

Item Position	Rationale	
1	Option B is correct	The author includes this sentence in paragraph 2 to explain the result of a slow decomposition cycle for fabrics and to identify the biodegradable and clothing lingering in landfills as a problem.
		therefore not having harmful effects .
	Option C is incorrect	In this sentence from paragraph 4, the author is describing a benefit , not a harmful effect, of using kelp to develop fabrics.
	Option D is incorrect	In this sentence from paragraph 5, the author is describing the materials used to make Microsilk. Because these materials are identified as biodegradable , the sentence does not support the argument that fabric choices can have lasting harmful effects.

Item Position	Rationale	
3	Option B is correct	In paragraph 3, the author refers to kelp as one of the “new materials to make clothing” described in paragraph 2. In paragraph 4, the author explains how kelp grows in nature, supporting the key idea that new fibers can come from nature .
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author indicates people prefer strong, durable clothing in paragraphs 1 and 6, there is no mention of durable fibers in paragraph 4. Additionally, since kelp fiber is a recent invention , as implied in paragraph 3 , the idea of historical popularity is not applicable to kelp.
	Option C is incorrect	The idea that different fibers have different effects when they are thrown away refers to a difference between fibers with varying levels of biodegradability, which is a key idea from paragraph 2, not paragraph 4.
	Option D is incorrect	The key

Item Position	
------------------	--

Item Position	Rationale	
6	Option B is correct	In paragraph 6 , the author describes some disadvantages that plant-based fibers still need to overcome , such as low durability and low affordability, to make them more appealing to consumers .
	Option A is incorrect	Although in paragraph 6 the author refers to the importance of the affordability of plant-based clothing , there is no explanation for the implied cost difference between nylon and biodegradable fabrics .
	Option C is incorrect	Although clothing biodegradability is a focus of the selection , there is no mention of improving the biodegradability of plastic fibers in paragraph 6 or elsewhere.
	Option D is incorrect	Even though the author implies in paragraph 6 that biodegradable clothes are “the fashion of the future,” the author does not describe the appearance of biodegradable clothes in this paragraph.

Item

Item Position	
------------------	--

Item Position	Rationale	
10	Option C is correct	The author indicates that the workers had to leave their families and face physical challenges such as difficult terrain . This implies to the reader that the worker s had to show great courage to complete their task.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the workers may have made lasting friendships, this idea is not included in th e article .
	Option B is incorrect	The author does not include information about what the workers did after the r ailroad was complete d.
	Option D is incorrect	The author does not include information about the worker s' previous experience .

does not

s

mean



Item Position	Rationale	
16	Option C is correct	Both the author and the poet develop the idea of past changes affecting people's lives today . In the article, the author describes how the completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad made it possible for people today to quickly travel across the country , and in the poem, the poet describes how the development of the internet has made virtual travel, finding information, and communication easier today than in the past .
	Option A is incorrect	Even though both the author and the poet describe big changes , there is no indication in either selection that it takes time for people to adjust to such changes.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the people in "A Country Connected" might not have expected a cross -country railroad and the aunt in "The World Is at My Fingertips" might not have expected the internet, the idea that these changes were least expected is not developed by either the author or the poet.
	Option D is incorrect	Although both the poem and the article contain reference to new ideas , such as a coast -to -coast railroad and the internet , the idea that such developments can go through many different changes is not developed in either the article or the poem .

Item Position	
------------------	--

Item Position	
------------------	--

Item Position	Rationale	
20	Option C is correct	In paragraph 14, the word <u>dissolve</u> means to “vanish .” The idea that El-ahrairah is unable to move indicates that his willpower has left him or vanished.
	Option A is incorrect	The term “soften ” is not the best choice to describe the meaning of <u>dissolve</u> in paragraph 14, because it indicates a physical change; <u>dissolve</u> in paragraph 14 refers to a more figurative loss or disappearance of a quality .
	Option B is incorrect	Although El-ahrairah ’s willpower does change , this is not the best definition for the word <u>dissolve</u> , because it does not specify how El-ahrairah’s willpower changes or that El -ahrairah is unable to resist the snake’s power .
	Option D is incorrect	The word <u>dissolve</u> in paragraph 14 is used to indicate that El-ahrairah is unable to resist the snake ; therefore, “jump” is not a good definition for <u>dissolve</u> .

Item Position	
------------------	--

Item Position	Rationale
Option A is correct	<p>In this sentence, El-ahrairah provides “good advice and help” to the other animals , which indicates that he is friendl</p>

Item Position	Rationale	
24	Option D is correct	The author uses the third -person point of view , which is clear because the main character is referred to by name and by the third -person pronoun “he .” An outside observer, someone not directly involved in the story, tells the story.
	Option A is incorrect	The story is not told by El -ahrairah ; if it w ere , El -ahrairah would refer to himself by the first-person pronoun “I.” Instead, he is referred to by name and the third -person pronoun “he.”
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author uses the third -person point of view, as evidenced by the use of the third -person pronoun “he,” the story is not told by the snake. If it w ere , the snake would be present in the action throughout the story.
	Option C is incorrect	Even though the fox is an important character, the story is not told by the fox, who is absent in a large part of it . Also, the story is not told in the first perso n; if it w ere , the narrator would use the pronoun “I” instead of the third -person pronoun “he.”

Item Position	Rationale
25	For ECR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

Item Position	Rationale	
26	Option A is correct	In sentence 6, the writer describes the sunspots as a “mystery.” She then builds on this in the second paragraph by adding that the sunspots were puzzling to scientists. The adjective “mysterious” is thus consistent with the depiction of sunspots up to this point.
	Option B is incorrect	The word “uncommon” can mean “rare” or “not readily found.” This is not the most effective description to use because no support is given for claiming that sunspots are infrequent or hard to find.
	Option C is incorrect	The word “popular” is not appropriate in this sentence because this word means commonly liked or approved. This does not fit with the context of the paragraph.
	Option D is incorrect	Using the word “hidden” in this sentence would not make sense because the writer earlier states

Item Position	
------------------	--

Item Position	Rationale
28	For SCR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

Item Position	Rationale
------------------	-----------

Item Position	Rationale	
32	Option A is correct	The fourth paragraph ends with Benito stating that his aunt “knew exactly what to do.” In the fifth paragraph, Benito then explains the steps that Aunt Rosa took. With this sentence, Benito improves the transition between these paragraphs by stating Aunt Rosa’s first step.
	Option B is incorrect	Benito would offer information about his aunt with this sentence, but it is not related to either the fourth or the fifth paragraph.
	Option C is incorrect	In this sentence, Benito talks about himself. However, the fifth paragraph is about Aunt Rosa, so this sentence is not an effective transition between the fourth and fifth paragraphs.
	Option D is incorrect	Benito would not provide a better transition with this sentence because it states a general concern rather than any specific information about Aunt Rosa’s approach to the situation.

Item Position	Rationale	
33	Option A is correct	This sentence provides a better closing for the paper because it addresses the overall idea of the story, which is being caught in an unexpected rainstorm and learning what to do in this situation.
	Option B is incorrect	With this sentence, Benito talks about avoiding storms in the Grand Canyon, which is off topic and does not provide an effective closing sentence for the paper.
	Option C is incorrect	It may be true that Benito is looking forward to a day without storms or rain, but this information is not related to the overall meaning of the paper, which means it is not a suitable closing sentence.
	Option D is incorrect	In this sentence, Benito shifts from telling a story about himself to speaking directly to his reader, making this an odd and ineffective closing sentence for the paper.

Item Position	Rationale	
	Option D is correct	No change needs to be made in this sentence because it is written correctly.
	Option A is incorrect	Changing “They” to “And” would create a

Item Position	Rationale	
35	Option C is correct	“Today” is a singular noun, so changing from the plural possessive to the singular possessive “today’s” corrects the error in this sentence.
	Option A is incorrect Option B is	Changing the past -tense verb “was” to the present participle “being” creates a verb -tense error in this sentence.

Item Position	Rationale	
37	Option B is correct	The writer is describing events that happened in the past. By changing “are” to “were,” he is now using the correct past -tense form of the verb.
	Option A is incorrect	This option is incorrect because “will be” is a future -tense verb, and this paper is about events that happened in the past.
	Option C is incorrect	

Item Position	Ran
------------------	-----

Item Position	Rationale	
39	Option C is correct	In this sentence, the preposition introduces the location where Pete’s uncle works. Because “at” is a preposition that introduces a location, it is the correct word to use. The preposition “on” usually introduces a position, which would not be correct in this sentence.
	Option A is incorrect	The word “uncle” should not be capitalized in this sentence because it is not being used as a proper noun.
	Option B is incorrect	By changing “worked” to “working,” the writer creates a fragment. “Working” would require the helping verb “was” to make this a complete sentence.
	Option D is incorrect	Changing “as” to “he was” creates a run -on sentence, so it cannot be the correct option.

Item Position	Rationale	
40	Option D is correct	“Remember” corrects the misspelling “rember” in the sentence.
	Option A is incorrect	The contraction “you’re,” which means “you are,” is used correctly in the sentence.
	Option B is incorrect	A comma is necessary after “excited” in this sentence to indicate a break in quoting Pete’s dad.
	Option C is incorrect	The word “but” does not need to be capitalized because it is the continuation of dialogue in the sentence. It is not the first word of the dialogue or the beginning of a new sentence.

Item Position	Rationale
------------------	-----------