

Answer Explanations

SAT Practice Test #6

Section 1: Reading Test

QUESTION 1

Choice C is the best answer. In the first paragraph the reader is introduced to Nawab, a father of twelve daughters who feels compelled to make more money to care for his family: “he must proliferate his sources of revenue” (lines 6-7). The remainder of the paragraph focuses on the way Nawab attempts to “proliferate” those income sources by identifying some of the moneymaking schemes Nawab undertakes, including setting up a flour mill and a fish farm and attempting to fix both radios and watches.

Choice A is incorrect because even if the first paragraph does indicate that Nawab is willing to work hard to take care of his family, it does not specifically address how he interacts with his daughters emotionally. Choice B is incorrect because the first paragraph describes some of Nawab’s activities but not the specifics of his schedule. Choice D is incorrect because the first paragraph introduces Harouni as Nawab’s employer but does not describe his lifestyle.

QUESTION 2

Choice B is the best answer. The passage states that Nawab earned “more kicks than kudos” (line 16) for his failed attempts at fixing watches. In the context of not doing a job well, this means Nawab was not given compliments (“kudos”) for his efforts but complaints (“kicks”) about them.

Choices A and D are incorrect because the passage clearly states that Nawab was not successful fixing watches, which earned him a negative response (“kicks,” or complaints). In this context it would be illogical to suggest that Nawab’s unsuccessful efforts at fixing watches would result in the sort of positive response implied by choice A (“thrills”) or choice D (“interests”). Choice C is incorrect because even though “jolts” might be unpleasant, they’re not the kind of negative response one would get instead of compliments.

QUESTION 3

Choice D is the best answer. The passage states that Nawab works “like an engineer tending the boilers on a foundering steamer in an Atlantic gale” (lines 26-28) in his attempts to keep his employer comfortable. The author likely uses this image because it highlights the challenging nature of Nawab’s work—work that is described in the next sentence as requiring “superhuman efforts” (line 28).

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because the author's use of the image of an engineer working hard on a "foundering steamer" describes the effort Nawab is making in keeping his employer comfortable, not what Nawab might be dreaming about, anything to do with tube wells (which are not mentioned in the second paragraph), or that Nawab has had many different jobs in his life.

QUESTION 4

Choice A is the best answer because lines 28-32 show that Nawab is an efficient employee, stating that due to his "superhuman efforts," Nawab is able to keep his employer comfortable, or in almost "the same mechanical cocoon . . . that the landowner enjoyed in Lahore."

Choice B is incorrect because lines 40-42 describe the actions of Nawab's employer only and do not address the employer's feelings about Nawab's work. Choice C is incorrect because lines 46-49 show Nawab characterizing himself as an old and ineffective employee, not one who performs his job well. Choice D is incorrect because line 58 addresses the fact Nawab had always lived in his employer's household but not his effectiveness as an employee.

QUESTION 5

Choice C is the best answer. The main purpose of Nawab's comments in lines 43-52 is to highlight the labor and service he has provided for Harouni over the years. Nawab says "there is but one man, me, your servant" to take care of the tube wells on all Harouni's vast lands and that the extensive work has resulted in Nawab earning gray hairs on his employer's behalf.

Choice A is incorrect because even though lines 43-52 initially highlight the vastness of Harouni's lands, those lines primarily focus on Nawab's dedication and service to Harouni. Choice B is incorrect because lines 43-52 emphasize not that Nawab is competent and reliable but that Nawab feels he is no longer able to adequately fulfill his duties. Choice D is incorrect because in lines 43-52, Nawab doesn't say he intends to quit his job, asking instead only for help doing it.

QUESTION 6

Choice D is the best answer. In lines 61-62, Nawab says to his employer that he "cannot any longer bicycle about like a bridegroom from farm to farm." In this context, Nawab uses the word "bridegroom" to imply he is no longer a young man who can easily travel such great distances on his bike.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because in the context of Nawab not being able to bike so far, he uses the word "bridegroom" to imply that he is no longer young, not that he is no longer in love (choice A), naive (choice B), or busy (choice C).

QUESTION 7

Choice B is the best answer. Harouni’s reaction to Nawab’s request for a new motorcycle can be found in lines 66-68, where the employer is said not to “particularly care one way or the other, except that it touched on his comfort—a matter of great interest to him.” For Harouni, in other words, the issue of Nawab getting a new motorcycle came down to what was best for Harouni, not what was best for Nawab.

Choice A is incorrect because in the passage Harouni is said not to be particularly impressed with how hard Nawab works; he cares about the issue of the motorcycle only in regard to its effect on his own comfort. Choice C is incorrect because Harouni is said to find Nawab’s speech not eloquent but “florid” (line 54), meaning flamboyant or ostentatious. Choice D is incorrect because Nawab does not threaten to quit his job but politely asks his employer to “let me go” (line 64).

QUESTION 8

Choice B is the best answer. The previous question asks why Harouni purchases his employee Nawab a new motorcycle, with the correct answer (that Harouni did so because it was in his own best interest) supported in lines 66-68: “He didn’t particularly care one way or the other, except that it touched on his comfort—a matter of great interest to him.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because the lines cited do not support the answer to the previous question about why Harouni buys Nawab a new motorcycle. Instead, they simply identify the issue (choice A), note that Harouni also gave Nawab money for gas (choice C), and show how the motorcycle affects Nawab’s side businesses (choice D).

QUESTION 9

Choice A is the best answer. The passage states that Nawab’s new motorcycle leads to the “disgust of the farm managers” (line 74).

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the passage specifically says Nawab’s new motorcycle leads to the “disgust of the farm managers,” not their happiness (choice B), envy (choice C), or indifference (choice D).

QUESTION 10

Choice D is the best answer. The passage specifically states what Nawab considers the greatest part of his getting a new motorcycle: “Best of all, now he could spend every night with his wife” (lines 81-82).

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because the passage explicitly states that Nawab believes the best thing about his new motorcycle is that he can “spend every night with his wife,” not that people start calling him “Uncle” (choice A), that he is able to expand his business (choice B), or that he is able to educate his daughters (choice C).

QUESTION 11