food consumption during the winter months.
  - D. to avoid the harsh weather that occurs during the winter months.
13. After reading the passage, one can infer that the word “sustenance” most nearly means
- A. Food
  - B. Prey
  - C. Warmth
  - D. Shelter
14. In the passage, the word “scarce” most certainly means
- A. Sufficient
  - B. Freezing
  - C. Abundant
  - D. Meager

At one time, the use of leeches to treat medical problems was quite common. If a person suffered from a snake bite or a bee sting, leeches were believed to be capable of removing the poison from the body if they were placed on top of the wound. They have also been used for bloodletting and to stop hemorrhages, although neither of these leech treatments would be considered acceptable by present-day physicians. Today, leeches are still used on a limited basis. Most often, leeches are used to drain blood from clogged veins. This results in little pain for the patient and also ensures the patient's blood will not clot while it is being drained.

**15.** The main purpose of the passage is

- A. to explain how leeches can be used to remove poison from the body.
- B. to give an overview of how leeches have been used throughout history.
- C. to discuss the benefits of using leeches to treat blocked veins.
- D. to compare which uses of leeches are effective and which are not.

When online file-sharing programs emerged, the music industry changed forever. Perhaps the first widely-used music file sharing program was Napster. It allowed users to sign up to use the service at no charge. Then, they could download music files from other users all over the world by simply typing in what song or album they wanted. Obviously, this was bad news for music artists and record labels because they weren't making any profits from downloaded music. Eventually, Napster was shut down. While it later reinvented itself as a paying service, other free music-sharing sites cropped up almost immediately. Even though several sites and individual users have been charged, there are still countless individuals who log onto these sites to obtain free music.

**16.** The main problem associated with peer file-sharing sites is

- A. It is hard to locate users to criminally charge them.
- B. There are too many of them currently in existence.
- C. They prevent artists and labels from earning money.
- D. They allow users to sign up for the service free of charge.

Zoos are places that serve no other purpose than to allow greedy owners to make money. Some of the world's most endangered animals can be found in zoos, where they are protected from poachers and predators.

**17.** What does the second sentence do?

- A. It restates the first.
- B. It challenges the first.
- C. It provides an example.
- D. It supports the first.

Elephants are highly intelligent animals that are known to display several human-like behaviors. When a member of their herd dies, elephants create graves for their fallen comrades, and have been known to visit burial sites years after the elephant's death.

18. What does the second sentence do?

- A. It provides an example.
- B. It offers a solution.
- C. It provides a contrast.
- D. It restates the information from the first.

The Amazon Rainforest is one of the most important ecosystems in the world. However, it is slowly being destroyed. Areas of the rainforest are being cleared for farms and roads, and much of the wood is also being harvested and sold. There are several **compelling** reasons to protect this area. First, a significant number of pharmaceuticals are made from plants that have been discovered in the rainforest, and it's quite possible there are still important plants that have not yet been discovered. Secondly, the rainforest provides a significant portion of the world's oxygen and also absorbs great amounts of carbon dioxide. Without rainforests, global warming could accelerate.

19. The main purpose of the passage is

- A. to argue that rainforest destruction is a major cause of global warming.
- B. to explain why the Amazon Rainforest should be protected.
- C. to discuss how the rainforest has helped in the development of medications.
- D. to present the major reasons why the Amazon Rainforest is being destroyed.

20. After reading the passage, the word "**compelling**" most certainly means

- A. Uninteresting
- B. Exciting
- C. Logical
- D. Fascinating



---

**ANSWER KEY #3**

1. **Choice B is correct.** In describing the character of Phillips’s and Lederer’s work, the author says that “in a time before Oprah Winfrey and the intrusive world of the Internet provided a glimpse in Americans’ private lives...” It can be inferred from this information, then, that the author considers Oprah Winfrey (and the Internet) forces that “provide glimpses into Americans’ private lives” and that followed in the footsteps of Phillips and Lederer by doing so. While Winfrey may very well be written about by gossip columnists, the passage says nothing about this, nor does it say that she helped bring Internet news into the mainstream, so choice (A) and (C) are incorrect. And while it might be inferable that she was influenced by the sisters, establishing this influence is clearly is not the purpose of this particular reference, which eliminates choice (D).
2. **Choice D is correct.** In the first paragraph, the narrator tells us how the nickname “Mamaji” is constructed: “*mama* being the Tamil word for *uncle* and *ji* being a suffix used in India to indicate respect and affection.” It is plausible that one would think of an uncle with fondness, and the suffix implies respect as well as affection. This description is quite straightforward; answer choices (A), (B), and (C) are not supported by the passage.
3. **Choice B is correct.** The narrator says that “He [Mr. Adirubasamy ] tried to teach my parents to swim, but he never got them to go beyond wading up to their knees at the beach and making ludicrous round motions with their arms.” Further, the narrator recounts an episode that occurred “when I came of swimming age, which, to Mother’s distress, Mamaji claimed was seven.” Clearly the narrator’s mother lacks interest in swimming, which is illustrated by her unwillingness to go further than the ridiculous practice on the beach (A); she just as clearly fears for her son, since she shows distress at his reaching swimming age. Certainly she does not demonstrate wholehearted devotion to the practice of swimming, nor does she show outright contempt for it in response to any action of the part of Mr. Adirubasamy (D). She is not enthusiastic for her family—or at least for the narrator—to begin swimming themselves, which eliminates choice (C).
4. **Choice C is correct.** Nearly all of the space in the passage is devoted to describing Mr. Adirubasamy: his characteristics, his appearance, his actions. It is clearly a personal rather than an impersonal account, which eliminates choice (A); there is nothing particularly wistful, or sad or vaguely longing about it, which makes choice (B) incorrect; and it cannot be described as the record of one isolated event, which makes choice (D) incorrect.
5. **Choice (A) is correct.** The main idea of the passage is that copyright protections have been extended over time, both to cover more products and to cover products for a longer period.

The passage explains that copyright protection originally lasted “14 years with one 14-year extension,” then was “extended . . . to 28 years with a 28-year renewal,” and finally was “extended . . . further, to 75 years.” Choices (B), (C), and (D) are incorrect. The author of the passage does not indicate that copyright laws have repeatedly been challenged, that copyright protections have been weakened in recent years, or that copyright laws are becoming more and more necessary.

6. **Choice C is correct.** In lines 3-4, the narrator tells us that “[t]hough it was a couple of miles away from the university proper” the Imperial Book Depot “ had a greater following among students and teachers than the University and Allied Bookshop, which was just a few minutes away from campus.” In the second paragraph, we are told that “the proprietors unashamedly collared university teachers who wandered in to browse... and made them tick off titles that they thought the bookshop should consider ordering.” These same teachers “resented the University and Allied Bookshop for its entrenched, lethargic, unresponsive and high-handed ways.” Clearly, the university community has many reasons for preferring the Imperial Book Depot to its closer-to-campus rivals. Far from avoiding Yashwant and Balwant, university people seek them out, so choice (A) is incorrect. Likewise, students seem content with the Imperial and there is no indication that they are on the verge of seeking out a newer bookshop, which eliminates choice (B). Finally, university teachers seem more than willing to fill out the order forms that Yashwant and Balwant urge on them, so choice (D) is incorrect.
7. **Choice C is correct.** In the second paragraph, the narrator says that “an impoverished university student was paid to sort new arrivals onto the designated shelves”; he or she then says that Yashwant and Balwant prevailed upon university teachers to “tick off titles that they thought the bookshop should consider ordering.” In short, the proprietors of the Imperial Book Depot employ students and rely on teachers for information. There is no indication in the passage that staff members acquire only those books that are most in demand, so choice (A) is incorrect. While the store does have “general stock” as well as academic material, there is no indication that staff prefer to help customers find nonacademic materials, which eliminates choice (B). No staff members are described as lazy—far from it, in fact-- and the tea drunk in the passage is drunk by the faculty members from whom the proprietors are acquiring information, so choice (D) is incorrect.
8. **Choice D is correct.** In the third paragraph, the narrator tells us that Lata habitually headed for the poetry section of the bookshop, but that [o]n the way... she paused by the science shelves, not because she understood much science, but, rather, because she did not.” In science books she sees “whole paragraphs of incomprehensible words and symbols” that fill her with “a sense of wonder at the great territories of learning that lay beyond her.” She is

mystified by science texts, but she senses in them “the sum of so many noble and purposive attempts to make objective sense of the world.” Science is somewhat baffling and unfamiliar to her, but “[s]he enjoyed the feeling”—it intrigues and interests her. While science may be less engaging to her than her beloved poetry, there is no mention of Lata’s attraction to fiction, which eliminates choice (A). She clearly does not consider science “simple,” and she does not consider it not worth pursuing; in her own way, she pursues it regularly, and she is intimidated and mystified by it, so choices (B) and (C) are incorrect.

9. **Choice (B) is correct.**
10. **Choice (C) is correct.**
11. **Choice (A) is correct.**
12. **Choice (B) is correct.**
13. **Choice (A) is correct.**
14. **Choice (D) is correct.**
15. **Choice (B) is correct.**
16. **Choice (C) is correct.**
17. **Choice (B) is correct.**
18. **Choice (A) is correct.**
19. **Choice (B) is correct.**
20. **Choice (D) is correct.**