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SAT Practice Test PDFs – Critical Reading

Passage 6

In the late 19th century, the city of Elandria witnessed a dramatic rise in the population of urban foxes. This sudden proliferation wasn't due to a natural increase in fox numbers but rather the migration of rural foxes to urban areas. One prevailing theory suggests that rural farmlands were becoming less hospitable due to the extensive use of pesticides, driving these animals into the city in search of food.

In the heart of Elandria, these urban foxes developed behaviors distinct from their rural counterparts. They became nocturnal, rummaging through trash bins under the cloak of darkness to avoid human interaction. Many residents viewed them as pests, given their penchant for upending trash cans and occasional confrontations with domestic pets.

However, a movement advocating for the coexistence of humans and urban foxes emerged over time. This group posited that foxes were essential in controlling the city's rodent population. They urged residents to recognize the ecological balance that these creatures brought and to find ways to live harmoniously alongside them.

Questions

- What is the primary reason the passage gives for the migration of rural foxes to urban areas in the late 19th century?
 - The foxes were attracted to the city lights.
 - The city provided more food sources like trash bins.
 - The rural farmlands became less hospitable due to the use of pesticides.
 - The urban foxes invited rural foxes to join them in the city.
- How did the behavior of urban foxes in Elandria differ from that of rural foxes?
 - Urban foxes were more aggressive.
 - Urban foxes interacted more with humans.
 - Urban foxes became nocturnal to avoid humans.
 - Urban foxes formed larger groups.
- Which statement best describes the view of the movement advocating for the coexistence of humans and foxes?
 - Foxes should be removed from the city to restore ecological balance.
 - Foxes are harmless and should be treated as domestic pets.
 - Urban foxes are pests and should be dealt with accordingly.
 - Foxes play a vital role in controlling the rodent population and should be appreciated.



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Passage 7

In the highlands of the Frenz Mountains, the Osterian people have a unique way of predicting the weather. They observe the behavior of the Frenzian finches. It is believed that when these finches fly at lower altitudes and gather in large numbers, a storm is imminent. For centuries, this method has guided the Osterians in their agricultural pursuits, indicating when to harvest or when to seek shelter.

Questions

- What do the Osterian people use to predict the weather?
 - Meteorological instruments.
 - The behavior of Frenzian finches.
 - The movement of clouds.
 - Ancient written predictions.
- What specific behavior of the finches indicates an approaching storm?
 - Flying at high altitudes.
 - Singing loudly.
 - Flying at lower altitudes and gathering in large numbers.
 - Hiding in tree hollows.
- Why is this method of prediction crucial for the Osterians?
 - It determines their migration patterns.
 - It guides them in agricultural decisions.
 - It dictates their religious rituals.
 - It influences their interactions with neighboring tribes.



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Passage 8

The evolution of mobile technology has transformed the way we interact with our surroundings. Augmented Reality (AR) overlays digital information on the real world, bridging the gap between the virtual and the tangible. However, while AR can provide users with enriched experiences, critics argue it can also lead to a detachment from reality, potentially creating an over-reliance on digital enhancements.

Questions

- What does Augmented Reality (AR) do?
 - It replaces the real world with a virtual one.
 - It displays digital information over the real world.
 - It enhances the quality of sound in our surroundings.
 - It predicts future events based on current data.
- Which of the following is a concern related to AR mentioned in the passage?
 - It is too expensive for most users.
 - It can lead to an over-reliance on digital enhancements.
 - It has a steep learning curve.
 - It is not accessible to everyone.
- How do proponents of AR view the technology, according to the passage?
 - As an unnecessary luxury.
 - As a means to provide enriched experiences.
 - As a way to replace traditional forms of learning.
 - As the only means of communication in the future.



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Passage 9

Nina's grandmother often reminisced about the "butterfly summers" of her youth when the garden would shimmer with the colors of countless butterflies. Yet, when Nina looked out at the same garden years later, such sights were rare. Research indicates that global shifts in climate and habitat destruction are leading causes for this noticeable decline in butterfly populations.

Questions

- What did Nina's grandmother refer to as "butterfly summers"?
 - Summers when they traveled to tropical locations.
 - Summers when the garden was full of butterflies.
 - Summers when they collected butterfly souvenirs.
 - Summers when they studied butterfly migration patterns.
- How has the garden changed from the time of Nina's grandmother to Nina's time?
 - It has more varieties of plants.
 - It sees an increase in butterfly populations.
 - It has a decrease in butterfly sightings.
 - It has become a popular tourist spot.
- Which of the following reasons is NOT mentioned in the passage for the decline in butterfly populations?
 - Use of chemical pesticides.
 - Global shifts in climate.
 - Habitat destruction.
 - Butterfly diseases.



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Passage 10

The art of calligraphy has ancient roots, tracing back thousands of years. In various cultures, it was not just a means of communication, but also a form of artistic expression. The precision and skill required to produce elegant scripts made calligraphy a revered practice, with some masterpieces considered treasures. In the modern digital age, while fonts and typefaces mimic the beauty of hand-written texts, the allure of authentic calligraphy remains timeless.

Questions

- How is calligraphy viewed in various cultures?
 - As a casual hobby.
 - Solely as a means of communication.
 - As a form of artistic expression.
 - As a redundant skill.
- What has the modern digital age introduced that relates to calligraphy?
 - Digital tools to enhance hand-written scripts.
 - Robots that can perform calligraphy.
 - Fonts and typefaces that mimic hand-written texts.
 - Online platforms where calligraphers can sell their work.
- Which statement about calligraphy is supported by the passage?
 - Calligraphy is no longer practiced in modern times.
 - Calligraphy is less valuable than other forms of art.
 - The allure of genuine calligraphy remains undiminished.
 - Digital methods have completely replaced traditional calligraphy.