

Information and Ideas: Command of Evidence (Textual)

DIRECTIONS: The questions in this section are designed to test your reading and writing abilities. Each question will provide you with one or more passages. It is important to thoroughly read each passage and question before selecting the best answer based on the information provided. All of the questions in this section are multiple-choice and will have four options to choose from. There is only one correct answer for each question.

1. In ‘Moby-Dick’ by Herman Melville, the narrative explores the obsessive quest of Captain Ahab to seek revenge on the white whale, Moby-Dick. The novel delves into themes of obsession, revenge, and the struggle against nature. Melville’s intricate descriptions and philosophical musings create a complex tapestry of human ambition and the unfathomable mysteries of the sea.

Which quotation from ‘Moby-Dick’ most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) ‘From hell’s heart I stab at thee; for hate’s sake I spit my last breath at thee.’
- B) ‘Ahab’s purpose now fixedly gleamed forth like a serpent’s eyes in the dark.’
- C) ‘The sea had jeeringly kept his finite body up, but drowned the infinite of his soul.’
- D) ‘It was the whiteness of the whale that above all things appalled me.’

2. In 'Pride and Prejudice' by Jane Austen, the novel explores themes of marriage, social class, and individual agency within the context of early 19th-century England. Austen's witty and incisive narrative critiques societal norms and the institution of marriage, while also delving into the romantic and personal growth of its protagonist, Elizabeth Bennet.

Which quotation from 'Pride and Prejudice' most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) 'It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.'
 - B) 'She is tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me.'
 - C) 'I could easily forgive his pride, if he had not mortified mine.'
 - D) 'It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single woman in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a husband.'
3. In 'The Trial' by Franz Kafka, the protagonist Josef K. is suddenly arrested for an unspecified crime. Kafka's narrative delves into themes of existential dread, bureaucratic absurdity, and the struggle of the individual against an incomprehensible system. The novel's surreal and labyrinthine legal process reflects the author's exploration of alienation and the loss of personal autonomy.

Which quotation from 'The Trial' most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) 'Someone must have slandered Josef K., for one morning, without having done anything truly wrong, he was arrested.'
- B) 'The Law, like the church, must be accessible to everyone, especially to the accused.'
- C) 'I see, these books are probably law books, and it is an essential part of the justice dispensed here that you should be condemned not only in innocence but also in ignorance.'
- D) 'It is not necessary to accept everything as true, one must only accept it as necessary.'

4. In Mark Twain's 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn', the novel explores themes of race, freedom, and moral dilemmas through the journey of Huck Finn and the run-away slave Jim. Twain's use of dialect and vivid descriptions of the Mississippi River setting provide a critique of societal norms and attitudes towards slavery in the ante-bellum South. The relationship between Huck and Jim serves as a central element in challenging the prevailing racial prejudices of the time.

Which quotation from 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) 'The sun was up so high when I waked that I judged it was after eight o'clock.'
 - B) 'It's lovely to live on a raft.'
 - C) 'I see Jim before me all the time: in the day and in the night-time.'
 - D) 'I felt good and all washed clean of sin for the first time I had ever felt so in my life.'
5. The U.S. Constitution, particularly the Bill of Rights, represents a foundational document in American history. It outlines the framework of the government and the rights of the citizens. The Bill of Rights, consisting of the first ten amendments, specifically addresses issues of personal freedoms and legal protections, reflecting the founders' desire to establish a government based on democratic principles and the protection of individual rights.

Which quotation from the U.S. Constitution most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) 'The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States.'
- B) 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.'
- C) 'The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.'
- D) 'The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State.'

6. Gabriel García Márquez's 'One Hundred Years of Solitude' is a landmark in the genre of magical realism. The novel chronicles the multi-generational story of the Buendía family in the fictional town of Macondo. Márquez blends the magical with the mundane, weaving a tapestry of the fantastical elements with the historical and political realities of Latin America. The novel's exploration of time, memory, and solitude creates a surreal narrative that challenges the boundaries of conventional storytelling.

Which quotation from 'One Hundred Years of Solitude' most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) 'Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendía was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice.'
 - B) 'The world was so recent that many things lacked names.'
 - C) 'He really had been through death, but he had returned because he could not bear the solitude.'
 - D) 'Things have a life of their own. It's simply a matter of waking up their souls.'
7. A comprehensive study was conducted to assess the impact of industrial pollution on coastal marine life. The researchers focused on a range of species, from microorganisms to larger marine mammals, examining changes in population, health, and biodiversity levels in heavily polluted areas compared to less affected regions. The study aimed to establish a clear link between industrial pollution and its detrimental effects on marine ecosystems, taking into account various environmental and biological factors.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' hypothesis?

- A) Coastal regions with moderate industrial activity showed no significant decline in marine biodiversity.
- B) Areas with high industrial pollution demonstrated a marked decrease in species diversity and an increase in health issues among marine life.
- C) Marine species in polluted areas adapted rapidly, showing increased resilience to environmental changes.
- D) Polluted and non-polluted areas showed similar levels of species health and biodiversity.

8. In a groundbreaking psychological study, researchers explored the effects of social media usage on self-esteem among teenagers. The study involved a large group of participants aged 13 to 18, assessing their self-esteem levels in relation to the frequency and nature of their social media interactions. The hypothesis was that excessive social media use correlates with lower self-esteem in teenagers, particularly when interactions are negative or involve social comparison.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' hypothesis?

- A) Teenagers who used social media moderately reported higher self-esteem than those who did not use social media at all.
 - B) No significant correlation was found between social media usage and self-esteem levels among teenagers.
 - C) Teenagers who frequently engaged in positive social media interactions reported an increase in self-esteem.
 - D) High social media usage, particularly involving negative interactions and social comparison, was associated with lower self-esteem in teenagers.
9. An in-depth analysis was conducted on the economic and social impact of the Black Death in medieval Europe. The study examined how the plague led to significant demographic shifts, changes in labor supply, and transformations in social structures. It hypothesized that the Black Death was a pivotal event that reshaped European society, leading to the decline of feudalism and the rise of more modern economic and social systems.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' hypothesis?

- A) Following the Black Death, there was a notable increase in wages, a decline in feudal obligations, and a rise in social mobility.
- B) The Black Death had a minimal impact on the overall structure of European society, with feudalism remaining largely intact.
- C) Economic and social changes observed post-Black Death were primarily attributed to factors other than the plague.
- D) The labor supply increased post-Black Death, leading to a strengthening of the feudal system.