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Topic Break Down

Topic	No. of Questions
Topic 1, Lower Level Test (Grades 4-5)	128
Topic 2, Middle Level Test (Grades 6-7)	161
Topic 3, Upper Level Test (Grades 8-11)	161
Total	450

QUESTION NO: 1

1 In 18th century France, the masses
2 suffered greatly and ate poorly. The main
3 staple of the common diet was bread, and half
4 of the paltry income of the regular French
5 citizen was dedicated to acquiring this simple
6 commodity. As crops failed, shortages
7 occurred, compounding the suffering of the
8 poor. But while the common people suffered in
9 the streets, the privileged classes, cloistered
10 away in opulent mansions, ate and drank
11 luxuriously in their private worlds of wealth
12 and pleasure.

13 The stark inequalities of the era did not
14 escape the notice of the poor, and a smoldering
15 resentment built among them, later to be
16 expressed in a conflagration of violence and
17 rebellion. Indeed, the lavish lifestyles of the
18 aristocracy may have had even more to do
19 with the coming of revolution than the
20 troubles of the peasantry.

21 Upon hearing of the agonies of the
22 people, that they had "no bread to eat," Marie
23 Antoinette, then Dauphine and later Queen of
24 France, is reputed to have replied, "Let them
25 eat cake!" The utterance acquired a great
26 symbolic importance in the aftermath of the
27 French Revolution, when historians used it to
28 illustrate the ignorance and indifference of the

29 upper classes to the suffering of the poor. The
30 story expressed the feelings of the people,
31 spoke clearly and powerfully to the sentiment
32 of the time, and agreed with the judgment of
33 the Revolutionary Tribunal that the Dauphine
34 was a traitor to the people – a judgment which
35 would lead her to the guillotine. It is an
36 excellent tale, but it does have one minor flaw:
37 it is almost certainly not true.

38 It is, at the very least, a misattribution,
39 but very likely a total fabrication. It appeared
40 first in *Confessions*, the autobiography of Jean-
41 Jacques Rousseau, attributed only to a "great
42 princess." Rousseau's *Confessions* was not
43 noted for its reliability, and even if we take the
44 tale to be true, it would almost certainly have
45 been written while Marie Antoinette was still
46 only a small child.

47 Alas, a good story's survival rarely rests
48 on whether or not it actually happened. This
49 tale has survived the Queen as one of the most
50 widely acknowledged "facts" of her life, and it
51 is likely to persist, marching down into history,
52 bearing with it the spirit of an age – and
53 followed always by a chorus of historical
54 pedants, chanting persistently, "But of course,
55 it isn't true."

The quotation "Let them eat cake" first appeared in:

- A. the popular culture of revolutionary France.
- B. the trial of Marie Antoinette.
- C. a book by Jean-Jacques Rousseau.
- D. a biography of Marie Antoinette.

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 2

1 The Voyager spacecraft, launched from
2 Earth in 1977, recently left the solar system
3 and headed into interstellar space. As it did,
4 the ship carried an unusual calling card,
5 designed to introduce Earth to any alien being
6 that the Voyager might pass. Traveling now
7 billions of kilometers out in space are the
8 voices and sounds of life on Earth. They are
9 bolted to the side of Voyager 1 in the form of a
10 gold-plated phonograph record.

11 Shortly after American astronauts
12 returned from space in 1968, NASA released a
13 photograph of the Earth rising from behind the
14 Moon. According to Margaret Weitekamp, a
15 curator at the Smithsonian National Air and
16 Space Museum, that photo deeply touched the
17 creators of the gold record project. She said,
18 "Knowing that that picture was taken by a
19 human being profoundly changed the thoughts
20 of these people and really made them start
21 thinking about 'If we are this pale blue dot in

22 this ocean of vastness, then how do we
23 communicate something about who we are?"

24 It made them think carefully about how
25 they might convey the greetings, the art and
26 the talent of all humanity – not just the nation
27 that sent the spacecraft up. "There is music on
28 the record from Europe and the United States,"
29 said Tim Ferris, who mixed the audio that went
30 on the record. "But also from Africa, the South
31 Pacific, South America, Georgia, Russia, China,
32 and India."

33 The record contains greetings in 59
34 human languages. It has 118 pictures of life on
35 earth, and 27 pieces of music exemplifying the
36 diversity of human creation. According to
37 Ferris, "The Voyager record represents a step
38 along a long process of humans realizing that
39 we are not at the center of the universe and
40 that our story is probably far from being the
41 only story."

The gold-plated record is intended to be:

- A. the theme music of the Voyager launch when it is broadcast on television.
- B. a sentimental memento for the designers of the Voyager.
- C. a representation of life on Earth for any extraterrestrials who might find it.
- D. a part of the museum display that commemorates the Voyager spacecraft.

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 3

Use the equations below to answer the question.

$$\diamond - 10 = 5$$

$$\bullet + 4 = 9$$



What is the value of $4 - 2 = ?$

- A. 25
- B. 14
- C. 10
- D. 4

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 4

Select the word that is most nearly the same in meaning as the word in capital letters.

FRAGILE

- A. weak
- B. lovely
- C. helpful
- D. luxurious

ANSWER: A

QUESTION NO: 5

1 In 18th century France, the masses
2 suffered greatly and ate poorly. The main
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53 followed always by a chorus of historical
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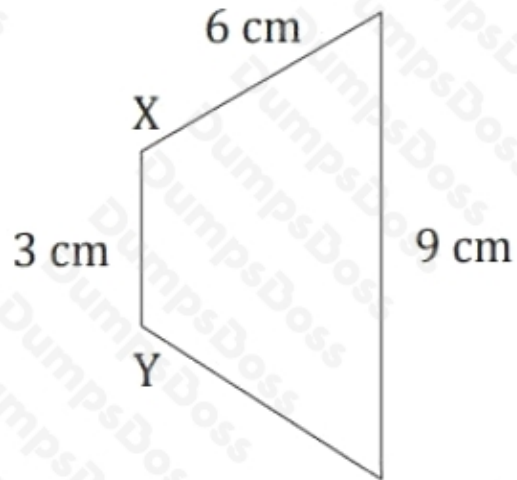
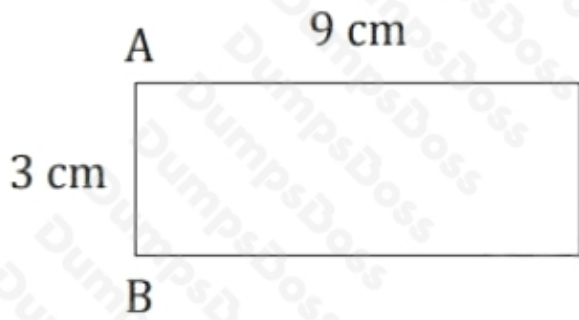
The author's main purpose in this passage is to:

- A. dispute a popular historical myth.
- B. tell an exciting story about revolutionary France.
- C. persuade the reader that Marie Antoinette was actually a kind and generous person.
- D. describe how false stories begin and are spread.

ANSWER: A

QUESTION NO: 6

A rectangle (left) and a trapezoid (right) are shown with their side lengths below.



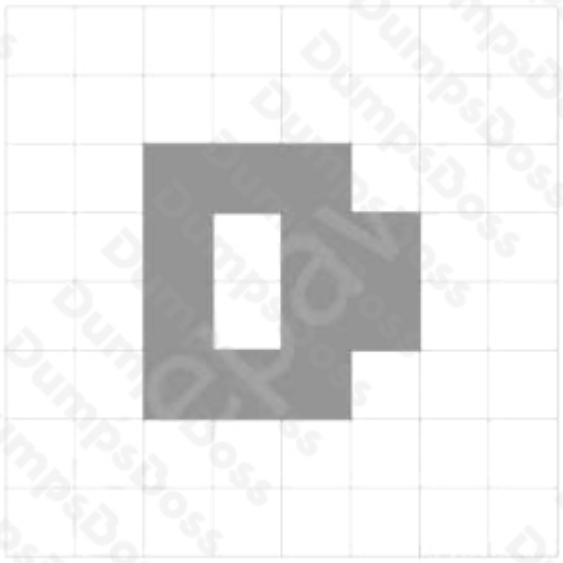
If the rectangle and trapezoid were joined along line segments AB and XY, what would be the perimeter of the resulting six-sided figure?

- A. 27
- B. 38
- C. 42
- D. 48

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 7

The area of each grid square shown is 10 cm².



What is the area of the shaded region?

- A. 60 cm²
- B. 100 cm²
- C. 120 cm²
- D. 140 cm²

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 8

Select the word that is most nearly the same in meaning as the word in capital letters.

ALTER

- A. change
- B. conceal
- C. reject
- D. uproot

ANSWER: A

QUESTION NO: 9

Victoria walks her dog at an average rate of 2 blocks per 5 minutes.

If she walked her dog for a total of 5 hours over the course of the week, how many blocks did she walk?

- A. 50
- B. 60
- C. 100
- D. 120

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 10

Which is the largest fraction?

- A. $\frac{3}{7}$
- B. $\frac{4}{9}$
- C. $\frac{5}{10}$
- D. $\frac{6}{13}$

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 11

Select the word that is most nearly the same in meaning as the word in capital letters.

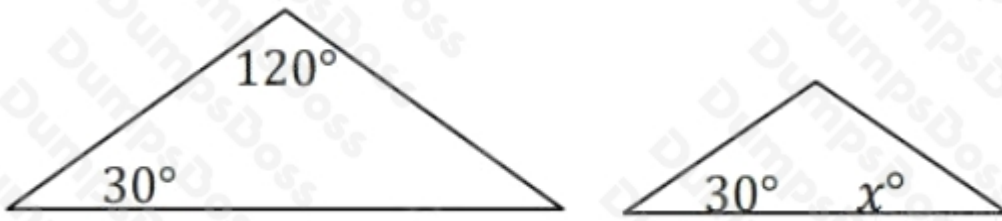
CALCULATE

- A. type
- B. enter
- C. implicate
- D. figure

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 12

The figure below shows two similar triangles.



What is the value of x ?

- A. 30°
- B. 60°
- C. 120°
- D. 180°

ANSWER: A

QUESTION NO: 13 - (SIMULATION)

SIMULATION

Essay Topic

There are many challenges facing young people today. Name one such challenge, and explain what you think is the best way of dealing with this challenge.

- Only write on this essay question
- Only pages 3 and 4 will be sent to the schools
- Only write in blue or black pen

NOTES:

ANSWER: See explanation below.

Explanation:

You will have 30 minutes to plan and write an essay on the topic printed on the other side of this page. Do not write on another topic. An essay on another topic is not acceptable.

The essay is designed to give you an opportunity to show how well you can write. You should try to express your thoughts clearly. How well you write is much more important than how much you write, but you need to say enough for a reader to understand what you mean.

You will probably want to write more than a short paragraph. You should also be aware that a copy of your essay will be sent to each school that will be receiving your test results. You are to write only in the appropriate section of the answer sheet. Please write or print so that your writing may be read by someone who is not familiar with your handwriting.

You may make notes and plan your essay on the reverse side of the page. Allow enough time to copy the final form onto your answer sheet. You must copy the essay topic onto your answer sheet, on page 3, in the box provided.

Please remember to write only the final draft of the essay on pages 6-7 of your answer sheet and to write it in blue or black pen. Again, you may use cursive writing or you may print. Only pages 6-7 will be sent to the schools.

REMINDER: Please write this essay topic on the first few lines of page 6 of your answer sheet.

QUESTION NO: 14

In the passage below, businessman and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie describes an interaction with business partners, which would influence their future relationship.

1 The sale of the bonds had not gone very
2 far when the panic of 1873 was upon us. One of
3 the sources of revenue which I then had was
4 Mr. Pierpont Morgan. He said to me one day:
5 "My father has cabled to ask whether you
6 wish to sell out your interest in that idea you
7 gave him."
8 I said: "Yes, I do. In these days I will sell
9 anything for money."
10 "Well," he said, "what would you take?"
11 I said I believed that a statement recently
12 rendered to me showed that there were
13 already fifty thousand dollars to my credit, and
14 I would take sixty thousand. Next morning
15 when I called Mr. Morgan handed me checks
16 for seventy thousand dollars.
17 "Mr. Carnegie," he said, "you were
18 mistaken. You sold out for ten thousand dollars
19 less than the statement showed to your credit.
20 It now shows not fifty but sixty thousand to
21 your credit, and the additional ten makes
22 seventy."
23 The payments were in two checks, one
24 for sixty thousand dollars and the other for the
25 additional ten thousand. I handed him back the
26 ten-thousand-dollar check, saying:
27 "Well, that is something worthy of you.
28 Will you please accept these ten thousand with
29 my best wishes?"
30 "No, thank you," he said, "I cannot do
31 that."
32 Such acts, showing a nice sense of
33 honorable understanding as against mere legal
34 rights, are not so uncommon in business as the
35 uninitiated might believe. And, after that, it is
36 not to be wondered at if I determined that so
37 far as lay in my power neither Morgan, father
38 or son, nor their house, should suffer through
39 me. They had in me henceforth a firm friend.

We can conclude from the information in the article that, in their later business dealings, the narrator probably:

- A. dealt with the Morgans on good terms, and kept their interests in mind.
- B. continued to undercharge the Morgans as a gesture of friendship.
- C. tried to be more careful when calculating what he was owed, to avoid losing another large sum of money.
- D. took advantage of the Morgans' generosity by charging them more than things were worth.

ANSWER: A

QUESTION NO: 15

If the average of three consecutive even numbers is 24, what is the smallest of the three numbers?

- A. 16
- B. 22
- C. 24
- D. 30

ANSWER: B

QUESTION NO: 16

1 Many people have asked me what, all
2 things considered, is the most valuable quality
3 a wilderness traveler can possess. I have
4 always replied unhesitatingly; for, no matter
5 how useful or desirable attributes such as
6 patience, courage, strength, endurance, good
7 nature, and ingenuity may prove to be,
8 undoubtedly a person with them, but without a
9 sense of direction, is practically helpless in the
10 wilds. Therefore, I should name a sense of
11 direction as the prime requisite for those who
12 would become true foresters, those who would
13 depend on themselves rather than on guides.
14 The faculty is largely developed, of course, by
15 practice, but it must be inborn. Some people
16 possess it; others do not – just as some people
17 are naturally musical while others have no ear
18 for music at all. It is a sort of extra, having
19 nothing to do with criteria of intelligence or
20 mental development: like the repeater
21 movement in a watch. A highly educated or
22 cultured person may lack it, while the roughest
23 may possess it. Some who have never been in
24 the woods or mountains acquire a fair facility
25 at picking a way in the space of a vacation, but I
26 have met a few who have spent their lives on
27 the prospect trail, and who are still, and always
28 will be, as helpless as the newest city dweller. It
29 is a gift, a talent. If you have its germ, you can
30 become a traveler of the wide and lonely
31 places. If not, you may as well resign yourself to
32 guides.

According to the passage, having a sense of direction is:

- A. impossible without a good understanding of music.
- B. entirely innate, and does not improve with practice.
- C. similar to having a natural talent for music.
- D. not as important as many other traits.

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 17

A line with points (0, 1) and (2, -3) is plotted on a graph.

What is the slope of the line?

- A. -3
- B. -2
- C. $-1/2$
- D. 2

ANSWER: B

QUESTION NO: 18

Use the set of numbers shown to answer the question.

{6, 9, 12, 15, 18, ... }

Which describes this set of numbers?

- A. odd numbers
- B. even numbers
- C. prime numbers
- D. multiples of 3

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 19

Which of the following expressions is NOT equal to 26?

A. $2 \times \frac{20}{2} + 6$

B. $\left(2 \times \frac{20}{2}\right) + 6$

C. $2 \times \left(\frac{20}{2} + 6\right)$

D. $2 \times \left(\frac{20+6}{2}\right)$

- A. Option A
- B. Option B
- C. Option C
- D. Option D

ANSWER: C

QUESTION NO: 20

If $(\blacksquare \times 2) + 60 = 300$, what number does \blacksquare stand for?

- A. 180
- B. 120
- C. 110
- D. 80

ANSWER: B