

GRE[®] STRATEGY SESSION 2

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The Verbal Section

In-Depth

& With a Brief Discussion of the Essays

READING TECHNIQUES

Homework Check

Exercise #1: match the following words to their definitions.

-
- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. improvised; without preparation | A. veracity |
| 2. a newly coined word or expression | B. recant |
| 3. a song of joy and praise | C. extemporaneous |
| 4. to praise highly | D. stymie |
| 5. truthfulness; honesty | E. paeon |
| 6. artless; frank and candid | F. lucid |
| 7. associated with war and the military | G. laud |
| 8. to retract a belief or statement | H. onerous |
| 9. cursory; done without care or interest | I. tortuous |
| 10. troubling; burdensome | J. neologism |
| 11. to criticize; to officially rebuke | K. martial |
| 12. winding; twisting; complicated | L. ingenuous |
| 13. to block; to thwart | M. censure |
| 14. clear; easily understood | N. perfunctory |

*perfunctory

Homework Check

Exercise #2 (Text Completion): find the choice that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

Known and feared for their _____, the Prussians became a force inspiring terror after overcoming internal fighting through Bismarck's cunning leadership.

artillery
extravagance
opulence
covetousness
truculence

A perfectionist in all things, Joseph expected to immediately become (i)_____ and was downtrodden indeed when he remained a (ii)_____ despite his best efforts.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
a maven	practitioner
a musician	pundit
a virtuoso	tyro

Homework Check

Exercise #3 (Sentence Equivalence): find the two choices that best fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole. You must select BOTH correct answers - there is no partial credit.

Though he wasn't particularly well-known as a humanitarian, his deep sense of responsibility for the suffering was real, and was only belied by an outward appearance of _____.

- concern
- ambivalence
- mirth
- jouissance
- insouciance
- indifference

Excessive patriotism is by definition _____, as the apotheosizing of one country necessarily requires some amount of demonization of other people.

- minatory
- xenophobic
- unethical
- bigoted
- nationalistic
- truculent

Quick Note on the Essays

Some students had some concerns over the essays. We have planned a 2 ½ hour lecture and explanation of strategy regarding the essays, but on our last day together.

This is intended to maximize your potential improvement in this class, and allow you to take time after our last session to utilize what we gave you to improve your essays.



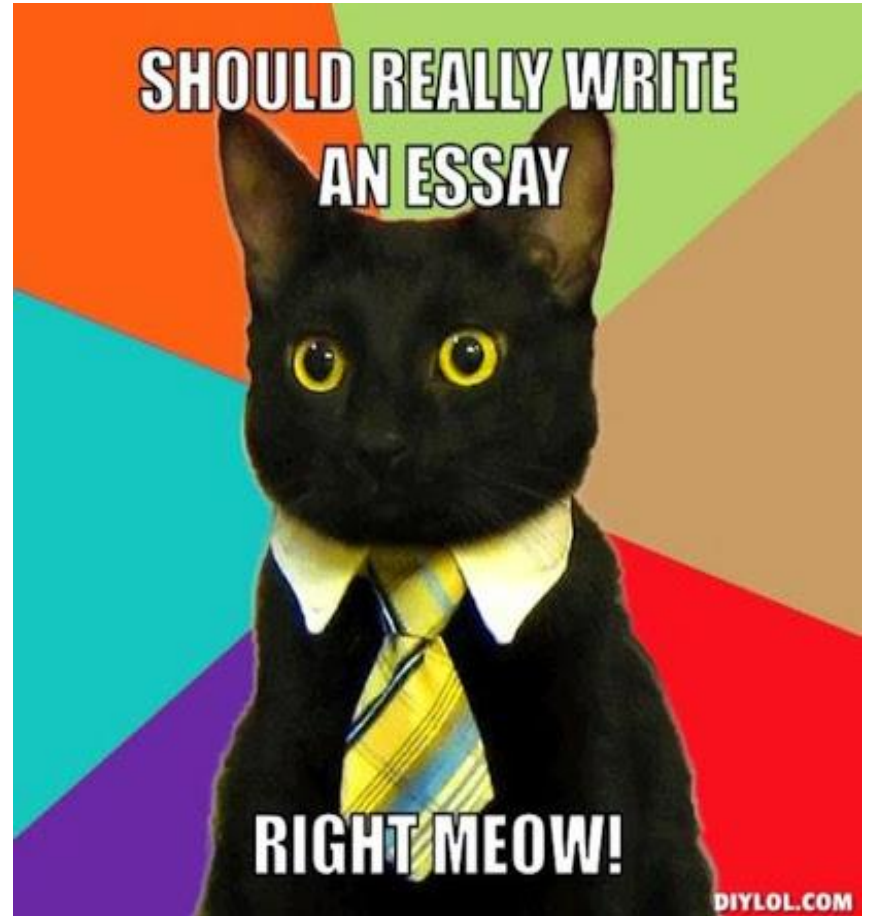
Quick Note on the Essays

The Analytical Writing Section(s) is different than the Verbal Section(s).

There is an Issue Essay and an Argument Essay.

Each are scored from 1-6. Each essay is scored holistically by two different graders; grades are averaged.

In addition to this quick note today, I will provide 2 ½ hours of strategy on our 4th meeting.



Quick Note on the Essays

Notice that ETS's descriptions of the scoring levels (basically, their rubric) focus on analysis.

Higher scoring essays tend to be ***LONG***, full of noteworthy ideas, and college-level vocabulary.

Remember, in addition to this quick note today, I will provide 2 ½ hours of strategy on our 4th meeting.

Issue Essay		Argument Essay	
6	An essay that scores a 6 presents a cogent, well-articulated critique of the issue and conveys meaning skillfully.	6	An essay that scores a 6 presents a cogent, well-articulated critique of the argument and conveys meaning skillfully.
5	An essay that scores a 5 presents a generally thoughtful, well-developed analysis of the complexities of the issue and conveys meaning clearly.	5	An essay that scores a 5 presents a generally thoughtful, well-developed critique of the argument and conveys meaning clearly.
4	An essay that scores a 4 presents a competent analysis of the issue and conveys meaning adequately.	4	An essay that scores a 4 presents a competent critique of the argument and conveys meaning adequately.
3	An essay that scores a 3 demonstrates some competence in its analysis of the issue and in conveying meaning but is obviously flawed.	3	An essay that scores a 3 demonstrates some competence in its critique of the argument and in conveying meaning but is obviously flawed.
2	An essay that scores a 2 demonstrates serious weaknesses in analytical writing.	2	An essay that scores a 2 demonstrates serious weaknesses in analytical writing.
1	An essay that scores a 1 demonstrates fundamental deficiencies in analytical writing skills.	1	An essay that scores a 1 demonstrates fundamental deficiencies in both analysis and writing.

Quick Note on the Essays

This is all going to be available online through the @america website we use for class.

Remember, in addition to this quick note today, I will provide 2 ½ hours of strategy on our 4th meeting.

The Issue Essay

The Issue essay asks for your opinion; you're expected to present your viewpoint on a particular topic and support that viewpoint with various examples. The following is one example of the instructions for the Issue essay:

You will be given a brief quotation that states or implies an issue of general interest and specific instructions on how to respond to that issue. You will have 30 minutes to plan and compose a response in which you develop a position on the issue according to the specific instructions. A response to any other issue will receive a score of zero.

Make sure that you respond to the specific instructions and support your position on the issue with reasons and examples drawn from such areas as your reading, experience, observations, and/or academic studies.

Note how important it is to specifically address the assignment provided as part of the Issue prompt; not following ETS's directions will make your grader unhappy and result in a poor score on the essay.

Quick Note on the Essays

This is all going to be available online through the @america website we use for class.

Remember, in addition to this quick note today, I will provide 2 ½ hours of strategy on our 4th meeting.

The Argument Essay

The Argument essay requires a different type of response. Instead of presenting your own perspective, your job is to critique someone else's argument. You're supposed to address the logical flaws of the argument, not provide your personal opinion on the subject. The following is one example of the directions for the Argument essay:

You will be given a short passage that presents an argument, or an argument to be completed, and specific instructions on how to respond to that passage. You will have 30 minutes to plan and compose a response in which you analyze the passage according to the specific instructions. A response to any other argument will receive a score of zero.

Note that you are NOT being asked to present your own views on the subject. Make sure that you respond to the specific instructions and support your analysis with relevant reasons and/or examples.

In the Argument essay, the emphasis is on writing a logical analysis of the argument, not an opinion piece. It is absolutely essential that you don't confuse the two essay tasks on the GRE.

ETS graders don't expect a perfect essay; occasional spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors won't kill your score.

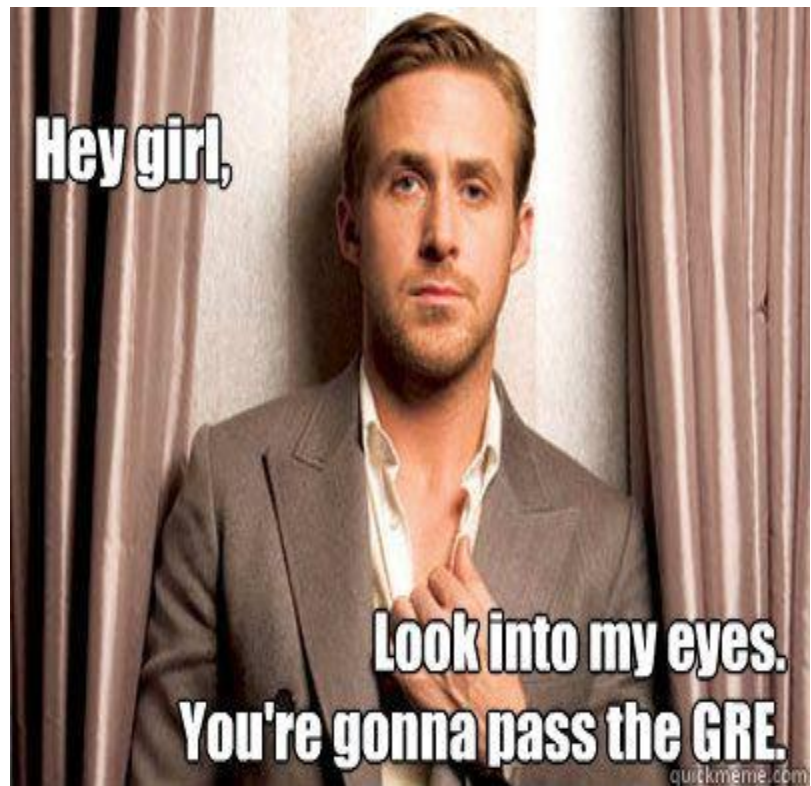
Last Note on the Essays Today

If you are not a native English speaker, expect your essay score and the essays you wrote to receive more attention.

ETS makes the essays available to schools, in addition to the scores.

Essays are weighted by schools variably depending on the program you are applying to.

You'll find that writing high-scoring essays is not as hard as it may seem once you've been shown how to do it.



Text Completion Basics

On each Verbal section (there are two) of the GRE, you can expect to see about six Text Completion questions.

This equates to about 30% of the total questions.

The correct choice for each blank depends on the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

These questions are not just a glorified vocab quiz. You need to have a critical understanding of context and the ability to recognize the internal logic of the given sentence(s) or passage as a whole.

Text Completion Questions: Basic Approach



STEPS FOR TEXT COMPLETION QUESTIONS

Follow these steps for each blank in turn. For now, we'll be working with only one-blank questions. Later, we'll tell you how to handle questions with two and three blanks.

1. **Find the clues and transition words.** Ask yourself these questions:
 - *Who or what* is the blank describing?
 - *What else* in the passage provides *insight* into that person or thing?
2. **Come up with your own word or phrase for the blank.** Write that word or phrase down on your scratch paper.
3. **Check each answer choice.**
 - ✓ an answer that sort of matches your word
 - ✗ an answer that does not at all match your word
 - ? any word you don't know

Text Completion Questions: Example

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

an unobjectionable

a conventional

an execrable

Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 1. Find the clues and transition words. "*Who or what* is the blank describing?" What is the blank talking about?

In this sentence, the blank describes the kind of *orator* that *Robert Ingersoll* was.

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

an unobjectionable

a conventional

an execrable

Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 1. (cont'd) Next ask, "*What else* in the passage provides *insight* into that person or thing?"

Find information in the surrounding text that provides insight into that kind of orator that Ingersoll was.

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

an unobjectionable

a conventional

an execrable

Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 1. (cont'd) The sentence tells us that *people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his ... speeches.*

The sentence also tells us that Ingersoll is *virtually unknown today.*

The transition word **although** puts this insight into opposition to the word in the blank describing the kind of orator Ingersoll was.

So, he was **good** and **well-known**.

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

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Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 2. Come up with your own word or phrase for the blank. Use the insights you've gained (he was **good** and **well-known**) to come up with your own word for the blank. Be precise and accurate.

Here, you might want to say, "***a famously good***," or something like that.

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

an unobjectionable

a conventional

an execrable

Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 3. Check each answer choice.

Compare that word or phrase you've come up with ("*a famously good*" or something like that) to the answer choices.

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

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an execrable

Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 3. (cont'd)

Domineering, or bossy, is not a match.

Eminent, famous or respected, is OK!

Unobjectionable, something that can't be objected to, is not a match.

Conventional, is the opposite!

Execrable, or detestable, is a trick \$10 word answer choice. Go with what you kept.

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

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a conventional

an execrable

Text Completion Example: How to Crack It

Step 3. (cont'd)

Ingersoll was **an eminent** orator of the nineteenth century!

Robert Ingersoll, although virtually unknown today, was _____ orator of the nineteenth century; people traveled hundreds of miles to hear his eloquent speeches.

a domineering

an eminent

an unobjectionable

a conventional

an execrable

Remember - Step 1: GET A CLUE!

STEP 1: GET A CLUE! The information to justify the answer is always right in front of you.

The *text* of the passage provides the *context* for the correct answer.



Text Completion: GET A CLUE!

Always do **STEP 1 (GET A CLUE!)** first!

Don't skip steps!

Who or *What* is the blank describing?

What else in the passage provides *insight* into that person or thing?



Text Completion: Transitions & Punctuation

Transition words (and sometimes punctuation) can tell the reader how a clue relates to the blank - whether the clue has the same meaning as the blank or the opposite meaning.

Same Meaning or Direction / Agreement		Opposite Meaning or Direction / Contrast	
accordingly	next	although	on the other hand
also	similarly	but	or
and	since	despite	previously
because	so	even though	rather than
consequently	therefore	however	still
for example	thus	in contrast	though
furthermore	too	instead	unfortunately
hence	; (semicolon)	nevertheless	whereas
in addition	: (colon)	nonetheless	while

Text Completion: POE Strategies

- **Focus on words you know:** any answer choice you know, you should be able to compare to your prediction and decisively check or cross out
- **Never talk yourself into picking a word that you've eliminated:** just because you know what it means does not mean the word is a better answer.
- **Never eliminate a word you don't know:** if you have no idea, you can't rule it out completely - look for answer choices you know are wrong.
- **Don't trust your ears:** if it doesn't sound quite right, it may still be correct - it may be an antiquated usage, or even plain awkward.
- **Don't forget to Mark and move:** you can always come back to the question at the end.

Text Completion: Last Notes

- If you are stumped, which you will be, you can simplify your POE into just "Good" and "Bad". Get a general sense of what kind of word goes into the blank, and start eliminating.
- Memorize the words you will find on our website. Memorize all new words you find during GRE Preparation.
- There are few other advanced topics for Text Completion strategy that we haven't covered here. If you need more help, please see us afterwards.

Text Completions Drill

1 of 10

With global interconnectedness on the rise, the conviction of the United States to remain neutral in World War I seemed ever more _____.

presumptuous
futile
contemptuous
pragmatic
admirable

2 of 10

Upon visiting the Middle East in 1850, Gustave Flaubert was so _____ belly dancing that he wrote, in a letter to his mother, that the dancers alone made his trip worthwhile.

overwhelmed by
enamored of
taken aback by
beseched by
flustered by

3 of 10

The human race is a very (i) _____ species, as the facade of calm that covers our anxiety and (ii) _____ is flimsy and effortlessly ruptured.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
fragile	terror
purposeful	vulnerability
daring	humor

4 of 10

The practice of purchasing books was primarily a (i) _____ of the well-to-do until the late 1800s, when the increased popularity of dime novels, the expansion in the number of bookstores, and the introduction of the paperback made books (ii) _____ the average man.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
conduit	dislikable to
prerogative	excitable to
plight	attainable by

5 of 10

Increasingly, the boundaries of congressional seats are drawn in order to protect incumbents, as legislators engineer the demographics of each district such that those already in office can coast to (i) _____ victory. Of course, there is always the possibility that the incumbent will face a challenge from within his or her own party. Nevertheless, once the primary is over, the general election is (ii) _____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
an ineluctable	seldom nugatory
an invidious	remarkably contentious
a plangent	merely denouement

Text Completions Drill

#1: Begin by determining who/what the blank in the sentence is describing.

The blank is describing *the conviction of the United States to remain neutral*. Now determine what else gives insight into the word for the blank.

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Text Completions Drill

#1 (cont'd):

The sentence states that global interconnectedness is on the rise in the introductory phrase, which stands in contrast to the above.

Therefore, in a climate of global interconnectedness, for a nation like the United States to remain neutral would be difficult to maintain, so use a word like "improbable" for the blank.

1 of 10
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enamored of
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beseached by
flustered by

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Text Completions Drill

#1 (cont'd):

Something *presumptuous* is not necessary "improbable." *Futile* is a good match for "improbable" so keep (B). *Contemptuous* doesn't match "improbable," and both pragmatic and admirable are the opposite of "improbable."

1 of 10
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purposeful
daring

Blank (ii)
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Blank (i)
conduit
prerogative
plight

Blank (ii)
dislikable to
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Blank (i)
an ineluctable
an invidious
a plangent

Blank (ii)
seldom nugatory
remarkably contentious
merely denouement

Text Completions Drill

#2:

Prediction: "Impressed by"

Eliminate (A)

Keep (B)

Eliminate (C)

Eliminate (D) and (E)

Answer: (B) "enamored of"

1 of 10

With global interconnectedness on the rise, the conviction of the United States to remain neutral in World War I seemed ever more _____.

presumptuous
futile
contemptuous
pragmatic
admirable

2 of 10

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overwhelmed by
enamored of
taken aback by
beseached by
flustered by

3 of 10

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Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
fragile	terror
purposeful	vulnerability
daring	humor

4 of 10

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an ineluctable	seldom nugatory
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Text Completions Drill

#3: Determine which blank is easier.

The first is easier. Prediction: "weak".

Keep (A), eliminate (B) & (C).

The second's Prediction: "anxiety"

(D) is too extreme. Keep (E). (F) is the opposite.

Answer: (A) "fragile" & (E) "vulnerability"

1 of 10
With global interconnectedness on the rise, the conviction of the United States to remain neutral in World War I seemed ever more _____.

- | |
|--------------|
| presumptuous |
| futile |
| contemptuous |
| pragmatic |
| admirable |

2 of 10
Upon visiting the Middle East in 1850, Gustave Flaubert was so _____ belly dancing that he wrote, in a letter to his mother, that the dancers alone made his trip worthwhile.

- | |
|----------------|
| overwhelmed by |
| enamored of |
| taken aback by |
| beseached by |
| flustered by |

3 of 10
The human race is a very (i) _____ species, as the facade of calm that covers our anxiety and (ii) _____ is flimsy and effortlessly ruptured.

- | Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------|---------------|
| fragile | terror |
| purposeful | vulnerability |
| daring | humor |

4 of 10
The practice of purchasing books was primarily a (i) _____ of the well-to-do until the late 1800s, when the increased popularity of dime novels, the expansion in the number of bookstores, and the introduction of the paperback made books (ii) _____ the average man.

- | Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------|---------------|
| conduit | dislikable to |
| prerogative | excitable to |
| plight | attainable by |

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- | Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|------------------------|
| an ineluctable | seldom nugatory |
| an invidious | remarkably contentious |
| a plangent | merely denouement |

Text Completions Drill

#4:

Answer: (B) "prerogative" & (F)
"attainable by"

1 of 10

With global interconnectedness on the rise, the conviction of the United States to remain neutral in World War I seemed ever more _____.

presumptuous
futile
contemptuous
pragmatic
admirable

2 of 10

Upon visiting the Middle East in 1850, Gustave Flaubert was so _____ belly dancing that he wrote, in a letter to his mother, that the dancers alone made his trip worthwhile.

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Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
an ineluctable	seldom nugatory
an invidious	remarkably contentious
a plangent	merely denouement

Text Completions Drill

#5:

Answer: (A) "an ineluctable" & (F)
"merely denouement"

1 of 10
With global interconnectedness on the rise, the conviction of the United States to remain neutral in World War I seemed ever more _____.

presumptuous
futile
contemptuous
pragmatic
admirable

2 of 10
Upon visiting the Middle East in 1850, Gustave Flaubert was so _____ belly dancing that he wrote, in a letter to his mother, that the dancers alone made his trip worthwhile.

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Text Completions Drill

#6:

Answer: (A) "pedantic" & (D)
"antediluvian"

6 of 10

While more (i) _____ professors continue to insist that video games will never be a proper object of study, the rising generation of more heterodox academics is inclined to view such talk as positively (ii) _____.

Blank (i)

pedantic

progressive

erudite

Blank (ii)

antediluvian

pusillanimous

jejune

7 of 10

Political predictions generally prove fairly accurate when the presumption that the future will be similar to the past is (i) _____. In periods with substantial (ii) _____ in the political world, however, predictions can be (iii) _____ wrong.

Blank (i)

disproved

stipulated

fulfilled

Blank (ii)

upswings

insurgencies

changes

Blank (iii)

thoughtfully

perilously

carelessly

8 of 10

Water is one of the few molecules that is less (i) _____ as a solid than as a (ii) _____; if you need (iii) _____, just look at the floating ice in your water glass.

Blank (i)

intriguing

dense

aqueous

Blank (ii)

vapor

plasma

liquid

Blank (iii)

an illustration

an imbibe ment

a discordance

9 of 10

As Molly was (i) _____ Spanish with her friends before their trip to Chile, she discovered that although she could comprehend her friends, she could not (ii) _____ her thoughts in the (iii) _____ language.

Blank (i)

mastering

disregarding

practicing

Blank (ii)

acknowledge

articulate

disencumber

Blank (iii)

inherent

objective

unfamiliar

10 of 10

People accustomed to thinking that the human lifespan (i) _____ the outer bounds of animal longevity tend to dismiss tales of musket balls being found in the shells of living turtles. Samantha Romney, however, argues that while such stories may be (ii) _____, some turtles do indeed exhibit a phenomenon known as "negligible (iii) _____," showing no signs of aging even as they pass the two-century mark.

Blank (i)

belies

demarcates

antedates

Blank (ii)

apocryphal

authentic

heresy

Blank (iii)

rejuvenation

superannuation

senescence

Text Completions Drill

#7:

Answer: (C) "fulfilled", (F) "changes",
& (H) "perilously"

6 of 10

While more (i) _____ professors continue to insist that video games will never be a proper object of study, the rising generation of more heterodox academics is inclined to view such talk as positively (ii) _____.

Blank (i)

pedantic
progressive
erudite

Blank (ii)

antediluvian
pusillanimous
jejune

9 of 10

As Molly was (i) _____ Spanish with her friends before their trip to Chile, she discovered that although she could comprehend her friends, she could not (ii) _____ her thoughts in the (iii) _____ language.

Blank (i)

mastering
disregarding
practicing

Blank (ii)

acknowledge
articulate
disencumber

Blank (iii)

inherent
objective
unfamiliar

7 of 10

Political predictions generally prove fairly accurate when the presumption that the future will be similar to the past is (i) _____. In periods with substantial (ii) _____ in the political world, however, predictions can be (iii) _____ wrong.

Blank (i)

disproved
stipulated
fulfilled

Blank (ii)

upswings
insurgencies
changes

Blank (iii)

thoughtfully
perilously
carelessly

10 of 10

People accustomed to thinking that the human lifespan (i) _____ the outer bounds of animal longevity tend to dismiss tales of musket balls being found in the shells of living turtles. Samantha Romney, however, argues that while such stories may be (ii) _____, some turtles do indeed exhibit a phenomenon known as "negligible (iii) _____," showing no signs of aging even as they pass the two-century mark.

Blank (i)

believes
demarcates
antedates

Blank (ii)

apocryphal
authentic
heresy

Blank (iii)

rejuvenation
superannuation
senescence

8 of 10

Water is one of the few molecules that is less (i) _____ as a solid than as a (ii) _____; if you need (iii) _____, just look at the floating ice in your water glass.

Blank (i)

intriguing
dense
aqueous

Blank (ii)

vapor
plasma
liquid

Blank (iii)

an illustration
an imbibement
a discordance

Text Completions Drill

#8:

Answer: (B) "dense", (F) "liquid", & (G)
"an illustration"

6 of 10

While more (i) _____ professors continue to insist that video games will never be a proper object of study, the rising generation of more heterodox academics is inclined to view such talk as positively (ii) _____.

Blank (i)

pedantic
progressive
erudite

Blank (ii)

antediluvian
pusillanimous
jejune

9 of 10

As Molly was (i) _____ Spanish with her friends before their trip to Chile, she discovered that although she could comprehend her friends, she could not (ii) _____ her thoughts in the (iii) _____ language.

Blank (i)

mastering
disregarding
practicing

Blank (ii)

acknowledge
articulate
disencumber

Blank (iii)

inherent
objective
unfamiliar

7 of 10

Political predictions generally prove fairly accurate when the presumption that the future will be similar to the past is (i) _____. In periods with substantial (ii) _____ in the political world, however, predictions can be (iii) _____ wrong.

Blank (i)

disproved
stipulated
fulfilled

Blank (ii)

upswings
insurgencies
changes

Blank (iii)

thoughtfully
perilously
carelessly

10 of 10

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Blank (i)

belies
demarcates
antedates

Blank (ii)

apocryphal
authentic
heresy

Blank (iii)

rejuvenation
superannuation
senescence

8 of 10

Water is one of the few molecules that is less (i) _____ as a solid than as a (ii) _____; if you need (iii) _____, just look at the floating ice in your water glass.

Blank (i)

intriguing
dense
aqueous

Blank (ii)

vapor
plasma
liquid

Blank (iii)

an illustration
an imbibement
a discordance

Text Completions Drill

#9:

Answer: (C) "practicing", (E) "articulate",
& (I) "unfamiliar"

6 of 10

While more (i) _____ professors continue to insist that video games will never be a proper object of study, the rising generation of more heterodox academics is inclined to view such talk as positively (ii) _____.

Blank (i)

pedantic
progressive
erudite

Blank (ii)

antediluvian
pusillanimous
jejune

9 of 10

As Molly was (i) _____ Spanish with her friends before their trip to Chile, she discovered that although she could comprehend her friends, she could not (ii) _____ her thoughts in the (iii) _____ language.

Blank (i)

mastering
disregarding
practicing

Blank (ii)

acknowledge
articulate
disencumber

Blank (iii)

inherent
objective
unfamiliar

7 of 10

Political predictions generally prove fairly accurate when the presumption that the future will be similar to the past is (i) _____. In periods with substantial (ii) _____ in the political world, however, predictions can be (iii) _____ wrong.

Blank (i)

disproved
stipulated
fulfilled

Blank (ii)

upswings
insurgencies
changes

Blank (iii)

thoughtfully
perilously
carelessly

10 of 10

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Blank (i)

belies
demarcates
antedates

Blank (ii)

apocryphal
authentic
heresy

Blank (iii)

rejuvenation
superannuation
senescence

8 of 10

Water is one of the few molecules that is less (i) _____ as a solid than as a (ii) _____; if you need (iii) _____, just look at the floating ice in your water glass.

Blank (i)

intriguing
dense
aqueous

Blank (ii)

vapor
plasma
liquid

Blank (iii)

an illustration
an imbibement
a discordance

Text Completions Drill

#10:

Answer: (B) "demarcates", (D)
"apocryphal", & (I) "senescence"

6 of 10

While more (i) _____ professors continue to insist that video games will never be a proper object of study, the rising generation of more heterodox academics is inclined to view such talk as positively (ii) _____.

Blank (i)

pedantic
progressive
erudite

Blank (ii)

antediluvian
pusillanimous
jejune

7 of 10

Political predictions generally prove fairly accurate when the presumption that the future will be similar to the past is (i) _____. In periods with substantial (ii) _____ in the political world, however, predictions can be (iii) _____ wrong.

Blank (i)

disproved
stipulated
fulfilled

Blank (ii)

upswings
insurgencies
changes

Blank (iii)

thoughtfully
perilously
carelessly

8 of 10

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vapor
plasma
liquid

Blank (iii)

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an imbibe ment
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9 of 10

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Blank (i)

mastering
disregarding
practicing

Blank (ii)

acknowledge
articulate
disencumber

Blank (iii)

inherent
objective
unfamiliar

10 of 10

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Blank (i)

belies
demarcates
antedates

Blank (ii)

apocryphal
authentic
heresy

Blank (iii)

rejuvenation
superannuation
senescence

Sentence Equivalence

Sentence Equivalence questions make up approximately 20% of the questions in any individual Verbal section.

You must choose the two answer choices that complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole, and produce complete sentences that are alike in meaning.

CAUTION: The two right answers will sometimes be synonyms, but often, they will NOT be synonyms. They need only produce sentences that are similar.

Sentence Equivalence: The Basic Approach

1. **Find the Clues and Transition words.**
2. **Come up with your own word or phrase for the blank.** Write that word down on your scratch paper.
3. **Check each answer choice and use your scratch paper** (checking, crossing-out, and question-marking).

Sentence Equivalence: Clues & Transitions

The first step in answering Sentence Equivalence questions is the same as that for Text Completions. You must find the clues and transition words in the sentence.

Do not move on to Step 2 or look at the answer choices until you've identified the clues and transition words in the sentence!

Sentence Equivalence: POE Strategies

When in doubt, or when in trouble, or when it's all French to to you, here are a few strategies:

- Positive and Negative Words: simplify your POE to good/bad sounding words
- Synonym / No Synonym: look over the answer choices for synonym pairs
- There are few other advanced topics for Sentence Equivalence strategy that we haven't covered here. If you need more help, please see us afterwards.



Sentence Equivalence

#1:

"affinity" and "predilection"

#2:

"fiasco" and "debacle"

#3:

"diminishes" and "wanes"

#4:

"an inept" and "a maladroitt"

#5:

"temperament" and "humor"

1 of 5

Possessed of an insatiable sweet tooth, Jim enjoyed all kinds of candy, but he had a special _____ for gumdrops, his absolute favorite.

- container
- affinity
- odium
- nature
- disregard
- predilection

2 of 5

Although the Wright brothers' first attempted flight in 1901 was a _____ and subsequent efforts similarly ended in failure, they persisted and ultimately made the first successful airplane flight in 1903.

- fiasco
- debacle
- hindrance
- feat
- triumph
- precedent

3 of 5

The fuel efficiency of most vehicles traveling at speeds greater than 50 miles per hour _____ as the vehicle's speed increases, due to the increased aerodynamic drag placed on the vehicle.

- equalizes
- adapts
- stabilizes
- diminishes

4 of 5

Despite the vast amount of time Francis dedicated to learning six different languages, he was _____ communicator; his mastery of vocabulary and grammar failed to redress his inability to construct cogent prose.

- a florid
- an inept
- a prolific
- an astute
- a morose
- a maladroitt

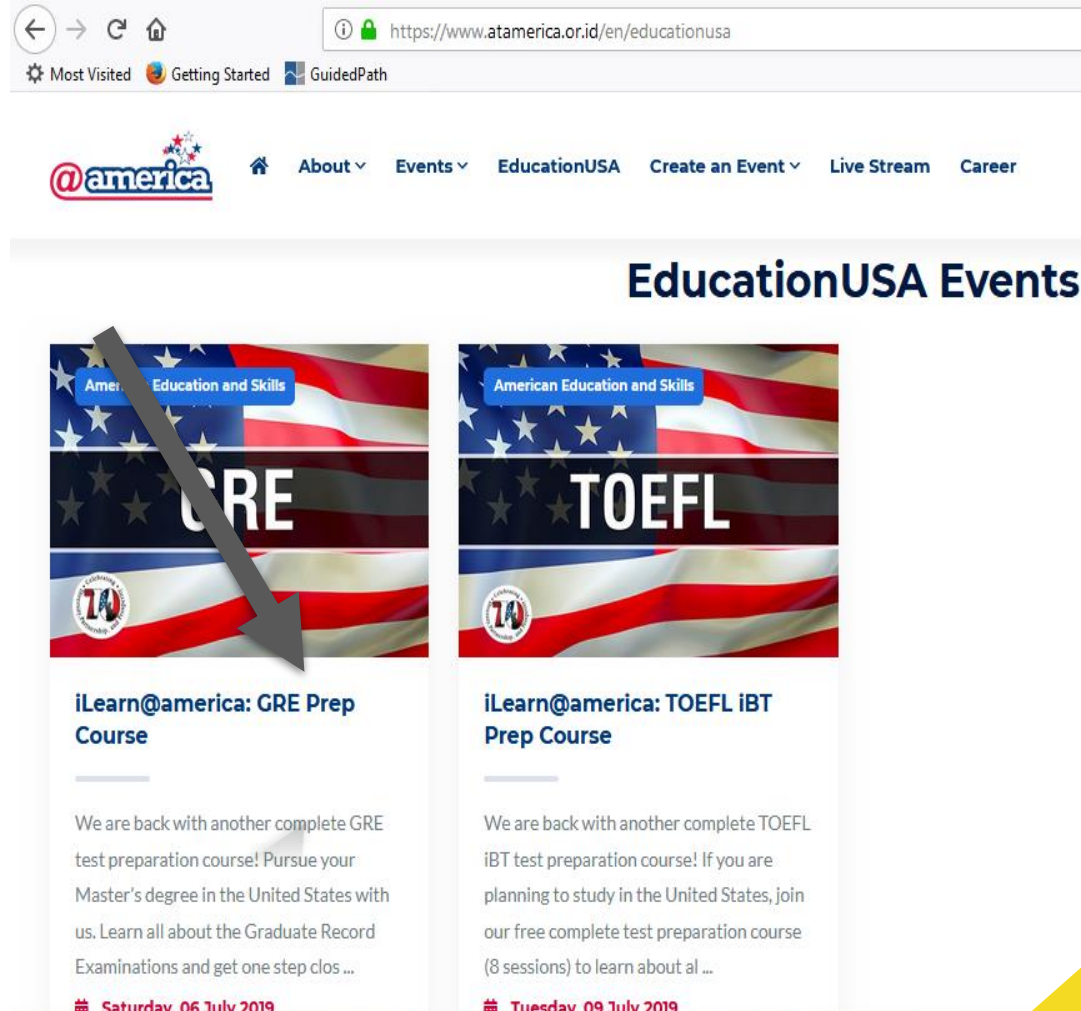
5 of 5

The twins' heredity and upbringing were identical in nearly every respect, yet one child remained unflinchingly sanguine even in times of stress while her sister was prone to angry outbursts that indicated an exceptionally choleric _____.

- genotype
- environment
- physiognomy
- incarnation
- temperament
- humor

Homework

- 1) Continue Your Vocabulary-Building
- 2) Handout #2 (Online)



The screenshot shows the @america website's EducationUSA Events page. The page features two event cards. The first card is for the 'iLearn@america: GRE Prep Course', which is highlighted with a large grey arrow. The second card is for the 'iLearn@america: TOEFL iBT Prep Course'. Both cards feature an American flag background and a '70' anniversary logo. The website's navigation bar includes links for 'About', 'Events', 'EducationUSA', 'Create an Event', 'Live Stream', and 'Career'. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'https://www.atamerica.or.id/en/educationusa'.

EducationUSA Events

American Education and Skills

GRE

TOEFL

iLearn@america: GRE Prep Course

We are back with another complete GRE test preparation course! Pursue your Master's degree in the United States with us. Learn all about the Graduate Record Examinations and get one step clos ...

Saturday, 06 July 2019

iLearn@america: TOEFL iBT Prep Course

We are back with another complete TOEFL iBT test preparation course! If you are planning to study in the United States, join our free complete test preparation course (8 sessions) to learn about al ...

Tuesday, 09 July 2019

Didactic Queries?
Catechistic Inquiry?
Dialectical Vitriol?

Thank you.
We sanguinely hope
you have taken no
umbrage.

