

# Text Structure

## Question 1 .

The first official observance of Labor Day was Tuesday September 5, 1882 in New York City. The holiday was created by the Central Labor Union to recognize the contributions of the American worker. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected to be the annual day of celebration. The Central Labor Union tried to encourage groups in other cities to follow the example of a “workingmen’s holiday.” The government first began recognizing the holiday through ordinances in 1885 and 1886. The first bill to become a law recognizing Labor Day was passed in Oregon in February of 1887. By June of 1894, the majority of states had recognized the holiday, so the federal government passed a law making the observance of Labor Day each first Monday in September a legal holiday. The holiday is celebrated by workers and others nationwide in street parades and festivals.

Which organizational pattern did the author use for this passage?

- ☐ A. chronological order
- ☐ B. cause and effect
- ☐ C. compare/contrast
- ☐ D. description

**Question 2 .****Trophy Hunting: An Evil Practice**

Trophy hunting is an immoral and inhuman practice. It refers to the ruthless hunting and slaying of innocent, wild animals. Trophy hunters have been known to target beautiful, exotic animals such as lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, giraffes, and rhinos, among many others. After slaying helpless animals, these hunters use parts of their skin, tusks, teeth, or horns as trophies or memorials. On rare occasions, trophy hunters also consume the slain animals' meat. However, it's widely believed that trophy hunters engage in hunting for the sole purpose of entertainment.

It's difficult to comprehend exactly what urges drive these trophy hunters. What sort of twisted mind could seek out and prey upon guiltless creatures just for the thrill of it? Animal rights activists make a fair point when they assert that trophy hunting is a gross violation of animal rights. Like humans, animals too are living and breathing creatures. They deserve to live their lives naturally and peacefully. Sadly, it's nearly impossible for animals to do when so when cruel and unfeeling hunters constantly threaten their lives.

Trophy hunters often use brutal methods to kill animals, making the practice of trophy hunting even more reprehensible. They are known to use weapons such as bows and arrows to fatally wound the animals. The helpless animals are then made to suffer in agony for days at end till death mercifully claims them. Trophy hunting also causes immense stress to animals, disrupting their migration and hibernation patterns, which in turn, negatively impacts the ecosystem as a whole.

The implications that trophy hunting has on the ecosystem are pretty serious. Oftentimes, animals that are hunted are among the rare or endangered species. Carelessly claiming such animals sets off a ripple effect of sorts. For example, wildlife conservationists claim that in lions, when the head of a pride is murdered, the lion that is next in line to become head, often wipes out the descendants of the deceased lion. The new head of the pride does so to be able to make its own bloodline by mating with the female lions. In this manner, one indiscriminate killing may result in the deaths of a large number of innocent, harmless animals. This gruesome act could eventually lead to the extinction of many beautiful wildlife creatures. There is no upside to trophy hunting. It's a barbaric practice that should be eradicated.

How does the final paragraph support the author's claim that trophy hunting may lead to the extinction of animals?

- ☐ A. It gives a glimpse of the bloodthirsty mentality of trophy hunters, who refuse to rest until all animals are dead.
- ☐ B. It explains the ruthlessness and brutality with which hunters capture and kill innocent and helpless animals.
- ☐ C. It uses scientific proof to show how hunting one animal can lead to the deaths of other related animals.
- ☐ D. It describes in detail the inherent barbaric qualities of trophy hunters who slay animals just for the sake of entertainment.

**Question 3 .****Putting Up a Parking Lot: the Hidden Cost**

Last week, city lawmakers approved the construction of a new parking lot at the corner of 65th and Wallabee. Anyone familiar with this part of town knows why the city's decision is controversial. A sizeable homeless population has used this empty lot as a temporary shelter for over a year.

So where should this homeless population go? The mayor expressed hope that they will relocate to one of the city's downtown shelters. However, complaints of limited space and cramped conditions at the city's shelters cast doubt on this possibility.

It is this editor's opinion that the city should take responsibility for its decision. The new parking lot will bring in thousands of dollars in annual revenue. Shouldn't some of this money be used to cover relocation costs for the homeless being displaced? And though space in this part of the city is at a premium, there is an ideal place that will serve this purpose: the old Wallabee fire station.

Such a plan might sound far-fetched until one considers that the fire station has been empty for three years. Converting the fire station into a shelter makes sense, and it will cost the city next to nothing.

Since construction on the parking lot is scheduled to begin next week, the time to decide is now. Will we take responsibility for displacing our underprivileged citizens? Or will we simply reap the benefits of another profitable development and look the other way?

What solution does the author recommend for the problem?

- ☐ A. The author states that the city should allow the homeless to reside in the new parking lot.
- ☐ B. The author states that the city should build the new parking lot at a different location.
- ☐ C. The author states that the city should house the homeless in an abandoned fire station.
- ☐ D. The author does not include a solution since it is just a nonfiction piece meant to inform.

**Question 4 .****History of Hybrid Cars**

Would you believe the history of hybrid cars goes all the way back to the 1800s? And that the gas-powered cars most of us still use today weren't mass-produced until the 1900s? In 1839, a Scottish man named Robert Anderson built the first electric car. A few decades later, in 1870, Sir David Salomon developed a car that had a very light electric motor, but its batteries were very heavy. As a result, the car moved very slowly and could not go very far.

In England, an electric taxicab was introduced in 1886. It had a battery that had 28 cells and a small electric motor. Over the next 20 years or so, battery technology improved significantly. One of the most notable accomplishments was the modern lead-acid battery created by H. Tudor and the nickel-iron battery that was developed by Edison and Junger.

In a two-year period that began in 1897, The Pope Manufacturing Company in Hartford, Connecticut built 500 electric cars. In 1899, the company merged with two smaller electric companies to create the Electric Vehicle Company. This was the first large automotive company, and it was worth \$200 million.

When gas-powered, steam-powered, and electric cars were compared at the first National Automobile Show in 1900, most people preferred the electric ones. Steam-powered cars were their second choice. Thousands of electric cars were produced at the beginning of the 20th century.

A change came in 1904 when Henry Ford was able to fix the noise, vibration, and smell problems people complained about with gas-powered cars. He produced a cheap, light weight gas-powered car that sank the Electric Vehicle Company. By 1913, gas-powered cars became easier to use and the number of electric cars sold dropped to 6,000. That same year, 182,809 Model-T Fords were sold.

In 1966, Congress first recommended the use of electric vehicles to reduce the amount of air pollution. Between 1968 and 1971 a group of scientists at a major auto supplier called TRW developed a hybrid power train, or way of generating power in a car. Many of the concepts they came up with are used for the hybrid cars we have today.

Although many companies tried their hand at developing hybrid cars, Honda's Insight became the first hybrid car to be mass marketed in the United States in 1999. Since then, the Toyota Prius (first released in 2000) and the Honda Civic Hybrid (available since 2002) have been popular cars.

Which of the following events occurs last in the article?

- ☐ A. Honda released the Honda Civic Hybrid.
- ☐ B. Honda released its new Honda Insight.
- ☐ C. Congress recommended hybrid vehicles.
- ☐ D. Toyota's Prius sales totaled \$200 million.

**Question 5 .**

Although most cities offer recycling, and most businesses provide recycling containers in addition to trash containers, disposable drinking cups are still strewn across this great country. Most people grab a disposable cup from a coffee shop, or a fast-food restaurant, so they are drinking on-the-go. On the road, there isn't always a trashcan when you need one. Jim Johnson, an inventor, has a solution. Jim invented the catalyst cup. It's a disposable drinking cup with a twist. Once you have finished with your beverage, you touch the catalyst cup with the chemical stick that comes attached. The chemical stick reacts with the material of the catalyst cup, and the cup starts to break down instantly. The cup sublimates, which means it goes directly from a solid to a gas, so there is no litter left behind. Jim swears the chemicals in both the chemical stick and the catalyst cup are non-toxic and the gas expelled from the catalytic reaction is also safe for the environment.

What solution does the author present to remedy the problem?

- ☐ A. The passage offers no solution as it only informs the reader of the problem.
- ☐ B. The government will need to pass laws to deal with litter from disposable cups.
- ☐ C. An inventor has created a disposable cup that dissolves completely with no waste.
- ☐ D. The author suggests that restaurants should be fined to help pay for litter costs.

**Question 6 .****Alexander Fleming**

It is very rare to find a person who changes the way people view the world. Alexander Fleming was one such figure. What we know today as penicillin, a cure for many infections, did not exist until 1928, when Fleming's brilliant and innovative mind discovered it.

As a young man, Fleming had a keen interest in the field of medicine. In 1906, he began working as a researcher at St. Mary's Hospital in London, under the guidance of Almroth Wright, a bacteriologist. During World War I, Fleming served in the Royal Army Medical Corps and worked with wounded soldiers. There he realized that the antiseptics used to treat wounds severely affected a person's immunity. He believed that wounds should not be treated with antiseptics but rather be kept clean and dry. However, his advice mostly went unheard.

In 1918, Fleming returned to St. Mary's as the assistant director of the St. Mary's Inoculation Department, and in 1928, he was elected as a professor of the school. In September 1928, he made a startling discovery when he noticed that a culture of *Staphylococcus aureus* that he had left unattended in a petri dish had developed an unknown mold around it. When he studied the mold, he was surprised to find that it was a type of antibiotic. He named this discovery *penicillin* and spread word of its clinical potential to treat infections. With the help of scientists Howard Florey and Ernst Chain from the University of Oxford, he managed to stabilize and purify penicillin for public use.

The discovery of penicillin revolutionized the medical world and turned Fleming into a hero. In 1943, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in 1944, he received the knighthood. In 1945, Fleming, Chain, and Florey were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of penicillin and their contributions to the field of medicine.

In later years, Sir Alexander Fleming wrote numerous papers on bacteriology, chemotherapy, and immunology, which were published in medical and scientific journals all around the world. Fleming died in 1955 in London, but his name and contributions are celebrated to this day.

What happened immediately after Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin?

- ☐ A. He and his fellow scientists won the Nobel Prize in 1945 for the discovery of penicillin.
- ☐ B. He wrote papers on bacteriology, chemotherapy, and immunology.
- ☐ C. He was elected as a professor of St. Mary's Medical School in 1928.
- ☐ D. He stabilized the antibiotic with the help of scientists from the University of Oxford.

**Question 7 .****History of Hybrid Cars**

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In England, an electric taxicab was introduced in 1886. It had a battery that had 28 cells and a small electric motor. Over the next 20 years or so, battery technology improved significantly. One of the most notable accomplishments was the modern lead-acid battery created by H. Tudor and the nickel-iron battery that was developed by Edison and Junger.

In a two-year period that began in 1897, The Pope Manufacturing Company in Hartford, Connecticut built 500 electric cars. In 1899, the company merged with two smaller electric companies to create the Electric Vehicle Company. This was the first large automotive company, and it was worth \$200 million.

When gas-powered, steam-powered, and electric cars were compared at the first National Automobile Show in 1900, most people preferred the electric ones. Steam-powered cars were their second choice. Thousands of electric cars were produced at the beginning of the 20th century.

A change came in 1904 when Henry Ford was able to fix the noise, vibration, and smell problems people complained about with gas-powered cars. He produced a cheap, light weight gas-powered car that sank the Electric Vehicle Company. By 1913, gas-powered cars became easier to use and the number of electric cars sold dropped to 6,000. That same year, 182,809 Model-T Fords were sold.

In 1966, Congress first recommended the use of electric vehicles to reduce the amount of air pollution. Between 1968 and 1971 a group of scientists at a major auto supplier called TRW developed a hybrid power train, or way of generating power in a car. Many of the concepts they came up with are used for the hybrid cars we have today.

Although many companies tried their hand at developing hybrid cars, Honda's Insight became the first hybrid car to be mass marketed in the United States in 1999. Since then, the Toyota Prius (first released in 2000) and the Honda Civic Hybrid (available since 2002) have been popular cars.

According to the article, what happened as a result of the National Auto Show in 1901?

- ☐ A. Congress first recommended the use of electric vehicles to reduce the amount of air pollution.
- ☐ B. Thousands of electric cars were produced at the beginning of the 20th century.
- ☐ C. Honda's Insight became the first hybrid car to be mass marketed in the United States in 1999.
- ☐ D. Gas-powered cars became easier to use, and the number of electric cars sold dropped to 6,000.

## Question 8 .

**Books: A More Superior Form of Storytelling than Films**

Renowned writer and storyteller Stephen King famously proclaimed that, "Books are a uniquely portable magic." In many ways, King's assertion holds true. Books have the capacity to transport readers to newer, unexplored worlds. They enable readers to bend and stretch their minds and imaginations in every possible direction. It's difficult to find another mode of storytelling that provides readers with such an enriching and pleasurable experience.

Yet, in these modern times, filmmakers insist on converting any half decent text to film to earn profits. This is disheartening as it is leading to the commercialization of writing and storytelling, which is usually a personal and profound process. For example, major film studios and producers offer huge sums to writers to buy the rights of their books. They may invite these writers to help out with the film's script to make the film more appealing to fans of the original text. In this manner, film studios take advantage of passionate fans' loyalty, especially if the story has been poorly adapted.

Filmmaking, in itself is a worthy art, with innumerable merits. Films are also a wonderful mode of visual storytelling. Sometimes, though, directors focus too heavily on how a film looks, while ignoring the script. Take F. S. Fitzgerald's classic novel, *The Great Gatsby*, for example. The novel was recently adapted to the big screen. While the film was visually stunning, it was universally panned. To most viewers, it felt like there was too much emphasis on making the sets appear beautiful and shiny. However, due to poor handling of the script, the film lost a lot of the heart and charm of Fitzgerald's beloved classic. Many film adaptations of classic novels suffer from similar problems. As a result, film adaptations of textual pieces are, more often than not, pale shadows of the latter.

Film adaptations often compromise structural integrity of novels. Writers tend to layer their novels with deep and intricate details and meanings. It's difficult to incorporate these subtler aspects into a two-hour movie. Similarly, important plot points present in the original may be left out of films due to time constraints. Another drawback of film adaptations is that they concretize and subscribe meaning to abstract texts. This may cause some readers to believe as though their initial readings were invalid. The adaptations also leave little room for one's imagination. Therefore, books are a better mode of storytelling than films.

How does the third paragraph support the author's claim that film adaptations are "pale shadows" of their original texts?

- ☐ A. It gives a concrete example of how a film adaptation has failed its book version.
- ☐ B. It shows the timelessness of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel, *The Great Gatsby*.
- ☐ C. It provides a detailed compare and contrast of a book and its film adaptation.
- ☐ D. It reveals the flippant attitude of arrogant filmmakers toward well-respected books.

**Question 9 .****History of Hybrid Cars**

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According to the article, what happened after Henry Ford developed his gas-powered car?

- ☐ A. Gas-powered, steam-powered, and electric cars were compared at an auto show.
- ☐ B. People preferred electric vehicles to gas-powered ones.
- ☐ C. The Pope Manufacturing Company in Hartford, Connecticut built 500 electric cars.
- ☐ D. The Electrical Vehicle Company went out of business.



**Question 10 .****The Pros and Cons of Sports**

Schools should make participation in sports compulsory for students. Sports help children to not only channel their abundant energy in the right way, but also to become physically healthy and strong. Nowadays, children experience a sedentary lifestyle as they mostly remain indoors with their laptops or mobile phones. Sports would be a means of recreation, and it provides students with an opportunity to interact with other children of their age. Sports also help children de-stress and develop traits such as perseverance, discipline, and team spirit. By playing sports, children realize that a game is not simply about losing or winning but also about their attitude toward the victory or the loss. The spirit of sportsmanship can help one build good relations with people and go a long way in life.

Parents, however, often voice the concern that time spent on sports can adversely affect a child's academic performance. Most often, children devote a lot of time to games and sports. As a result of this, they have no time to work on assignments or attend remedial classes. Even if they do try to study, they would be too tired to pay attention or understand the content. Playing sports can cause physical injuries, which not only forces students to miss classes in school but can also lead to serious health issues. But current research studies have found that participating in sports increases students' overall academic performance. So, parents are obviously wrong and need to do more research. Therefore, it is very important that children learn to balance their studies and sports.

What is the **cause** of children leading less active lives?

- ☐ A. They are staying inside to use technology.
- ☐ B. There are fewer opportunities for recreation.
- ☐ C. There are concerns about how sports affect academics.
- ☐ D. They are becoming less healthy.

**Question 11 .****Wind: A Renewable Source of Energy**

Fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas, and oil are formed from the fossils of dead plants and animals. The formation of these fuels takes billions of years and their reserves are limited. Hence, these fuels are classified as non-renewable sources of energy. The energy contained in fossil fuels is obtained by burning them. This burning process releases harmful gases such as carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide into the atmosphere.

Due to the hazards and limitations of using fossil fuels, many countries across the world are now looking for cleaner and renewable sources of energy. As many as 80 countries have now decided to use wind energy by 2050 in order to reduce carbon emissions. Clearly, wind energy is the hope for the future energy crisis. Several scientists and climate change experts have supported this decision to use wind energy. They believe that harnessing wind energy is cost-effective as one wind turbine is enough to deliver energy to a large number of homes. They say that since wind is free, its energy can be harnessed whenever the wind blows. Another incentive to harnessing wind energy is that it is a win-win situation for land owners. This is because land owners who install wind turbines on their land would receive benefits from the Wind Energy Association.

However, another group of scientists has expressed skepticism about the value of wind energy and pointed out many disadvantages. For example, during hurricanes and storms, damaged wind turbines pose a great danger to humans. Wind turbines placed in remote areas will be a major threat to birds and animals as well. Noise pollution is another negative consequence riding against the use of wind turbines. People who live close to a wind turbine often complain about the noise emanating from it. Due to this, residential areas hardly ever install a wind turbine on their properties. These scientists also believe that wind strength is unpredictable and wind energy can only be suitable to particular areas where the wind blows well. Therefore, it is a source of energy that contains more complications than benefits.

What evidence does the author provide to support the claim that wind energy is unreliable?

- ☐ A. People who live close to a wind turbine often complain about the noise emanating from it.
- ☐ B. During hurricanes and storms, damaged wind turbines pose a great danger to humans.
- ☐ C. These scientists also believe that wind strength is unpredictable and wind energy can only be suitable to particular areas where the wind blows well.
- ☐ D. Wind turbines placed in remote areas will be a major threat to birds and animals as well.

## Question 12 .

**Extreme Use of Technology Harms Young Minds**

Inventions such as the Internet, the railway, the telephone, among many others, have helped humans make huge advancements. These inventions help with the quick dispatch of information and make travel and communication easier. It's impossible to deny that technology has its benefits. However, when used excessively, it also has detrimental effects on human beings. This is especially true for children as they're still growing and have tender and vulnerable minds.

Researchers at the Boston University School of Medicine made startling observations about how technological devices affect young minds. They asserted that the rampant use of devices such as tablets and smart-phones negatively impact children's social growth. In modern society, it's easy for children to access advanced technological devices. This causes the children to become too dependent on technology for the purpose of entertainment. As a result, they may not feel the need to reach out and make social contact with others in their age group. In this manner, technology can isolate children from their peers.

Childcare specialist Alice Chang has observed that children who watch too much of television and play too many video games lack the emotional intelligence of children who read. She states that fictional stories contain characters that children can identify with. This makes children more empathetic and tolerant towards different people. Reading also helps develop children's emotional quotient. The children who don't read are cut off from this sort of emotional growth. Also, they often don't have any kind of mental exercise. This limits the children's thinking process and their ability to perform well academically.

Several surveys conducted by healthcare specialists reveal that using too much technology has an adverse effect on children's physical well being and fitness. They report that children who use technology too often tend to be obese. These children spend most of their time watching TV, using their computers, or playing video games. Neither of these activities requires any physical movement. Thus, children using these technological inventions may become lazy and lethargic.

It would be unfair to completely cut off children from using technological devices as most of these devices have their merits as well. However, parents should ensure that their kids use the concerned devices in moderation. It shouldn't be at the expense of other important activities like reading and playing outdoor games. This will enable their kids to develop into well-rounded individuals.

How does the fourth paragraph support the author's claim that watching too much TV and playing video games negatively impact children's health?

- ☐ A. It uses expert opinion and scientific proof to show how technology harms children's health.
- ☐ B. It reveals how technology makes children unhealthy by taking advantage of their fragile builds.
- ☐ C. It exposes the manner in which technology makes children arrogant, unhealthy and vengeful brats.
- ☐ D. It describes the unhealthy choices children make due to their addiction to technological gadgets.

**Question 13 .****When Monkeys Attack**

Norman moved from pen to pen. At each, he would do the same routine: make sure the gate was closed, pull in the food, scatter the food, leave the pen, and reopen the gate. He did this every day, and had been doing this everyday for the past three years. He enjoyed being a zookeeper, but he wanted to work with the animals more closely.

Beatrice and Fenton had only been there one year before they were promoted. Norman had two years on them, and here he was, stuck doing the grunt work.

The worst was cleaning the chimpanzee pens. The chimps had as much respect for him as the management of the zoo did. He had to duck every time he fed them and cleaned their pens. They would toss old rotten food just to see Norman have to pick it up.

As he approached the chimpanzee colony, Norman sighed. Norman opened the enclosure, pulled in the food and began to scatter it. Then it happened. A banana sailed through the air and struck him in the head. He sighed again and turned around. That's when he noticed—he hadn't remembered to close the gate. He was surrounded by a group of chimps, all of them bearing rotten fruit. They howled and laughed with glee as Norman panicked and grabbed his broom.

He readied himself for them to attack. But all at once, he was pelted by bad fruit and squealing laughs.

*adapted from "When Monkeys Attack" by c.safos*

What step does Norman forget when he goes to clean the chimpanzee area?

- ☐ A. He forgets to scatter the food.
- ☐ B. He forgets to pull in food.
- ☐ C. He forgets to close the gate.
- ☐ D. He follows all his usual steps.

**Question 14 .**

Before Stephanie starts writing, she comes up with this list. Use it to answer the following question.

**History of the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

1. Independence from Belgium in 1960
2. First Republic of the Congo
3. Congo Crisis 1960-1966
4. Name changed from Zaire in 1997
5. The Democratic Republic of the Congo

Based on Stephanie's list, which organizational pattern is best for her to use?

- ☐ A. compare/contrast
- ☐ B. description
- ☐ C. chronological order
- ☐ D. cause and effect

**Question 15 .****Photosynthesis**

Photosynthesis is the process through which plants produce sugar and oxygen. Photosynthesis can also take place in single-celled organisms like phytoplankton and other microorganisms.

The process of photosynthesis occurs differently from one organism to the next, but several features remain the same. In short, photosynthesis takes in water and carbon dioxide, uses sunlight as a catalyst, and produces oxygen and sugar. The plants release the oxygen through respiration. They digest or store the sugar.

Although the process seems simple, it is the most important event on the planet as far as animal life is concerned. Oxygen is a byproduct of photosynthesis. Animals would not be able to breathe if it was not for this process. Herbivores live off these fruits and vegetables and form the basis of any food chain. Carnivores and omnivores would not be able to find food if it were not for these sugars. Were it not for the simple process of photosynthesis, the Earth would be an uninhabited planet.

According to the passage, what would the **effect** be if photosynthesis did not produce oxygen?

- ☐ A. Nothing would soak up the rain.
- ☐ B. Animals would have nothing to eat.
- ☐ C. Animals would not be able to breathe.
- ☐ D. The Sun's rays would be too strong.

**Question 16 .**

The first official observance of Labor Day was Tuesday September 5, 1882 in New York City. The holiday was created by the Central Labor Union to recognize the contributions of the American worker. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected to be the annual day of celebration. The Central Labor Union tried to encourage groups in other cities to follow the example of a "workingmen's holiday." The government first began recognizing the holiday through ordinances in 1885 and 1886. The first bill to become a law recognizing Labor Day was passed in Oregon in February of 1887. By June of 1894, the majority of states had recognized the holiday, so the federal government passed a law making the observance of Labor Day each first Monday in September a legal holiday. The holiday is celebrated by workers and others nationwide in street parades and festivals.

The passage above uses its text structure

- ☐ A. to give comparisons of Labor Day celebrations.
- ☐ B. to show the effect of Labor Day on the country.
- ☐ C. to describe how people celebrate Labor Day.
- ☐ D. to give a history of the Labor Day holiday.

**Question 17 .****Organic or Local?**

by Dave McCaul

The demand for organic foods has grown out of a need to preserve our natural environment. When we see a bag of carrots that is labeled "organic," we know that the carrots were grown without synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. And so we choose these carrots and ignore the ones in the next aisle, which bear no "organic" label. But is buying organic always the best choice for the environment?

The answer, surprisingly, is no. While "organic" labels are certainly helpful, they simply do not give consumers sufficient information. To explain why, we can use the above-mentioned example of the carrots. Let's say the organic carrots were grown in Mexico while the unlabeled carrots were grown within ten miles of the grocery store. Now, consider the long journey those organic carrots made from Mexico to the grocery store. Most likely they were transported on trucks for hundreds—if not thousands—of miles. The fuel used in transporting these carrots resulted in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which are harmful to the environment.

Another thing to consider is that some foods are grown organically but do not have an "organic" label. Farmers have to submit to a strict certification process in order to label their foods as "organic." Just because a farm does not meet the certification standards does not necessarily mean that they use pesticides or synthetic fertilizers.

As consumers, we have the right to know how and where our foods were grown. Unfortunately, an "organic" label does not give us enough information to make an informed decision. Thus, we should demand better labeling. Grocers know where their products come from. And if they know, why shouldn't we? The best way to advocate change is to talk to local grocers. It might also help to write the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Someday, perhaps, we'll know the whole story about the foods we choose to consume.

What solution does the author present to remedy the problem?

- ☐ A. The author does not offer a solution to the problem.
- ☐ B. He states that farmers should stop using pesticides.
- ☐ C. He states that people should talk to local grocers.
- ☐ D. He states that people should stop buying organic foods.

## Question 18 .

The first official observance of Labor Day was Tuesday September 5, 1882 in New York City. The holiday was created by the Central Labor Union to recognize the contributions of the American worker. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected to be the annual day of celebration. The Central Labor Union tried to encourage groups in other cities to follow the example of a "workingmen's holiday." The government first began recognizing the holiday through ordinances in 1885 and 1886. The first bill to become a law recognizing Labor Day was passed in Oregon in February of 1887. By June of 1894, the majority of states had recognized the holiday, so the federal government passed a law making the observance of Labor Day each first Monday in September a legal holiday. The holiday is celebrated by workers and others nationwide in street parades and festivals.

Which sentence from the passage gives the best clue of what organizational pattern is used?

- ☐ A. "The first official observance of Labor Day was Tuesday September 5, 1882 in New York City."
- ☐ B. "The Central Labor Union tried to encourage groups in other cities to follow the example of a 'workingmen's holiday.' "
- ☐ C. "The holiday is celebrated by workers and others nationwide in street parades and festivals."
- ☐ D. "The holiday was created by the Central Labor Union to recognize the contributions of the American worker."

## Question 19 .

## Cinque Terre

In the hills along the coast of the Italian Riviera rests the five villages of Cinque Terre. They rise into the terraced hills of Italian wine country and overlook the laconic waters of the Ligurian Sea. The name translates to "the five lands," and each village distinguishes itself from the next in terms of its storybook atmosphere. The food is miraculous. The anchovies are caught fresh daily. The pesto sauce is made from local pine nuts and basil leaves. Bakeries filled with focaccia bread and farinata snacks make Cinque Terre famous the world over.

The scenic overlooks along the coast of Cinque Terre are breathtaking. The villages cling to the walls of green cliffs that plunge into the sea. Dolphins swim and chatter in the surf, hungry for attention from Cinque Terre's many visitors. Local fisherman haul in nets filled with fresh fish and seafood that grace the tables of nearby cantinas and bistros. Visitors have the opportunity to hike from town to town, enjoying the countryside and romantic landscapes along the way.

Such a magical place to visit or live requires protection from development and pollution. The Italian government recently incorporated the five villages into a national park. It also passed laws to protect the fisheries and coastline. This allows the government to restrict future development that would ruin the landscape or change the unique culture of the locale. Because of the steps taken by the Italian government, Cinque Terre will remain a picturesque community to be enjoyed by visitors for many years to come.

What **caused** the government to incorporate Cinque Terre into a national park?

- ☐ A. Italy wanted to protect the villages from development and pollution.
- ☐ B. A tourist organization asked the government to protect the villages.
- ☐ C. A major earthquake in the hills caused the government to step in.
- ☐ D. The villages paid the government a fee to become known as a park.

## Question 20 .

*adapted from True Stories from History and Biography*

by Nathaniel Hawthorne

"Washington had not been long at the head of the army," proceeded Grandfather, "before his soldiers thought as highly of him, as if he had led them to a hundred victories. They knew that he was the very man whom the country needed, and the only one who could bring them safely through the great contest against the might of England. They put entire confidence in his courage, wisdom, and integrity."

"And were not they eager to follow him against the British?" asked Charley.

"Doubtless they would have gone whithersoever his sword pointed the way," answered Grandfather; "and Washington was anxious to make a decisive assault upon the enemy. But as the enterprise was very hazardous, he called a council of all the generals in the army. Accordingly, they came from their different posts and were ushered into the reception room. The commander-in-chief arose from our great chair to greet them."

"When the Generals were all assembled, Washington consulted them about a plan for storming the English batteries<sup>1</sup>. But it was their unanimous opinion that so perilous an enterprise ought not to be attempted. The army, therefore, continued to besiege Boston, preventing the enemy from obtaining supplies of provisions, but without taking any immediate measures to get possession of the town. In this manner, the summer, autumn, and winter passed away."

"Many a night, doubtless," said Grandfather, "after Washington had been all day on horseback, he was meditating how to capture the British army, or drive it out of Boston. Once, when there was a hard frost, he formed a scheme to cross the Charles River on the ice. But the other Generals could not be persuaded that there was any prospect of success."

"What were the British doing, all this time?" inquired Charley.

"They lay idle in the town," replied Grandfather. "General Gage had been recalled to England, and was succeeded by Sir William Howe. The British army, and the inhabitants of Boston, were now in great distress. Being shut up in the town so long, they had consumed almost all their provisions, and burnt up all their fuel. The soldiers tore down the Old North church, and used its rotten boards and timbers for firewood. To heighten their distress, the small pox broke out. They probably lost far more men by cold, hunger, and sickness than had been slain at Lexington and Bunker Hill."

"At length," continued Grandfather, "in March, 1776, General Washington, who had now a good supply of powder, began a terrible cannonade and bombardment from Dorchester heights. One of the cannon balls which he fired into the town struck the tower of the Brattle Street church, where it may still be seen. Sir William Howe made preparations to cross over in boats, and drive the Americans from their batteries, but was prevented by a violent gale and storm. General Washington next erected a battery on Nook's Hill, so near the enemy that it was impossible for them to remain in Boston any longer."

"Hurrah! Hurrah!" cried Charley, clapping his hands triumphantly. "I wish I had been there, to see how sheepish the Englishmen looked."

"Alas! for the poor Tories!" said Grandfather. "Until the very last morning after Washington's troops had shown themselves on Nook's hill, these unfortunate persons could not believe that the audacious rebels, as they called the Americans, would ever prevail against King George's army. But, when they saw the British soldiers preparing to embark on board of the ships of war, then they knew that they had lost their country."

1 batteries-entrenched positions from which an army can hold ground and bombard an enemy

Which event occurred soon after the Americans took up position on Nook's Hill?

- ☐ A. Sir William Howe drove the Americans from their batteries.
- ☐ B. Many British soldiers died of cold.
- ☐ C. The British army evacuated the city of Boston.
- ☐ D. General Washington fired cannon balls.



# Answers

1. A
2. C
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. D
7. B
8. A
9. D
10. A
11. C
12. A
13. C
14. C
15. C
16. D
17. C
18. A
19. A
20. C

# Explanations

1. This passage was organized in order from what happened first to what happened last.
2. The final paragraph describes how the immoral hunting of one lion (the head of a pride), can lead to the death of other lions (its cubs), thereby, demonstrating how trophy hunting can lead to the extinction of animals.
3. The author points out that the old Wallabee fire station has been empty for three years. According to the article, "Converting the fire station into a shelter makes sense, and it will cost the city next to nothing."
4. Because this article is arranged in order of occurrence, the answer depends on determining which of the events occurred latest in the article. According to the article, the Honda Civic Hybrid was made available in 2002. This is the last date mentioned.
5. According to the author, "The cup sublimates, which means it goes directly from a solid to a gas, so there is no litter left behind." By stating this, the author is making it clear that the solution should come from disposable cups that dispose of themselves. The author claims that Jim Johnson's invention is the way to ensure this happens.
6. According to the passage, after the discovery of penicillin, Fleming collaborated with scientists Howard Florey and Ernst Chain from the University of Oxford to stabilize and purify the antibiotic so that it could be easily produced and distributed.
7. Read the passage again. At the National Car Show, people preferred the electric car over the other models. After that car show, thousands of electric cars were produced.
8. The third paragraph uses the example of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* to show how film adaptations often fail their book versions by focusing too much on how the film looks instead of doing justice to its plot.
9. The article is arranged in chronological order, so answering the question depends on reviewing the events as they take place within the article. All of the other things listed happened before Henry Ford developed his car.
10. The correct answer is "They are staying inside to use technology," because, as the author explains, "... children experience a sedentary lifestyle as they mostly remain indoors with their laptops or mobile phones."
11. Any argumentative essay has two sides—one that makes a claim and the other that counters this claim. Authors must support their claims with evidence. In the passage, the author's statement, "These scientists also believe that wind strength is unpredictable and wind energy can only be suitable to particular areas where the wind blows well" supports the claim that wind energy is unreliable. Wind can generate energy only in places where it blows strongly and its strength is consistent, and so it is an unreliable source of energy.
12. The fourth paragraph cites a survey (scientific proof) conducted by healthcare specialists (expert opinion), showing how watching TV, using their computer, and playing video games (technological inventions) in a large capacity, can cause obesity among children and make them lethargic and lazy.
13. The narrator states that Norman has a routine. In this case, his thinking about other things makes him forget his routine. He forgets the first—and most important—step. The chimps take advantage of this too.

- 14.**Chronological order is best to use when discussing events that happened during a certain time period.
- 15.**The passage says, "Animals would not be able to breathe if it was not for this process." This sentence expressly states what would happen if photosynthesis did not produce oxygen.
- 16.**The organization of this passage helps it flow and show the history of Labor Day in the United States.
- 17.**The author states, "The best way to advocate change is to talk to local grocers." He also suggests writing the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- 18.**This sentence tells the reader the exact date Labor Day was first observed.
- 19.**In the last paragraph of the article, the author states, "Such a magical place to visit or live requires protection from development and pollution."
- 20.**The British army could not believe that the Americans were rebelling against the British rule until Washington's troops landed on Nook's Hill. The British soldiers had begun to embark on board the ships of war. They had no choice but to evacuate Boston.