

2022 STAAR English II Rationales

Item #	Rationale	
1	Option D is correct	Replacing "mixing" with "combination" creates a more effective sentence because the sentence describes a combination of existing elements.
	Option A is incorrect	The word "merger" would not be used in this context because the elements are not combined in a purposeful way.
	Option B is incorrect	The word "mingling" is not effective in this sentence. The elements must be combined to cause deterioration.
	Option C is incorrect	The "connection" does not cause the deterioration, a combination of elements does. This would not be an effective choice.

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Item #	Rationale	
2	Option G is correct	This sentence is correctly punctuated and combines the information from sentences 8 and 9 in a concise and effective way.
	Option F is incorrect	This sentence is a run-on that incorrectly joins two main clauses with a conjunction but no appropriate punctuation.
	Option H is incorrect	Sentences 8 and 9 are combined with a semicolon in this sentence, but the combination is not as effective as the correct answer because the information is repetitive rather than a concise combination of the meaning in each sentence.
	Option J is incorrect	The sentence includes some of the details, but the second clause lacks a subject. Clarity is lost and the option is incorrect.

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Item #	Rationale	
3	Option D is correct	Adding this sentence after the explanation of the food preservation process in sentence 17 provides more specific information about the types of foods that could be preserved and safely stored.
	Option A is incorrect	Placing the sentence after sentence 14 and before the completed explanation about the preservation process creates a gap in the logic of the paragraph.
	Option B is incorrect	Sentence 15 continues the explanation of the preservation process, so placing the sentence after sentence 15 creates a gap in the logic of the paragraph.
	Option C is incorrect	Placing the sentence after sentence 16 and before the completed explanation creates a gap in the logic of the paragraph.

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Item #	Rationale	
4	Option F is correct	This sentence is more direct and concise than sentence 26.
	Option G is incorrect	This sentence is awkward and loses the connection between freeze drying and preservation.
	Option H is incorrect	The information in this sentence is confusing; it is also a run-on sentence that has incorrectly joined two main clauses.
	Option J is incorrect	This sentence is awkward, and the logic of the sentence is unclear.

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Item #	Rationale	
5	Option C is correct	This sentence gives further information about how Stevenson improved skateboards, providing support for the third paragraph.
	Option A is incorrect	Adding "saw a way to improve skateboards" repeats information found in sentence 12.
	Option B is incorrect	Introducing the idea of another inventor would not follow logically after sentence 13.
	Option D is incorrect	This sentence is too general and vague to add support to the paragraph.

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Item #	Rationale	
6	Option F is correct	Replacing “they” with “skateboarders” makes it clear that skateboarders were the ones to “perform aerial stunts.”
	Option G is incorrect	Although the kicktails made it easier for skateboarders to perform the aerial stunts, the kicktails did not perform the stunts, so replacing “they” with kicktails would not be correct.
	Option H is incorrect	The skateboarders performed the stunts, not the inventors.
	Option J is incorrect	The surfboards are no longer being discussed at this point.

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Item #	Rationale	
7	Option B is correct	The information about athletic shoes in sentence 20 is not necessary, so sentence 20 should be deleted.
	Option A is incorrect	Deleting this sentence would remove important information about the switch to urethane wheels.
	Option C is incorrect	Information about the benefits of urethane wheels is relevant to the development of ideas in this paragraph, so this sentence should not be deleted.
	Option D is incorrect	Nasworthy and Stevenson made important contributions to skateboarding, which is relevant information to include in this paragraph.

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Item #	Rationale	
8	Option H is correct	"An opportunity" is the most effective phrase to replace "a way" because skateboarding fits into a new category of "action sports."
	Option F is incorrect	ESPN would not need "an opening" to present a sport since it is a sports network.
	Option G is incorrect	"A break" to present a sport would not be necessary on a sports network.
	Option J is incorrect	ESPN would not need "a room" to present this sport.

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Item #	Rationale	
9	Option B is correct	This sentence logically fits after sentence 30 because it expands on the idea of skateboarding becoming more mainstream.
	Option A is incorrect	Placing this sentence before sentence 30 confuses the reader because the word that "It" refers to is unclear.
	Option C is incorrect	Since the writer has moved on to the Olympics, inserting the sentence after sentence 31 is illogical.
	Option D is incorrect	Placing this sentence after sentence 32 is confusing and illogical.

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Item #	Rationale	
10	Option H is correct	Changing “fell” to “falls” puts the verb in present tense and keeps it in agreement with the other verbs in the sentence.
	Option F is incorrect	Using “has explained” changes the tense to the past, which causes an inconsistent verb tense in the sentence.
	Option G is incorrect	Changing “then” to “than” would create an error in the sentence because “then” refers to time.
	Option J is incorrect	The comma before the participial phrase, which is an adjectival phrase that describes a noun, is correct and should not be removed.

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Item #	Rationale	
11	Option C is correct	Replacing “they are” with “it is” corrects the agreement in number between the subject—“this solar water purifier”—and the pronoun, which should be singular.
	Option A is incorrect	The comma after an introductory word is correct and should not be deleted.
	Option B is incorrect	The use of “than” is correct. Replacing it with “then” would indicate change in time and would make the sentence incorrect.
	Option D is incorrect	Changing “widely” to “wildly” would incorrectly change the meaning of the sentence.

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Item #	Rationale	
12	Option G is correct	The word "environments" is plural, not possessive, so it should not have an apostrophe.
	Option F is incorrect	The word "divercity" is misspelled and would make the sentence incorrect.
	Option H is incorrect	Changing "presents" to "presenting" would create a fragment, which is a group of words that is not a complete sentence.
	Option J is incorrect	Changing "have" to "has" would create an error in agreement with the noun "challenges" in the sentence.

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Item #	Rationale	
13	Option B is correct	Changing the comma after “drinkable” to a semicolon corrects the run-on sentence. Run-ons happen when two main clauses are joined incorrectly.
	Option A is incorrect	Changing “can” to “could” changes the meaning of the sentence and makes it illogical.
	Option C is incorrect	The word “quickly” is the correct form of the word and should not be changed.
	Option D is incorrect	“Prosess” is an incorrect spelling and would result in an error.

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Item #	Rationale	
14	Option J is correct	Changing "assessible" to "accessible" corrects the spelling error.
	Option F is incorrect	The comma after an introductory word or phrase is correct and should not be changed.
	Option G is incorrect	Changing the verb to the future perfect "will have been" is incorrect. The tense needs to stay as it is written: "will be."
	Option H is incorrect	The word "purified" is the correct form of the adjective and should not be changed.

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Item #	Rationale	
15	Option B is correct	Changing "middle school" to "Middle School" corrects the error by capitalizing the proper noun, which is a noun that refers to a specific place.
	Option A is incorrect	The comma after "Sonneborn" is correct and deleting it would create an error.
	Option C is incorrect	The phrase "he was" is correct because it is referring to a single person, Ethan. Changing "he was" to "they were" would create an agreement error.
	Option D is incorrect	Not changing the sentence would leave the capitalization error and make the sentence incorrect.

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Item #	Rationale	
16	Option H is correct	Inserting a comma after “enough” corrects a punctuation error because there should be a comma after a long introductory phrase that contains a verbal element.
	Option F is incorrect	Changing “that” to “these” would create an error because “that” is referring to only one thing and should remain singular.
	Option G is incorrect	“Surprising” is the correct form of the word and should not be changed.
	Option J is incorrect	Deleting “not” would change the meaning of the sentence.

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Item #	Rationale	
17	Option A is correct	Changing "those" to "him" corrects the pronoun error because "him" refers to a single person, Ethan.
	Option B is incorrect	Inserting a comma after "ages" would create an error in the sentence.
	Option C is incorrect	The word "there" is used correctly because it is indicating a place.
	Option D is incorrect	Changing the spelling of "aspirations" would introduce a spelling error.

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Item #	Rationale	
18	Option J is correct	Changing the spelling of “committed” to “committed” corrects the spelling error.
	Option F is incorrect	Deleting the comma would create a run-on sentence by joining two main clauses incorrectly.
	Option G is incorrect	The correct form of the pronoun is “those” and should not be changed.
	Option H is incorrect	Inserting a comma after “issues” creates a punctuation error.

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Item #	Rationale	
20	Option G is correct	The author’s purpose is to explain how “generational change”— the behaviors and preferences of Millennials—influenced the business model of co-working and co-living spaces with emphasis on community.
	Option F is incorrect	The author makes no mention of one generation impacting another.
	Option H is incorrect	The author’s purpose is to explain the influence of Millennials on the business model, not to explain how participants join co-working and co-living spaces.
	Option J is incorrect	The author does not focus on a contrast between the behaviors of multiple generations.

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Item #	Rationale	
21	Option C is correct	In this sentence, the author speaks of workers having the daily opportunity to socialize as well as to collaborate and share ideas in co-working spaces, which supports the idea that these interactions are mostly positive.
	Option A is incorrect	The author indicates the rapid growth and popularity of the co-working space trend but does not specifically mention positive interactions among employees.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author states that people pay to have the opportunity to be in a co-working environment, the author does not mention the positivity of the interactions.
	Option D is incorrect	In this sentence, the author emphasizes that Millennials may be choosing this type of work environment for its safety, not its positivity.

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Item #	Rationale	
22	Option J is correct	By using the question and the answer in paragraph 5, the author introduces the Millennial mindset as tending to prefer the more supportive and cooperative environment that co-working and co-living spaces provide, which spurs the growing popularity of such trends.
	Option F is incorrect	Using the question and the answer is a way for the author to introduce how Millennials tend to view work and lifestyles, not to describe the co-working and co-living trend as a solution to a problem.
	Option G is incorrect	The author describes the attraction this trend has for many Millennials but does not state that the trend is exclusively for Millennials.
	Option H is incorrect	The author is not using the question and the answer specifically to discuss how businesses can benefit by selling to Millennials.

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Item #	Rationale	
23	Option A is correct	The author begins the excerpt by describing the increasingly popular trend of co-working and co-living spaces and then continues by discussing how this rising trend suits Millennials particularly well.
	Option B is incorrect	The author does not state that this popular trend appeals exclusively to Millennials.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the author does include a discussion of Millennials' characteristics and ways of thinking, no examples of how Millennials apply these in their work are given.
	Option D is incorrect	Even though the author offers statistics to show the increase in businesses using the co-working and co-living concepts, those statistics do not explain how certain startups are succeeding.

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Item #	Rationale	
24	Option G is correct	Based on paragraphs 6 and 7, the author would most likely agree that Millennials desire community in all aspects of their lives and “would rather do most of their living and working with others.”
	Option F is incorrect	The idea of co-living being available for prior generations is not mentioned by the author.
	Option H is incorrect	The author does not specifically link the most successful businesses to the meeting of Millennials’ needs.
	Option J is incorrect	Even though the author implies that many people currently work in a more isolated environment, his focus is not on what the rising trends offer.

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Item #	Rationale	
25	Option B is correct	In paragraph 9, the author explains that Millennials “trust others to look out for their best interests” and are more comfortable with dependency and closer supervision because that was what they experienced growing up.
	Option A is incorrect	It is in paragraph 10 that the author explains Millennials’ desire for convenience, not in paragraph 9.
	Option C is incorrect	The author mentions the idea of close supervision at work in paragraph 8, not in paragraph 9.
	Option D is incorrect	The author discusses the safety net and having someone there to catch mistakes in paragraph 8, not as part of the contrast between the upbringing experienced by Millennials and by prior generations.

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Item #	Rationale	
26	Option H is correct	In this sentence from paragraph 3, the author hints at the fact that Desmond's writer's block will continue, and his novel will not progress, as he will still put the blame on someone else.
	Option F is incorrect	This sentence from paragraph 1 helps establish what the living conditions are like but does not foreshadow the ending of the excerpt.
	Option G is incorrect	Although it adds a humorous speculation about the landlady, the wife's comment offers no foreshadowing.
	Option J is incorrect	The wife's comment is a playful one to her husband but does not foreshadow the ending of the excerpt.

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Item #	Rationale	
27	Option C is correct	In paragraph 1, Mrs. O’Sullivan’s fingers “dig into the sides of her face” and pick at her face “to sympathize with everything that is said to her,” so definition 3 is correct.
	Option A is incorrect	Mrs. O’Sullivan is not trying to remove anything from her face, she has a habit of picking at her face to show sympathy for others’ situations.
	Option B is incorrect	There is no attempt to separate anything when Mrs. O’Sullivan picks at her face.
	Option D is incorrect	The picking mentioned does not refer to Mrs. O’Sullivan playing any stringed musical instrument.

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Item #	Rationale	
28	Option H is correct	Desmond's wife is someone who flows with the circumstances, and in paragraph 4 she playfully encourages Desmond to adjust to the situation as well.
	Option F is incorrect	The quotation is not about Desmond's wife; rather, Desmond's wife is playfully mocking his paranoid focus on the property owner.
	Option G is incorrect	Desmond is not speaking about his wife; he is again expressing his intense feelings about the property owner.
	Option J is incorrect	Desmond is referring to his wife, but not to her tendency to be carefree and easygoing.

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Item #	Rationale	
29	Option A is correct	In the excerpt Desmond most resembles a creator archetype. As a result of his paranoid thinking, Desmond has created a figment of Mrs. O’Sullivan in his mind, someone whom he blames even for his struggle to “put down any new words” as well as words that, once written, have “no magic” (paragraph 6).
	Option B is incorrect	To be a heroic figure would require Desmond to be much less self-absorbed than he demonstrates in this excerpt.
	Option C is incorrect	Desmond is not a rebel; he does not attempt to rise up against Mrs. O’Sullivan, nor does he attempt to get his family to share his beliefs.
	Option D is incorrect	Desmond is too selfish to care about anyone other than himself.

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Item #	Rationale	
30	Option G is correct	Because Desmond is constantly worrying about Mrs. O’Sullivan’s presence and his feeling that she is always “in her own room listening” to him (paragraph 1), the reader can infer that he is overwhelmed by her presence.
	Option F is incorrect	The only relatives mentioned are Desmond’s wife and children. The selection includes nothing that would lead the reader to infer there are other relatives Desmond dislikes.
	Option H is incorrect	Although Desmond is surprised that Mrs. O’Sullivan will be living with them in the house they rented from her, the reader can infer that his judgment of her comes from his assumptions, not from her appearance.
	Option J is incorrect	There is nothing in the excerpt from which the reader can infer that Desmond is biased against elderly people.

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Item #	Rationale	
31	Option D is correct	Desmond's hope that the pen will write all on its own supports the idea that Desmond is suffering from writer's block.
	Option A is incorrect	This phrase indicates that Desmond knows the story he wants to write but does not show that he is struggling with writing it.
	Option B is incorrect	The author shows Desmond's usual approach to writing but does not indicate that he has struggled to put words on paper.
	Option C is incorrect	This phrase refers more to Desmond's preferred approach to writing than to any struggle.

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Item #	Rationale	
32	Option J is correct	This theme is shown because Desmond’s intense fixation on Mrs. O’Sullivan is what prevents him from writing his novel.
	Option F is incorrect	The idea of acceptance leading to understanding is not present in the excerpt.
	Option G is incorrect	The reader is never told what the story that Desmond has in his head is about, so it is not possible to say that this is the theme.
	Option H is incorrect	Desmond never discusses his story idea, so the reader cannot know whether the discussion would have helped him to write.

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Item #	Rationale	
33	Option B is correct	His wife's cheerful and positive attitude contrasts with and highlights Desmond's internal struggle with his negative feelings toward Mrs. O'Sullivan and his inability to create.
	Option A is incorrect	Desmond's wife focuses on reality, which is different from Desmond's imaginary, not artistic, sense.
	Option C is incorrect	When Desmond's wife points out his behavior, she does so in a loving, playful way, not in a critical way.
	Option D is incorrect	Because Desmond's wife is easygoing, it makes Desmond's struggle seem less real rather than making him appear lazy.

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Item #	Rationale	
34	Option F is correct	In "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," Millennials are presented as comfortable with the idea of working cooperatively, whereas in "The Leper's Squint," Desmond does not want anyone around him while he writes.
	Option G is incorrect	There is no presentation of argument or proof in either "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" or in "The Leper's Squint."
	Option H is incorrect	In "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," Millennials are not said to trust every new situation or all people, and Desmond does not demonstrate trust in "The Leper's Squint."
	Option J is incorrect	In "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" the workplaces that suit many Millennials well are described, but in "The Leper's Squint," we are not told why Desmond has left Canada to visit Ireland.

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Item #	Rationale	
35	Option C is correct	Both excerpts describe privacy as something everyone needs. In paragraph 11, the author of "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" concedes that there are times "both at work and at home" where privacy is desired, and in "The Leper's Squint" Desmond longs for the privacy he lacks due to Mrs. O'Sullivan's overwhelming presence.
	Option A is incorrect	In neither "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" nor "The Leper's Squint" is privacy connected to specific age groups.
	Option B is incorrect	Privacy is not discussed as a problem in relationships in "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," but in "The Leper's Squint," Desmond sees his lack of privacy as a huge problem.
	Option D is incorrect	In neither excerpt is privacy characterized as an experience had only by older generations.

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Item #	Rationale	
36	Option G is correct	In "The Leper's Squint," Desmond is bothered by Mrs. O'Sullivan living with his family and him to the point of stating that he "can't write with someone sitting waiting" (paragraph 3). In contrast, Millennials desire a collaborative living situation that provides a "safety net to catch them if all goes wrong" (paragraph 8).
	Option F is incorrect	In "The Leper's Squint," no member of Desmond's family is present in the room where he is trying to write; Millennials desire "the daily opportunity to socialize and collaborate" (paragraph 3).
	Option H is incorrect	In "The Leper's Squint," the co-living arrangement is a total surprise to Desmond, not anything he is curious about; Millennials seek out co-living situations and have influenced the trend toward shared living arrangements.
	Option J is incorrect	In "The Leper's Squint," Desmond is shocked, not relieved, to learn of the temporary co-living arrangement; Millennials seek out long-term co-living arrangements and have influenced the housing market to accommodate their preferences.

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Item #	Rationale	
37	Option D is correct	The author of "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" writes that not all Millennials are comfortable with the idea of co-workspaces and co-living, and the author of "The Leper's Squint" describes Desmond as finding his co-living situation to be an "annoyance."
	Option A is incorrect	The author of "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" states that many Millennials are attracted to a co-working and co-living situation because it saves money, but the author of "The Leper's Squint" does not focus at all on the idea of saving money.
	Option B is incorrect	Isolation is not discussed by either the author of "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" or the author of "The Leper's Squint."
	Option C is incorrect	Neither the author of "Millennials. . . So Happy Together" nor the author of "The Leper's Squint" discusses co-working and co-living as trends from the past.

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Item #	Rationale	
38	Option H is correct	In "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," the author speaks to the functioning of co-living arrangements; the author of "The Leper's Squint" focuses on Desmond's inability to adapt to Mrs. O'Sullivan living in the same house.
	Option F is incorrect	The author mentions past generations and their upbringing in "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," but nothing about them questioning the idea of co-living. In "The Leper's Squint," Mrs. O'Sullivan is older than the members of Desmond's immediate family, but no one except Desmond questions the idea of co-living.
	Option G is incorrect	The author lists possible ways participants may save money in "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," but in "The Leper's Squint," there is no discussion of saving money.
	Option J is incorrect	In "Millennials. . . So Happy Together," those who are attracted to the co-working and co-living environments see the benefits, but in "The Leper's Squint," Desmond sees the situation as being detrimental, not beneficial.

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39	Option A is correct	Lines 9 through 11 reveal that Wolfgang wants his father’s approval. Wolfgang bursts in with excitement to see his father and announces that he has composed a symphony. He wants to impress his father and asks, “Have I pleased you?”
	Option B is incorrect	If Wolfgang were frightened of his father’s reaction, he would not excitedly burst into a room to see him.
	Option C is incorrect	Lines 9 through 11 in the play show Wolfgang asking his father “Have I pleased you?” They do not show Wolfgang’s reaction or attitude after receiving praise from his father.
	Option D is incorrect	Wolfgang does not question his father’s abilities, so he isn’t worried about them.

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40	Option J is correct	This quotation shows that Anna Maria believes that Leopold expects too much of Wolfgang and fails to let him be himself.
	Option F is incorrect	In this quotation, Anna Maria questions Leopold's frustration but does not express anger.
	Option G is incorrect	Anna Maria is not expressing anger in this quotation; she is trying to focus Leopold's attention on dispelling rumors about Wolfgang's abilities that could be hurtful to the child.
	Option H is incorrect	Although Anna Maria asks Mr. Barrington for more information about his intentions for Wolfgang, her question does not contain any expression of anger toward Leopold.

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Item #	Rationale	
41	Option A is correct	In line 33, the meaning of <u>refuted</u> is “proven false.” Mr. Barrington is highly respected as a musical scholar, so his assessment of Wolfgang’s ability cannot be <u>refuted</u> , or be proven false.
	Option B is incorrect	Although people may agree with Mr. Barrington’s assessment, this is not the meaning of <u>refute</u> and does not make sense in context when Mr. Barrington says, “my word can hardly be refuted” (line 33).
	Option C is incorrect	Mr. Barrington is making a judgment or assessment of Wolfgang’s performance; however, it is the judgment that cannot be <u>refuted</u> , so this is not the meaning of <u>refuted</u> .
	Option D is incorrect	There is no evidence that Mr. Barrington’s assessment is predictable, so this is not the meaning of <u>refuted</u> .

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42	Option G is correct	Line 44 exhibits the archetype of a hero by describing Wolfgang's special talents. Mr. Barrington praises the unusual talents and qualities Wolfgang has demonstrated and suggests that Wolfgang's talent may even exceed what they can all imagine.
	Option F is incorrect	In line 16, the reader can infer an air of arrogance from Mr. Barrington because he assumes that his reputation will cause Wolfgang's parents to allow him to visit with Wolfgang after the stated visitation hours, but arrogance is not a quality of a hero archetype.
	Option H is incorrect	In line 50, Anna Maria exhibits frustration with Leopold when she scolds him for not acting in Wolfgang's best interest, but frustration is not a quality of a hero archetype.
	Option J is incorrect	In line 59, Leopold states a negative assumption by accusing Anna Maria of being overly impressed by the glamour of the royal court. Making a negative assumption about another person is not a quality of a hero archetype.

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43	Option B is correct	The reader can infer from this line that Anna Maria believes that Leopold is ambitious and wants to use Wolfgang’s unusual talent to further his own reputation in society.
	Option A is incorrect	The inference that Anna Maria thinks Leopold is discouraged is not possible from this line, since Leopold shows no evidence of relenting in his effort to push Wolfgang to prove his talent.
	Option C is incorrect	This line does not refer to Anna Maria’s belief that Leopold is protecting his child; rather, she thinks he is exploiting his child.
	Option D is incorrect	There is nothing in this line from which the reader might infer that Anna Maria thinks Leopold is confused; she is reminding him of his previously stated opinions.

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44	Option J is correct	The word <u>exercise</u> as it is used in line 36 refers to the tasks Wolfgang completes to continue to improve his performance skills.
	Option F is incorrect	In line 36, Mr. Barrington does not think that Wolfgang is “employing” something. Therefore, this is not the definition of <u>exercise</u> .
	Option G is incorrect	The <u>exercises</u> Wolfgang completes are specific to his piano training and not in the discharge of any official office or function.
	Option H is incorrect	The word <u>exercises</u> as used in line 36 refers to tasks for Wolfgang to complete on the piano, not his physical fitness, so this is not the definition.

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Item #	Rationale	
45	Option C is correct	Line 17 suggests that Anna Maria “[<i>clicks</i>] into role” and greets Mr. Barrington in a friendly manner in order to help him form a good impression of her son.
	Option A is incorrect	Leopold, rather than Anna Maria, seems to make use of Wolfgang’s musical talent. In line 54, Anna Maria scolds Leopold for “always pushing [Wolfgang] to live up to” Leopold’s dreams rather than allowing him to be a child.
	Option B is incorrect	The cordiality that Anna Maria presents does not signify any distrust. She is demonstrating good manners while greeting a visitor.
	Option D is incorrect	It is Leopold, not Anna Maria, who believes Wolfgang is “not like other children” (line 75) and pushes him to achieve fame as a musician.

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46	Option J is correct	The motif of the concert creates conflict between Anna Maria and Leopold. In the play, Anna Maria disagrees with her husband that Wolfgang should spend all his time preparing for the concert; the test intensifies this disagreement.
	Option F is incorrect	The motif of the concert establishes the arena for the action to take place rather than introducing the characters.
	Option G is incorrect	The idea of the concert establishes a goal, not a resolution.
	Option H is incorrect	The concert is the end goal rather than an individual event which propels the action toward a final goal.

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Item #	Rationale	
47	Option D is correct	The author most likely wrote this article to describe an experiment designed and completed by a young scientist. For much of the article the author explains Nathan’s motivation for creating “a method for cleaning that is both efficient and environmentally friendly” (paragraph 4) and the process he developed to complete his experiment.
	Option A is incorrect	Although Nathan does win an award, the detailed process that is described in the article reveals how difficult it is to win a science award.
	Option B is incorrect	Nathan uses common household products such as water and salt in the experiment, but the emphasis of the article is not to show surprising uses for these materials.
	Option C is incorrect	Although some readers may be inspired by Nathan’s experience and may be motivated to participate in a science fair, the author is not promoting the science fair itself.

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48	Option H is correct	The details in paragraph 7 show that experimentation does not require expensive lab materials. For his experiment, Nathan used simple equipment such as a food scale, a plastic syringe, and some tubing.
	Option F Is incorrect	In the article, exact timing was not essential for the success of Nathan’s experiment.
	Option G is incorrect	Since his winning experiment was conducted at his home, Nathan’s experience shows that a technically sound experiment can be conducted outside of a scientific laboratory.
	Option J is incorrect	The article details the many steps that Nathan followed to reach a conclusion, therefore Nathan’s winning experiment proves this statement to be incorrect.

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Item #	Rationale	
49	Option B is correct	The author presents paragraphs 8 through 14 chronologically to emphasize the methodical approach used in Nathan’s experiment. The author carefully lays out each step Nathan took to get the result he was working toward.
	Option A is incorrect	The author does not use chronological order to suggest that Nathan’s experiment changes over time. In paragraphs 8 through 14, Nathan does not make any changes to his experiment.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the author does describe the results of Nathan’s experiment, the author is not documenting the research results for Nathan as the experiment and science fair have already happened.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the author does show that both Nathan’s planning and researching were extensive, paragraphs 8 through 14 do not describe pre-experiment planning.

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Item #	Rationale	
50	Option J is correct	The author includes the image of the glass full of water because the term “surface tension” is important to the reader’s understanding of the experiment.
	Option F is incorrect	The author’s use of the image does not show the reason behind Nathan’s choice of experiment.
	Option G is incorrect	The image does not show a particular step in the process Nathan followed.
	Option H is incorrect	The term “surface tension” may be an unfamiliar term, but the author does not use the image to explain why the term is misunderstood.

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Item #	Rationale	
51	Option A is correct	The fact that Nathan tried ordinary table salt and it did not work supports the inference that changing factors in an experiment may not alter an experiment's result.
	Option B is incorrect	Nathan's experiment does not support the inference that common substances can have beneficial uses.
	Option C is incorrect	Nathan did not know whether the salt would work—there is no indication that he had an expectation one way or the other. Therefore, this is not an appropriate inference.
	Option D is incorrect	This inference is too broad for this quotation. Nathan wondered whether ordinary salt would work, and he experimented with the salt to find out. Although it did not work, it cannot be considered an error, and working alone did not influence the outcome.

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Item #	Rationale	
52	Option H is correct	This is the best summary of the article. It begins with the fact that Nathan won the prestigious science award, then states his motivation for the experiment and the process he followed, and ends with the outcome he achieved.
	Option F is incorrect	This summary pays too much attention to the award Nathan won and too little attention to the experiment itself.
	Option G is incorrect	This summary omits the important fact that Nathan won the science award as well as what his motivation for the experiment was.
	Option J is incorrect	These sentences include extraneous information. They also fail to mention that Nathan won the prestigious award or his motivation for doing the experiment.

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Item #	Rationale	
53	Option C is correct	The author most likely includes paragraphs 1 through 6 to provide background information which allows the author to better highlight the significance of Nathan’s work.
	Option A is incorrect	The author does not highlight the topic of Nathan’s experiment in these paragraphs.
	Option B is incorrect	The author’s emphasis in paragraphs 1 through 6 is not on winning the award; instead, the author focuses on what that award is and what it means.
	Option D is incorrect	The author’s inclusion of paragraphs 1 through 6 is not to promote the award as a scientific goal of any experiment.