

Section 2: Writing and Language Test

QUESTION 1

Choice D is the best answer because “outweigh” is the only choice that appropriately reflects the relationship the sentence sets up between “advantages” and “drawbacks.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each implies a competitive relationship that is inappropriate in this context.

QUESTION 2

Choice B is the best answer because it offers a second action that farmers can undertake to address the problem of acid whey disposal, thus supporting the claim made in the previous sentence (“To address the problem of disposal, farmers have found a *number of uses* for acid whey”).

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because they do not offer examples of how farmers could make use of acid whey.

QUESTION 3

Choice A is the best answer because it results in a sentence that is grammatically correct and coherent. In choice A, “waterways,” the correct plural form of “waterway,” conveys the idea that acid whey could impact multiple bodies of water. Additionally, the compound verb “can pollute” suggests that acid whey presents an ongoing, potential problem.

Choices B and D are incorrect because both use the possessive form of “waterway.” Choice C is incorrect because it creates an unnecessary shift in verb tense. The present tense verb “can pollute” should be used instead, as it is consistent with the other verbs in the paragraph.

QUESTION 4

Choice C is the best answer because it utilizes proper punctuation for items listed in a series. In this case those items are nouns: “Yogurt manufacturers, food scientists, and government officials.”

Choices A and B are incorrect because both fail to recognize that the items are a part of a series. Since a comma is used after “manufacturers,” a semicolon or colon should not be used after “scientists.” Choice D is incorrect because the comma after “and” is unnecessary and deviates from grammatical conventions for presenting items in a series.

QUESTION 5

Choice C is the best answer because sentence 5 logically links sentence 2, which explains why Greek yogurt production yields large amounts of acid whey, and sentence 3, which mentions the need to dispose of acid whey properly.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each would result in an illogical progression of sentences for this paragraph. If sentence 5 were left where it is or placed after sentence 3, it would appear illogically after the discussion of “the problem of disposal.” If sentence 5 were placed after sentence 1, it would illogically discuss “acid-whey runoff” before the mention of acid whey being “difficult to dispose of.”

QUESTION 6

Choice D is the best answer because the paragraph includes several benefits of consuming Greek yogurt, particularly in regard to nutrition and satisfying hunger, to support the sentence’s claim that the conservation efforts are “well worth the effort.” This transition echoes the passage’s earlier claim that “the advantages of Greek yogurt outweigh the potential drawbacks of its production.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because they inaccurately describe the sentence in question.

QUESTION 7

Choice B is the best answer because it provides a grammatically standard preposition that connects the verb “serves” and noun “digestive aid” and accurately depicts their relationship.

Choice A is incorrect because the infinitive form “to be” yields a grammatically incorrect verb construction: “serves to be.” Choices C and D are incorrect because both present options that deviate from standard English usage.

QUESTION 8

Choice C is the best answer because it presents a verb tense that is consistent in the context of the sentence. The choice is also free of the redundant “it.”

Choice A is incorrect because the subject “it” creates a redundancy. Choices B and D are incorrect because they present verb tenses that are inconsistent in the context of the sentence.

QUESTION 9

Choice A is the best answer because it properly introduces an additional health benefit in a series of sentences that list health benefits. “Also” is the logical and coherent choice to communicate an addition.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none of the transitions they offer logically fits the content that precedes or follows the proposed choice.

QUESTION 10

Choice A is the best answer because “satiated” is the only choice that communicates effectively that Greek yogurt will satisfy hunger for a longer period of time.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each is improper usage in this context. A person can be “fulfilled” spiritually or in other ways, but a person who has eaten until he or she is no longer hungry cannot be described as fulfilled. Neither can he or she be described as being “complacent” or “sufficient.”

QUESTION 11

Choice B is the best answer because it provides a syntactically coherent and grammatically correct sentence.

Choices A and C are incorrect because the adverbial conjunctions “therefore” and “so,” respectively, are unnecessary following “Because.” Choice D is incorrect because it results in a grammatically incomplete sentence (the part of the sentence before the colon must be an independent clause).

QUESTION 12

Choice B is the best answer because the graph clearly indicates that, on March 5, average low temperatures are at their lowest point: 12 degrees Fahrenheit.

Choice A is incorrect because the phrase “as low as” suggests that the temperature falls no lower than 20 degrees Fahrenheit, but the chart shows that in January, February, and March, the temperature frequently falls below that point. Choices C and D are incorrect because the information each provides is inconsistent with the information on the chart.

QUESTION 13

Choice A is the best answer because it concisely combines the two sentences while maintaining the original meaning.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each is unnecessarily wordy, thus undermining one purpose of combining two sentences: to make the phrasing more concise.

QUESTION 14

Choice B is the best answer because it provides a conjunctive adverb that accurately represents the relationship between the two sentences. “However” signals an exception to a case stated in the preceding sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each provides a transition that does not accurately represent the relationship between the two sentences, and as a result each compromises the logical coherence of these sentences.

QUESTION 15

Choice C is the best answer because it provides commas to offset the nonrestrictive modifying clause “an associate professor of geology at Ohio State.”