

CHAPTER 17: SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2: MIDDLELEVEL

HOW TO TAKE THIS PRACTICE TEST

Before taking this practice test, find a quiet room where you can work uninterrupted for two and a half hours. Make sure you have a comfortable desk and several No. 2 pencils.

Use the answer sheet provided to record your answers. (You can cut it out or photocopy it.)

Once you start this practice test, don't stop until you've finished. Remember—you can review any questions within a section, but you may not go backward or forward a section.

You'll find answer explanations following the test. Scoring information can be found in chapter 19. Good luck.



SSAT Practice Test 2: Middle-Level Answer Sheet

Remove (or photocopy) this answer sheet and use it to complete the practice test.

Start with number 1 for each section. If a section has fewer questions than answer spaces, leave the extra spaces blank.

		icave tire	. catta spaces biain	•••	·	44.54.5
SECTION		6 (ABC)DE	11 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	16 (A) (B) (C) (E)	21 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	# right in
3233	2 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	7 (A (B) (C) (E)	12 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	17 (A (B) (C) (E)	22 (A) (B) (C) (E)	section 2
	3 (A) (B) (C) (E)	8 ABCDE		18 (A) (B) (C) (E)	23 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	4 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	9 A B C D E	14 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	19 (A (B) (C) (E)	24 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	5 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	10 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	15 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	20 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	25 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	# wrong in
				<u> </u>	<u> 4 4 11</u>	section 2
	1 (A B C D E	9 A B C D E	17 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	25 (A) (B) (C) (E)	33 (A B C D E	
CECTION	2 (A (B) (C) (E)	10 (A) (B) (C) (E)	18 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	26 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	34 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
SECTION	3 (A (B) (C) (E)	11 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	19 (A) (B) (C) (E)	27 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	35 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	# right in
	4 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	12 (A) (B) (C) (E)	20 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	28 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	36 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	section 3
	5 A B C D E	13 (A) (B) (C) (E)	21 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	29 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	37 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	6 A B C D E	14 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	22 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	30 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	38 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	7 A B C D E	15 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	23 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	31 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	39 (A (B) (C) (E)	# wrong in section 3
	8 (A) (B) (C) (E)	16 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	24 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	32 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	40 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	1 (A) (B) (C) (E)	13 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	25 A B C D E	37 (A) (B) (C) (E)	49 (A B C D E	
	2 (A) (B) (C) (E)	14 A B C D E	26 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	38 (A) (B) (C) (E)	50 A B C D E	
SECTION	3 (A B (C D E	15 A B C D E	27 (A (B) (C) (E)	39 (A (B) (C) (E)	51 (A) (B) (C) (E)	
	4 (A) B) C) D) E	16 A B C D E	28 (A) (B) (C) (E)	40 (A) (B) (C) (E)	52 (A) (B) (C) (E)	
	5 (A (B) (C) (D)	17 (A (B) (C) (E)	29 (A (B) (C) (D)	41 (A) (B) (C) (E)	53 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	# right in
	6 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	18 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	30 (A (B) (C) (E)	42 (A) (B) (C) (D)	54 (A) (B) (C) (E)	section 4
guine	7 A B C D E	19 (A (B) (C) (E)	31 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	43 (A) B) (C) (D) (E)	55 ABCDE	
	8 A B C D E	20 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	32 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	44 (A) (B) (C) (E)	56 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	9 A B C D E	21 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	33 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	45 (A) (B) (C) (E)	57 (A (B) (C) (E)	# wrong in
	10 (A (B) (C) (E)	22 (A (B) C (D) E	34 (A) (B) (C) (E)	46 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	58 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	section 4
	11 (A B (C D E	23 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	35 (A B (C D E)	47 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	59 A B C D E	
	12 (A) B) C) D E	24 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	36 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	48 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	60 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	1 1					
SECTION				16 (A) (B) (C) (E)	21 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	2 (A (B) (C) (E)	7 ABCDE	12 (A (B) (C) (E)	17 (A (B) (C) (E)	22 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	# right in
	3 ABCDE	8 ABCDE	13 (A (B) (C) (E)	18 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	23 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	section 5
	4 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	9 A B C D E	14 (A (B) (C) (D) (E)	19 ABCDE	24 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	
	5 ABCDE	10 ABCDE	15 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	20 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	25 A B C D E	# wrong in section 5
	5 (4 18 (2 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	10 (A) (B) (C) (E)	15 ABCDE	20 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	25 (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)	

SECTION 1

Time—25 Minutes

	s: Read the following topics carefully. Take a few minutes to select the topic you find more interesting, out the selected topic and organize your thoughts on scrap paper before you begin writing.
Topic A:	I had thirty minutes to complete the mission.
Topic B:	I opened the door and suddenly
Your essay	or selection: Topic A or Topic B. Write your essay for the selected topic on the paper provided. y should NOT exceed two pages and must be written in pencil. Be sure that your handwriting is d that you stay within the lines and margins.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

	; × ¹
	155
/ K	

PART FOUR: SSAT PRACTICE TESTS AND EXPLANATIONS



SECTION 2

Time—30 Minutes 25 Questions

In this section, there are five possible answers after each problem. Choose which one is best. You may use the blank space at the right of the page for scratch work.

Note: Figures provided with the problems are drawn with the greatest possible accuracy, UNLESS stated "Not Drawn to Scale."

- 1. The polygon in Figure 1 has a perimeter of 30. If each side of the polygon has the same length, what is the length of one side?
 - (A) 3
 - (B) 4
 - (C) 5
 - (D) 6
 - (E) 7
- 2. Mr. Stuart sold peppermint candy to 25 customers and caramel candy to 17 customers. If 4 of these customers bought both types of candy, how many bought only caramel candy?
 - (A) 29
 - (B) 25
 - (C) 21
 - (D) 17
 - (E) 13
- 3. In a bag of 24 balloons, there is an equal number of balloons of each color. Which of the following CANNOT be the number of different colors in the bag?
 - (A) 2
 - (B) 3
 - (C) 4
 - (D) 5
 - (E) 6

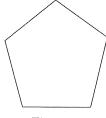


Figure 1

- 4. Which of the following is a whole number that is both less than 13 and between 11 and 18?
 - (A) 11
 - (B) 12
 - (C) 12.5
 - (D) 13
 - (E) 14
- 5. According to the graph in Figure 2, Susan spent about how many hours watching movies?
 - (A) 2
 - (B) 3
 - (C) 4
 - (D) 6
 - (E) 9
- 6. If $\frac{1}{2}R = 16$, then $\frac{3}{4}R =$
 - (A) 24
 - (B) 20
 - (C) 16
 - (D) 12
 - (E) 8
- 7. Which of the following is closest to $\frac{1}{4}$ of 59?
 - (A) 0.26×50
 - (B) 0.41×50
 - (C) 0.26×60
 - (D) 0.41×60
 - (E) 41×60

USE THIS SPACE FOR FIGURING.

HOW SUSAN SPENT 12 HOURS WATCHING TV

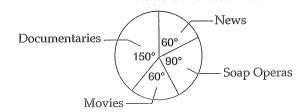


Figure 2

- 8. According to the graph in Figure 3, the average sales of Company M from 1993 to 1997 was
 - (A) \$250,000
 - (B) \$260,000
 - (C) \$265,000
 - (D) \$270,000
 - (E) \$275,000

<u>Questions 9-10</u> refer to the following definition.

For all real numbers u and v, $u \otimes v = u - 1 - \frac{1}{v}$.

(Example: $3 \otimes 2 = 3 - 1 - \frac{1}{2} = 3 - \frac{1}{2} = 2\frac{1}{2}$)

- 9. Which of the following is equal to $5 \varnothing 5$?
 - (A) 0
 - (B)
 - (C) $4\frac{1}{5}$
 - (D) $4\frac{4}{5}$
 - (E) 25
- 10. If $a \otimes 3 = 4\frac{1}{3}$, then a =
 - (A) $\frac{2}{3}$
 - (B) 3
 - (C) 4
 - (D) $4\frac{2}{3}$
 - (E) 5

USE THIS SPACE FOR FIGURING.

SALES OF COMPANY M: 1993-1997

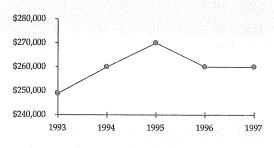


Figure 3

11. Twenty percent of 64 is equal to 5 percent of what number?

USE THIS SPACE FOR FIGURING.

(A) 16

338

- (B) 20
- (C) 64
- (D) 128
- (E) 256
- 12. During the 4 fishing trips that Rich and Andy made, Rich caught a total of 35 fish. If Andy caught more fish than Rich, Andy must have caught an average of a least how many fish per trip?
 - (A) $8\frac{3}{4}$
 - (B) 4 9
 - (C) 36
 - (D) 140
 - (E) 144
- 13. Jeff, Todd, and Lee were hired by their father to work on the yard, and each was paid at the same hourly rate. Jeff worked 4 hours, Todd worked 6 hours, and Lee worked 8 hours. If the 3 boys together earned \$27, how much did Lee earn?
 - (A) \$8
 - (B) \$12
 - (C) \$15
 - (D) \$16
 - (E) \$27

- 14. Johnny picked apples from 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and gathered 200 apples. He wants to pick a total of at least 600 apples before 7:15 P.M. If he plans to pick apples at the same rate, what is the latest time that he can start picking apples again?
 - (A) 1:15 P.M.
 - (B) 1:45 P.M.
 - (C) 2:15 P.M.
 - (D) 2:45 P.M.
 - (E) 3:15 P.M.
- 15. If 0.88 equals 8W, what is the value of W?
 - (A) 0.11
 - (B) 0.9
 - (C) 1.1
 - (D) 9
 - (E) 11
- 16. In the triangle shown in Figure 4, what is the value of *r* ?
 - (A) 50
 - (B) 60
 - (C) 70
 - (D) 80
 - (E) It cannot be determined from the information given.
- 17. A company's income increased from 9 thousand dollars in 1958 to 4.5 million dollars in 1988. Its income in 1988 was how many times its income in 1958?
 - (A) 200
 - (B) 500
 - (C) 2,000
 - (D) 5,000
 - (E) 20,000

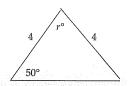


Figure 4

18. Which of the following can be expressed as $(5 \times R) + 2$, where R is a whole number?

(A) 25

340

(B) 33

(C) 47

(D) 56

(E) 68

19. Which of the following can be drawn without lifting the pencil or retracing?

(A) (

(B)

(C)

(D)

(E)

20. If the population of Country X increased by 10 percent each year over a 2-year period, what was the total percent increase in the population over the entire period?

(A) 2%

(B) 10%

(C) 11%

(D) 20%

(E) 21%

341

21. If z = y + 2, what does 2z + 1 equal?

- (A) y + 3
- (B) 2y + 3
- (C) 2y + 5
- (D) 2y + 6
- (E) It cannot be determined from the information given.
- 22. If *x* is greater than 0 but less than 1, and *y* is greater than *x*, which of the following is the LEAST?
 - (A) $\frac{y}{x}$
 - (B) $\frac{x}{v}$
 - (C) xy
 - (D) $\frac{1}{x-y}$
 - (E) It cannot be determined from the information given.
- 23. In a restaurant, there are *x* tables that can each seat 6 people, and there are *y* tables that can each seat 5 people. What is the maximum number of people that may be seated?
 - (A) 5x + 6y
 - (B) 6x + 5y
 - (C) 11x + 11y
 - (D) 11xy
 - (E) 30xy

24. Mrs. Smith bought 3 square pieces of fabric. A side of the largest piece is 3 times as long as a side of the middle one, and a side of the middle one is 3 times as long as a side of the smallest one. The area of the largest piece is how many times the area of the smallest piece?

(A)	۱ ۱	12
LA.) 1	14

- (B) 81
- (C) 27
- (D) 9
- (E) 3

25. Mr. Dali's car uses $\frac{3}{4}$ gallons of gas each time he drives to work. If his gas tank holds exactly 9 gallons of gas, how many tanks of gas does he need to make 18 trips to work?

- (A) $1\frac{1}{2}$
- (B) $2\frac{1}{2}$
- (C) 4
- (D) 6
- (E) 9

SECTION 3

Time—40 Minutes 40 Questions

Read each passage carefully and then answer the questions about it. For each question, decide on the basis of the passage which one of the choices best answers the question.

Scott Joplin composed approximately 60 works during his lifetime, including 41 piano pieces called "rags," many songs and marches, and an *Line* opera entitled *Treemonisha*. His most significant

- (5) creative contribution was to the development of ragtime, a type of instrumental music marked by its distinctive, choppy rhythm. Joplin's rhythmic diversity was very important to the development of ragtime as a genre, a unique musical form. In
- (10) 1899, his "Maple Leaf Rag" became the most popular piano rag of the time and he was dubbed the "King of Ragtime." Despite all of those accomplishments, he was not considered a serious composer during his lifetime. It was not until 59
- (15) years after his death that he was properly recognized: In 1976, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for music, at last receiving the praise he deserved.
- 1. The term "rag," as it is used in the passage, refers to
 - (A) a specific piece of operatic music
 - (B) a genre of dance music
 - (C) a piece of piano music known for its unique rhythm
 - (D) a kind of instrumental music played by marching bands
 - (E) a style of songs invented by Joplin

- 2. This passage deals primarily with
 - (A) the fact that Joplin was not taken seriously during his lifetime
 - (B) the history and development of ragtime music
 - (C) the diversity of styles in which Joplin composed
 - (D) how Joplin came to win the Pulitzer Prize
 - (E) Joplin's contributions to and accomplishments in the world of music
- 3. According to the passage, Joplin died in
 - (A) 1899
 - (B) 1917
 - (C) 1941
 - (D) 1959
 - (E) 1976
- 4. When discussing Scott Joplin, the author's tone in this passage could best be described as
 - (A) indifferent
 - (B) amused
 - (C) envious
 - (D) resentful
 - (E) appreciative

- 5. It can be inferred from the passage that a genre is
 - (A) a particular type of ragtime music
 - (B) a distinct category or style

344

- (C) a term that Joplin coined when he created ragtime
- (D) a rhythmic style characteristic of Joplin's period
- (E) an early form of "rag"
- 6. From this passage, it can be inferred that
 - (A) although people liked Joplin's work, they did not appreciate its value while he was alive
 - (B) Joplin died a destitute musician
 - (C) ragtime wouldn't have existed had Joplin not written "Maple Leaf Rag"
 - (D) all of Joplin's piano pieces were rags
 - (E) Joplin played a lot of venues to popularize ragtime

Thousands of species of birds exist today, and nearly every species has its own special courtship procedures and "identification checks."

Line Identification checks are important, because if(5) birds of different species mate, any offspring will usually be sterile or badly adapted to their

surroundings.

Plumage often plays a key role in both identification and courtship. In breeding season,

(10) male birds often acquire distinctive plumage which they use to attract females who will, in turn, only respond to males with the correct markings. In some species, the females are more brightly colored, and the courtship roles are

- (15) reversed. Distinctive behavioral changes can also be important aspects of courtship and breeding activity. Aggressiveness between males, and sometimes between females, is quite common. Some birds, like whooping cranes and trumpeter
- (20) swans, perform wonderfully elaborate courtship dances in which both sexes are enthusiastic participants.

Bird sounds are often a very central part of identification and courtship behavior between

- (25) individuals in a given species. When a female migrates in the spring to her breeding region, she often encounters numerous birds of different species. By its singing, the male of a species both identifies itself and communicates to females of
- (30) that species that it is in breeding condition. This information allows a female to predict a male's response to her approach. Later, after mating has taken place, the note patterns of a particular male's song enable a nesting female to continue to
- (35) identify her own partner.
- 7. The author implies that a bird engages in identification and courtship procedures mainly in order to
 - (A) find a better nesting spot
 - (B) find the most colorful partner it can
 - (C) attract a mate of its own species
 - (D) increase its control over its nesting partner
 - (E) try to dominate the bird population of a given area

345

PART FOUR: SSAT PRACTICE TESTS AND EXPLANATIONS SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2

- 8. According to the passage, a feature of the male
 - I. attract a female of its own species
 - II. intimidate rival males

songbird is its ability to

- III. communicate its identity to its mate
- (A) I only
- (B) III only
- (C) I and II only
- (D) I and III only
- (E) I, II, and III
- 9. The author uses the whooping crane as an example of a bird that
 - (A) seldom participates in courtship procedures
 - (B) acquires a distinctive breeding plumage
 - (C) behaves in an unusual and noteworthy way during courtship
 - (D) reverses the normal male and female courtship roles
 - (E) displays unusual aggressiveness while courting
- 10. According to the passage, matings between birds of different species
 - (A) are quite common
 - (B) produce more sturdy offspring
 - (C) may help to establish a permanent new species
 - (D) do not usually result in healthy offspring
 - (E) have never happened

- 11. The passage is primarily about
 - (A) causes of aggression between male birds
 - (B) several courtship and identification methods used by birds
 - (C) the breeding season of birds
 - (D) the role of bird sounds in courtship identification
 - (E) why birds migrate to particular breeding regions
- 12. This passage most likely comes from
 - (A) a website on identifying birds
 - (B) a book on birds and mating
 - (C) a personal letter from a bird-watcher
 - (D) a novel about breeding birds
 - (E) a news article on endangered birds

More than 1,500 Native American languages have thus far been discovered by linguists. Edward Sapir, a pioneer in the field of Native American *Line* linguistics, grouped these languages into six

(5) "families" more than three-quarters of a century ago.

Ever since that time, the classification of Native American languages has been a source of controversy. A small group of linguists has recently

- (10) argued that all Native American languages fit into three linguistic families. These scholars believe that similarities and differences among words and sounds leave no doubt about the validity of their classification scheme. The vast majority of
- (15) linguists, however, reject both the methods and conclusions of these scholars, arguing that linguistic science has not yet advanced far enough to be able to group Native American languages into a few families. According to these scholars,
- (20) Native American languages have diverged to such an extent over the centuries that it may never be possible to group them in distinct language families.

- 13. This passage is primarily about
 - (A) the classification of Native American languages
 - (B) the six families of Native American languages
 - (C) scholars' views about language
 - (D) the similarities and differences between words of Native American languages
 - (E) linguistic debates about how to group languages
- 14. The scholars who believe that Native
 American languages can be classified into
 three families apparently believe that
 - (A) these languages have diverged significantly over the last 75 years
 - (B) languages can be classified according to the degree of similarities and differences between words
 - (C) linguistic science has not advanced far enough to safely classify languages so narrowly
 - (D) languages are all related by their common origins
 - (E) distinct language families have their own peculiar grammatical rules
- 15. The style of the passage is most like that found in a
 - (A) personal letter written by a linguistics student
 - (B) textbook about linguistics
 - (C) novel about Native American tribes
 - (D) diary of a linguist
 - (E) biography of Edward Sapir

- 16. It can be inferred that the classification of Native American languages has been a source of controversy because
 - (A) scholars do not agree on the method for classifying languages
 - (B) languages have split in several directions
 - (C) linguistics is a very new field
 - (D) there is not enough known about Native American vocabulary
 - (E) Native Americans dislike such classifications
- 17. Which of the following questions is answered by the passage?
 - (A) Did Edward Sapir study languages other than Native American languages?
 - (B) How many languages are in a typical linguistic family?
 - (C) How many Native American languages are yet to discovered?
 - (D) In what ways have Native American languages changed over time?
 - (E) Into how many families did Edward Sapir classify Native American languages?
- As used in the passage, "extent" (line 21) most nearly means
 - (A) limit
 - (B) language
 - (C) range
 - (D) time
 - (E) duration

347

Hope is the thing with feathers That perches in the soul, And sings the tune without the words And never stops at all,

Line

- (5) And sweetest in the gale is heard; And sore must be the storm That could abash¹ the little bird That kept so many warm.
- (10) I've heard it in the chillest land, And on the strangest sea; Yet, never, in extremity, It asked a crumb of me.

¹discourage "Hope," by Emily Dickinson

- 19. In this poem, hope is compared to
 - (A) a gale
 - (B) a sea
 - (C) a storm
 - (D) a bird
 - (E) a song
- 20. What is the poet saying in the last stanza of the poem?
 - (A) It is terrible to imagine a world without hope, and we must therefore do everything possible to preserve our hopes.
 - (B) The bird continues to sing through all conditions.
 - (C) Hope can be found anywhere and never asks anything in return for its loyalty.
 - (D) The bird is very hungry because it is constantly singing and never takes any time to eat.
 - (E) The potential for hope is always present, but it takes a great effort to make it a reality.

- 21. The lines "the little bird/That kept so many warm" in the second stanza refer to the fact that
 - (A) the feathers of birds have traditionally provided protection against the cold
 - (B) hope has comforted a great many people over the years
 - (C) the bird provided protection before it was destroyed in a storm
 - (D) hope has often proven useless in the face of real problems
 - (E) hope is a good last resort when faced with a difficult situation
- 22. The attitude of the speaker in this poem can best be described as
 - (A) angry
 - (B) unconcerned
 - (C) respectful
 - (D) nervous
 - (E) grateful
- 23. The term "sore" (line 6) most nearly means
 - (A) hurt
 - (B) angry
 - (C) severe
 - (D) kind
 - (E) wet

Although recycling has taken place in various forms for some time, today we are being asked to regard recycling as not only an important, but even *Line* a necessary measure.

- (5) Recycling, in its broadest sense, refers to the remaking of waste products and other used materials for practical purposes. For example, an old soda bottle can be returned, washed, and used as a bottle again, or it can be ground down and its
- (10) glass can be employed for another useful purpose. Since fixing up old things is often cheaper than making brand new ones, this saves money. More importantly, it saves resources and reduces the amount of waste produced.
- (15) Businesses have been performing large-scale recycling for some time, based primarily on the goal of saving money. However, the amount of residential waste, that is, the waste produced at home, has been steadily increasing, and the role of the individual in
- (20) the recycling campaign has been seriously underemphasized. Although it is true that we, as individuals, cannot reduce the overall amount of waste significantly or save large amounts of money and resources on our own, taken collectively, we can
- (25) have an important impact. Our increased efforts toward recycling can have a dramatic effect on the future availability of resources and the condition of the environment. It is our duty to ourselves and to our fellow human beings to pitch in and help protect
- (30) what remains of it.
- 24. According to the passage, which of the following is true?
 - I. Recycling increases the amount of waste produced
 - II. Reusing waste products can be very economical
 - III. The amount of waste produced in the home has been continuously growing
 - (A) II only
 - (B) I and II only
 - (C) I and III only
 - (D) II and III only
 - (E) I, II, and III

- 25. The author would most likely agree that
 - (A) recycling is a good idea for big businesses but, on an individual level, it makes very little difference
 - (B) although businesses recycle to save money, individuals are motivated to recycle by a desire to serve the general good of society
 - (C) recycling is extremely important and everyone has a responsibility to contribute to the overall effort to preserve our environment
 - (D) although our natural resources are limited, we only live once and we shouldn't concentrate on conservation to such a degree that it interferes with our enjoyment of life
 - (E) recycling is a very expensive process and should be left to the owners of big businesses
- 26. All of the following are examples of recycling EXCEPT
 - (A) turning old newspapers into cardboard
 - (B) melting down scraps of metal and recasting them
 - (C) washing out empty soda bottles and using them as vases
 - (D) selling a piece of jewelry and using the money to buy a car
 - (E) crushing old cans and reusing the aluminum to make new ones
- 27. The tone of this passage is
 - (A) insistent
 - (B) relaxed
 - (C) formal
 - (D) amused
 - (E) disinterested

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

- 28. Which of the following is the author most likely to discuss next?
 - (A) The current problem of toxic waste disposal
 - (B) The negative aspects of recycling and the many problems that can develop when it is done too much
 - (C) Different ways that an old bottle can be either reused or remade into an entirely different object
 - (D) Other important differences between the way businesses and residences are run
 - (E) Examples of ways in which people can recycle their own waste and help out on an individual basis
- 29. What can be said about the author based on lines 15–17?
 - (A) She is only interested in the economic aspects of recycling.
 - (B) She believes that businesses are motivated to recycle primarily for monetary gain.
 - (C) She knows little about the possible financial savings of recycling.
 - (D) She is more concerned with the environmental benefits of recycling than the economic rewards.
 - (E) She values recycling even though it results in the production of greater amounts of waste.

Most of us who live in relatively mild climates rarely view bad weather as more than an inconvenience, but in certain, less fortunate parts *Line* of the world, a change in weather can have

(5) disastrous consequences for an entire society. Weather fluctuations along the northwest coast of South America, for instance, can periodically have a dramatic effect on the area's fishing villages.

- Under normal circumstances, the cold, steadily
- (10) flowing waters of the Humboldt Current bring nutrients up from the sea floor along the coast, providing a dependable food supply for fish and squid. For centuries, the fishing villages have depended on this rich ocean harvest for food and
- (15) trade. Occasionally, however, global weather patterns cause the current to fail, setting off a deadly chain reaction. Without nutrients, the fish and squid die, depriving the villagers of their livelihood. This destructive weather phenomenon,
- (20) called "El Niño" (The Boy Child) because it occurs at Christmastime, has sometimes forced entire villages to disband and move elsewhere to avoid starvation.
- 30. According to the passage, the Humboldt Current flows
 - (A) only at Christmastime
 - (B) without fail
 - (C) east to west
 - (D) along the northwest coast of South America
 - (E) through warm water
- 31. This passage is mainly about
 - (A) how the economy of South American villages depends exclusively on fishing
 - (B) the importance of fish and squid in the food chain
 - (C) the advantages of living in a mild climate
 - (D) the undependable nature of the Humboldt Current
 - (E) how changes in weather patterns can have a dramatic effect on the way people live

- 32. According to the passage, all of the following are true EXCEPT
 - (A) the actions of the Humboldt Current help provide nutrients for fish and squid
 - (B) the Humboldt Current affects the survival of fishing on the northwest coast of South America
 - (C) the warm waters of the Humboldt
 Current affect the climate of nearby land
 masses
 - (D) the failure of the Humboldt Current can set off a deadly chain reaction
 - (E) the Humboldt Current sometimes fails as a result of global weather patterns
- 33. Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?
 - (A) An Example of Weather's Social Impact
 - (B) Fishing Villages of South America
 - (C) El Niño: A Christmas Occurrence
 - (D) Fish and Squid: A Rich Ocean Harvest
 - (E) The Impact of Fishing on Coastal Villages
- 34. The author's attitude toward the villagers along the northwest coast of South America can best be described as
 - (A) sympathetic
 - (B) unconcerned
 - (C) condescending
 - (D) angry
 - (E) emotional

- 35. Which of the following is an example of a chain reaction?
 - (A) Forest fires kill off thousands of acres of land, destroying valuable resources.
 - (B) When temperatures start to fall, many birds fly south to spend winter in warm climates.
 - (C) Earthquakes cause extensive damage to property and often result in the loss of human life.
 - (D) Global warming causes glaciers to melt, resulting in rising water levels, which reduce the amount of habitable land.
 - (E) The moon revolves around the earth, and the earth revolves around the sun.

World War II left much of Western Europe deeply scarred in many ways. Economically, it was devastated. In early 1948, as the Cold War

Line developed between the United States and the

- (5) Soviet Union and political tensions rose, U.S. policymakers decided that substantial financial assistance would be required to maintain a state of political stability. This conclusion led Secretary of State George C. Marshall to
- (10) announce a proposal: European countries were advised to draw up a unified plan for reconstruction, to be funded by the United States.

This European Recovery Program, also known as the Marshall Plan, provided economic and

- (15) technical assistance to 16 countries. Between 1948 and 1952, participating countries received a combined total of 12 billion dollars in U.S. aid. In the end, the program was seen as a great success; it revived the economies of Western Europe and
- (20) set them on a course for future growth.

- 36. Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?
 - (A) The Aftermath of World War II
 - (B) The Marshall Plan: A Program for European Reconstruction
 - (C) The Economic Destruction of Europe
 - (D) George C. Marshall: The Man behind the Plan
 - (E) Western European Recovery
- 37. The tone of the author toward the Marshall Plan is
 - (A) objective
 - (B) excited
 - (C) insistent
 - (D) anxious
 - (E) unfavorable
- 38. All of the following are true about the Marshall Plan EXCEPT
 - (A) it provided economic assistance to 16 countries
 - (B) it went into action in 1948
 - (C) it supplied economic aid for a period spanning four years
 - (D) it gave each of the participating countries 12 billion dollars
 - (E) it was considered a great long-term success

- 39. The passage suggests that the driving force behind the Marshall Plan was
 - (A) a formal request for aid by European leaders
 - (B) fear of economic repercussions for the U.S. economy
 - (C) George C. Marshall's desire to improve his political career and public image
 - (D) a joint U.S.-Soviet agreement to assist the countries of Western Europe
 - (E) the increase in tension between the United States and the Soviet Union
- 40. Which of the following would the author be most likely to discuss next?
 - (A) Developments in the Cold War during and after the years of the Marshall Plan
 - (B) The events leading up to Western Europe's economic collapse
 - (C) The detailed effects of the Marshall Plan on specific countries
 - (D) Other successful economic recovery programs employed throughout history
 - (E) How George C. Marshall became the U.S. Secretary of State

352

SECTION 4

Time—30 Minutes 60 Questions

This section consists of two different types of questions. There are directions for each type. Each of the following questions consists of one word followed by five words or phrases. You are to select the one word or phrase whose meaning is closest to the word in capital letters.

1. HARSH:

- (A) cold
- (B) angry
- (C) poor
- (D) useless
- (E) severe

2. INDICATE:

- (A) meet with
- (B) look at
- (C) help with
- (D) point out
- (E) search for

3. BLEAK:

- (A) unknown
- (B) quiet
- (C) cheerless
- (D) trembling
- (E) timid

4. SECURE:

- (A) unseen
- (B) aware
- (C) secret
- (D) safe
- (E) knotty

5. ALIEN:

- (A) strange
- (B) futile
- (C) valuable
- (D) brutal
- (E) unclear

6. CHRONIC:

- (A) persistent
- (B) difficult
- (C) doubtful
- (D) legal
- (E) elaborate

7. QUENCH:

- (A) complete
- (B) compare
- (C) demean
- (D) satisfy
- (E) withdraw

8. SEVERE:

- (A) frozen
- (B) extreme
- (C) long
- (D) limited
- (E) essential

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

353

PART FOUR: SSAT PRACTICE TESTS AND EXPLANATIONS SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2

			CK:
9.			

- (A) search thoroughly
- (B) act quickly
- (C) cover completely
- (D) make secure
- (E) denounce publicly

10. SUMMIT:

- (A) plateau
- (B) landscape
- (C) slope
- (D) island
- (E) peak

11. TUMULT:

- (A) annoyance
- (B) commotion
- (C) insignificance
- (D) disagreement
- (E) blockage

12. RETARD:

- (A) turn around
- (B) push apart
- (C) slow down
- (D) change position
- (E) see through

13. ANTIDOTE:

- (A) fantasy
- (B) remedy
- (C) substitute
- (D) award
- (E) decoration

14. SOLITARY:

- (A) mindful
- (B) careless
- (C) friendly
- (D) alone
- (E) troubled

15. CAMOUFLAGE:

- (A) obstacle
- (B) range
- (C) emergency
- (D) disguise
- (E) amount

16. EXPEL:

- (A) finish off
- (B) teach
- (C) question
- (D) scold
- (E) cast out

17. LUNGE:

- (A) pursue
- (B) turn
- (C) thrust
- (D) restore
- (E) startle

18. BREVITY:

- (A) ambition
- (B) consistency
- (C) conflict
- (D) imagination
- (E) shortness

19. MARVEL:

354

- (A) discard
- (B) usurp
- (C) confuse
- (D) point
- (E) wonder

20. CANDOR:

- (A) majesty
- (B) daring
- (C) honesty
- (D) perception
- (E) fatigue

21. CONVENE:

- (A) clarify
- (B) serve
- (C) assemble
- (D) elect
- (E) dignify

22. CATASTROPHE:

- (A) illusion
- (B) disaster
- (C) indication
- (D) warning
- (E) estimate

23. GREGARIOUS:

- (A) sloppy
- (B) sociable
- (C) happy
- (D) intelligent
- (E) talented

24. DEXTERITY:

- (A) secrecy
- (B) equality
- (C) reserve
- (D) nimbleness
- (E) determination

25. IMMINENT:

- (A) intense
- (B) impressive
- (C) proper
- (D) observable
- (E) forthcoming

26. ANIMOSITY:

- (A) doubt
- (B) hatred
- (C) sadness
- (D) illness
- (E) guilt

27. AMEND:

- (A) create
- (B) address
- (C) observe
- (D) exclude
- (E) improve

28. DESPONDENT:

- (A) depressed
- (B) unintended
- (C) artificial
- (D) literary
- (E) unconcerned

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

355

29. UNFLINCHING:

- (A) uncommitted
- (B) distinct
- (C) uncompromising
- (D) transitory
- (E) invalid

30. REPUDIATE:

- (A) renounce
- (B) impede
- (C) provoke
- (D) divert
- (E) submit

The following questions ask you to find relationships between words. For each question, select the choice that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

- 31. Sun is to solar as
 - (A) earth is to terrestrial
 - (B) pond is to marine
 - (C) ground is to subterranean
 - (D) tower is to architectural
 - (E) planet is to lunar
- 32. Botany is to plants as meteorology is to
 - (A) weather
 - (B) flora
 - (C) health
 - (D) language
 - (E) style

33. Hammer is to nail as

- (A) axe is to wood
- (B) lathe is to molding
- (C) chisel is to marble
- (D) nut is to bolt
- (E) screwdriver is to screw

34. Bone is to mammal as girder is to

- (A) skyscraper
- (B) steel
- (C) rivet
- (D) crane
- (E) concrete

35. Human is to primate as

- (A) kangaroo is to vegetarian
- (B) snake is to reptile
- (C) disease is to bacterium
- (D) bird is to amphibian
- (E) dog is to pet

36. Tremor is to earthquake as

- (A) eye is to hurricane
- (B) desert is to sandstorm
- (C) faucet is to deluge
- (D) wind is to tornado
- (E) flood is to river

37. Amusing is to uproarious as

(A) silly is to serious

356

- (B) dead is to immortal
- (C) interesting is to mesmerizing
- (D) humorous is to dull
- (E) worthless is to valuable

38. Fickle is to steadfast as tempestuous is to

- (A) worth
- (B) open
- (C) inspiration
- (D) peace
- (E) ire

39. School is to fish as

- (A) fin is to shark
- (B) library is to student
- (C) flock is to bird
- (D) leg is to frog
- (E) college is to mascot

40. Cartographer is to map as chef is to

- (A) flower
- (B) silverware
- (C) table
- (D) meal
- (E) ingredient

41. Throne is to monarch as

- (A) miter is to pope
- (B) bench is to judge
- (C) lobby is to doorman
- (D) armchair is to general
- (E) ship is to captain

42. Canal is to river as

- (A) boat is to driftwood
- (B) puddle is to lake
- (C) hammer is to mallet
- (D) mine is to cavern
- (E) telephone is to computer

43. Milk is to sour as bread is to

- (A) bent
- (B) stale
- (C) folded
- (D) baked
- (E) hot

44. Ore is to mine as

- (A) apple is to peel
- (B) water is to purify
- (C) batter is to stir
- (D) grain is to plow
- (E) oil is to drill

45. Weight is to scale as

- (A) distance is to speedometer
- (B) number is to slide rule
- (C) length is to thermometer
- (D) reading is to gauge
- (E) altitude is to altimeter

46. Porcupine is to quill as

- (A) bat is to wing
- (B) horse is to tail
- (C) skunk is to odor
- (D) oyster is to pearl
- (E) tiger is to stripe

357

- 47. Jar is to contain as pillar is to
 - (A) stand
 - (B) ascend
 - (C) prepare
 - (D) support
 - (E) swing
- 48. Irrigate is to dry as
 - (A) soften is to uneven
 - (B) smooth is to coarse
 - (C) purify is to distasteful
 - (D) depend is to supportive
 - (E) ferment is to salty
- 49. Electricity is to wire as
 - (A) sound is to radio
 - (B) water is to aqueduct
 - (C) music is to instrument
 - (D) light is to bulb
 - (E) river is to bank
- 50. Contempt is to sneer as
 - (A) shame is to shrug
 - (B) anger is to laugh
 - (C) enjoyment is to groan
 - (D) agreement is to grimace
 - (E) displeasure is to frown
- 51. Building is to foundation as plant is to
 - (A) pane
 - (B) grotto
 - (C) primer
 - (D) floor
 - (E) root

- 52. Nose is to olfactory as ear is to
 - (A) beautiful
 - (B) edible
 - (C) auditory
 - (D) raspy
 - (E) allergic
- 53. Irk is to soothing as support is to
 - (A) conciliating
 - (B) elevating
 - (C) undermining
 - (D) irritating
 - (E) vilifying
- 54. Illegible is to read as
 - (A) invisible is to see
 - (B) illegal is to act
 - (C) broken is to fix
 - (D) irreparable is to break
 - (E) intense is to strain
- 55. Tact is to diplomat as
 - (A) parsimony is to philanthropist
 - (B) agility is to gymnast
 - (C) vulnerability is to victim
 - (D) training is to physician
 - (E) bias is to judge

- 56. Ravenous is to hunger as
 - (A) pliable is to obstinacy
 - (B) agitated is to placidity
 - (C) concerned is to apathy
 - (D) smart is to tenacity
 - (E) furious is to indignation
- 57. Amplify is to sound as bolster is to
 - (A) smell
 - (B) courage
 - (C) insomnia
 - (D) light
 - (E) silence
- 58. Auditorium is to lecture as
 - (A) theater is to concert
 - (B) attic is to storage
 - (C) temple is to religion
 - (D) cafeteria is to food
 - (E) target is to arrow

- 59. Philanthropic is to benevolence as
 - (A) smooth is to surface
 - (B) ostentatious is to reserve
 - (C) miserly is to stinginess
 - (D) devout is to malice
 - (E) realistic is to plan
- 60. Spurious is to authenticity as
 - (A) lavish is to expense
 - (B) abject is to subjectivity
 - (C) affluent is to character
 - (D) laughable is to seriousness
 - (E) totalitarian is to completeness

SECTION 5

Time—30 Minutes 25 Questions

In this section, there are five possible answers after each question. Choose which one is best. You may use the blank space at the right of the page for scratch work.

Note: Figures are drawn with the greatest possible accuracy, UNLESS stated "Not Drawn to Scale."

- 1. Justine bought a comic book at \$5 above the cover price. A year later she sold the book for \$9 less than she paid. At what price did Justine sell the book?
 - (A) \$14 below the cover price
 - (B) \$4 below the cover price
 - (C) The cover price
 - (D) \$4 above the cover price
 - (E) \$14 above the cover price

$\underline{\text{Questions 2--3}}$ refer to the graph in Figure 1.

- 2. How many fewer boxes of cereal were sold in February than in March?
 - (A) 2
 - (B) 3
 - (C) 20
 - (D) 40
 - (E) 60
- 3. The number of boxes sold in January was how many times the number of boxes sold in February?
 - (A) 2
 - (B) $2\frac{1}{2}$
 - (C) 3
 - (D) 40
 - (E) 60

USE THIS SPACE FOR FIGURING.

CEREAL SALES AT STORE X

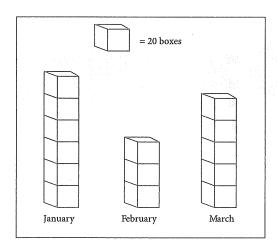


Figure 1

4. Team A has 4 times as many losses as it had ties in a season. If Team A won none of its games, which could be the total number of games it played that season?

(A) 12

(B) 15

(C) 18

(D) 21

(E) 26

5. Figure 2 contains rectangles and a triangle. How many different rectangles are there in Figure 2?

(A) 5

(B) 7

(C) 9

(D) 10

(E) 12

6. Which of the following is NOT less than $\frac{1}{4}$?

(A) $\frac{2}{9}$

(B) $\frac{3}{14}$

(C) $\frac{14}{64}$

(D) $\frac{19}{70}$

(E) $\frac{27}{125}$

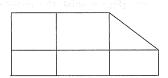


Figure 2

7. In Figure 3, the sides of triangles *ABC* and *FGH*, and of squares *BCFE* and *CDGF*, are all equal in length. Which of the following is the longest path from *A* to *H*?

(A)
$$A-B-C-F-H$$

(B)
$$A-B-E-F-H$$

(C)
$$A - C - D - G - H$$

(D)
$$A-B-E-G-H$$

(E)
$$A-C-F-G-H$$

8. If $5\frac{1}{3} \times (14 - x) = 0$, then what does x equal?

- (A) 0
- (B) 1
- (C) $5\frac{1}{3}$
- (D) 14
- (E) It cannot be determined from the information given.

9. Which of the following is closest to 1.18?

- (A) 12
- (B) 2.2
- (C) 1.9
- (D) 1.1
- (E) 1

10. If *X* is greater than 15, then $\frac{1}{3}$ of *X* must always be

- (A) less than 5
- (B) equal to 5
- (C) greater than 5
- (D) equal to 45
- (E) less than 45

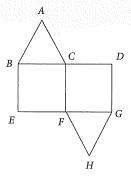


Figure 3

11. Of the following, 35 percent of \$26.95 is closest to

- (A) \$7.00
- (B) \$9.45
- (C) \$10.50
- (D) \$11.15
- (E) \$12.25
- 12. If a factory can make 600 nails every 3 minutes, how long would it take to make 27,000 nails?
 - (A) 45 minutes
 - (B) 1 hour
 - (C) 1 hour 45 minutes
 - (D) 2 hours 15 minutes
 - (E) 3 hours 15 minutes
- 13. Sally has *x* dollars and receives \$100 for her birthday. She then buys a bicycle that costs \$125. How many dollars does Sally have remaining?
 - (A) x + 125
 - (B) x + 100
 - (C) x + 25
 - (D) x 25
 - (E) x 100
- 14. If $\frac{A+B}{3} = 4$ and A is greater than 1, which of the following could NOT be the value of B?
 - (A) -3
 - (B) 0
 - (C) 1
 - (D) 2
 - (E) 12

15.	The average of five numbers is 10. If two of
	the five numbers are removed, the average of
	the remaining three numbers is 9. What is the
	sum of the two numbers that were removed?

- (A) 17
- (B) 18
- (C) 21
- (D) 22
- (E) 23
- 16. The bottom of the shopping bag shown in Figure 4 is placed flat on a table. Except for the handles, this shopping bag is constructed with rectangular pieces of paper. Which of the following diagrams best represents all the points where the shopping bag touches the table?











- 17. The number of students in a certain school is expected to increase from 1,086 students in 2015 to 1,448 students in 2016. What is the expected increase to the nearest percent?
 - (A) 20%
 - (B) 33%
 - (C) 37%
 - (D) 40%
 - (E) 45%

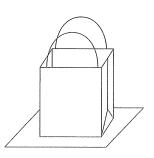


Figure 4

18. In Figure 5, the distance between *W* and *Y* is three times the distance between *W* and *X*, and the distance between *X* and *Z* is twice the distance between *X* and *Y*. If the distance from *W* to *X* is 2, how far apart are *W* and *Z*?

(A) 10

(B) 12

(C) 14

(D) 16

(E) 18

19. A fence surrounds a rectangular field whose length is 3 times its width. If 240 meters of the fence is used to surround the field, what is the width of the field?

(A) 30 m

(B) 40 m

(C) 60 m

(D) 80 m

(E) 90 m

20. Ms. Kirschner receives \$50 for every \$900 she collects from stock sales. How much does she receive if she collects \$18,000 from stock sales?

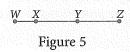
(A) \$100

(B) \$180

(C) \$1,000

(D) \$1,200

(E) \$1,800



21. What is the greatest number of rectangles 4 centimeters wide and 6 centimeters long that can be cut from a square piece of paper with a side of 24 centimeters?

- (A) 2
- (B) 10
- (C) 24
- (D 36
- (E) 48

22. *R* is the sum of consecutive integers *S* and *T*. If *S* and *T* are negative, which of the following is ALWAYS true?

- (A) R = -4
- (B) R = -1
- (C) R is less than either S or T.
- (D) R is greater than either S or T.
- (E) R + S + T is positive.

23. Initially, Greg had a total of 60 DVDs and CDs in his collection. He then sold $\frac{1}{8}$ of his CDs and $\frac{1}{2}$ of his DVDs. If the number of DVDs he sold is twice the number of CDs he sold, how many DVDs did he sell?

- (A) 4
- (B) 5
- (C) 8
- (D) 10
- (E) 20

- 24. Mary saved exactly 60 percent of the total allowance she received in the last two weeks, and she spent the rest. If she received \$20 for allowance each week and spent \$12 of her first week's allowance, which of the following MUST be true?
 - I. She saved a total of \$24.
 - II. She spent \$6 of her second week's allowance.
 - III. She saved 80 percent of her second week's allowance.
 - (A) None
 - (B) I only
 - (C) II only
 - (D) I and III only
 - (E) I, II, and III
- 25. Paul and Bill each received a raise of 20 percent. If Paul now earns \$4.50 per hour while Bill earns \$5.40 per hour, Bill earned how much more per hour than Paul before their raises?
 - (A) \$0.70
 - (B) \$0.73
 - (C) \$0.75
 - (D) \$0.80
 - (E) \$0.90



367

PART FOUR: SSAT PRACTICE TESTS AND EXPLANATIONS SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2 ANSWER KEY

ANSWER KEY

Sect	ion 2	5.	В	36.	В	26.	В	57.	В
1.	\mathbf{D}	6.	A	37.	A	27.	E	58.	Α
2.	E	7.	С	38.	D	28.	Α	59.	С
3.	D	8.	D	39.	E	29.	C	60.	D
4.	В	9.	С	40.	С	30.	A	Sect	ion 5
5.	A	10.	D	Sect	ion 4	31.	A	1.	В
6.	A	11.	В	1.	E	32.	A	2.	D
7.	С	12.	В	2.	D	33.	E	3.	A
8.	В	13.	A	3.	С	34.	A	4.	В
9.	C	14.	В	4.	D	35.	В	5.	E
10.	E	15.	В	5.	A	36.	D	6.	D
11.	E	16.	A	6.	A	37.	С	7.	D
12.	В	17.	E	7.	D	38.	D	8.	D
13.	В	18.	C	8.	В	39.	С	9.	D
14.	С	19.	D	9.	A	40.	D	10.	С
15.	A	20.	С	10.	E	41.	В	11.	В
16.	D	21.	В	11.	В	42.	D	12.	D
17.	В	22.	E	12.	С	43.	В	13.	D
18.	C	23.	C	13.	В	44.	E	14.	E
19.	С	24.	D	14.	D	45.	E	15.	E
20.	E	25.	C	15.	D	46.	C	16.	В
21.	С	26.	D	16.	E	47.	D	17.	В
22.	D	27.	A	17.	С	48.	В	18.	A
23.	В	28.	E	18.	E	49.	В	19.	A
24.	В	29.	В	19.	E	50.	E	20.	С
25.	A	30.	D	20.	С	51.	E	21.	С
Sect	ion 3	31.	E	21.	С	52.	С	22.	С
1.	С	32.	С	22.	В	53.	С	23.	D
2.	E	33.	A	23.	В	54.	A	24.	D
3.	В	34.	A	24.	D	55.	В	25.	С
4.	E	35.	D	25.	E	56.	E		

SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2: MIDDLE-LEVEL: ASSESS YOUR STRENGTHS

Use the following tables to determine which topics and chapters you need to review most. If you need help with your essay, be sure to review Chapter 9: The Essay and Chapter 26: Writing Skills.

 Opening the Control of the Control of	The Management of the Control of the
Торіс	Question
Math I	Section 2, questions 1–25
Reading Comprehension	Section 3, questions 1-40
Verbal: Synonyms	Section 4, questions 1-30
Verbal: Analogies	Section 4, questions 31-60
Math II	Section 5, questions 1–25

Topic	Number of Questions on Test	Number Correct	If you struggled with these questions, study
Math I	25		Chapters 10-14 and Chapter 25
Reading Comprehension	40		Chapter 8
Verbal: Synonyms	30		Chapters 7 and 24
Verbal: Analogies	30		Chapters 2 and 24
Math II	25		Chapters 10-14 and Chapter 25

ckSSAT.com

SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2 ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

ANSWERS AND EXPL

SECTION 2: MATH

With a perimeter of 30 and 5 sides of equal length, the length of one side is $\frac{30}{5}$, or 6.

2. E

There were a total of 17 customers who bought caramel candy. Subtract from these the 4 who bought both, and you are left with the 13 who bought only caramel.

3. D

Only factors of 24 (numbers that can be divided evenly into 24) can be the number of different colors in the bag. Since 5 is not a factor of 24, (D), 5, is the correct choice.

4. B

Since the whole number is less than 13 and also between 11 and 18, it must be between 11 and 13. We can immediately eliminate (C) because we need a whole number. (D) and (E) are out, too, because 13 and 14 are not "less than 13." And (A) is incorrect because 11 is not "between 11 and 18." Therefore, the number must be 12, choice (B).

5. A

Movies take up 60 degrees of 360 degrees, one-sixth of the pie chart. So Susan spent about one-sixth of 12 hours, or 2 hours, watching movies.

6. A

To solve for R, multiply both sides of the equation by 2; hence, R = 32. Plug 32 for R into the expression $\frac{3}{4}R$, and you find that $\frac{3}{4}R = \frac{3}{4} \times 32 = 24$.

7. C

The fraction $\frac{1}{4}$ has a decimal value of 0.25; thus (B), (D), and (E) can be eliminated. Fifty-nine rounded to the nearest ten is 60; indeed, 59 is much closer to 60 than to 50, so (C) is correct.

8.

There is no calculation necessary on this problem. Three of the five points lie on the horizontal \$260,000 line, and the only other two points are the identical distance above and below the line. Thus, \$260,000 is the correct answer.

9. C

This problem calls for substitution. u = 5 and v = 5. Plugging these values in yields 5 \, \tilde{9} 5 = 5 - (1 - \frac{1}{5}) = $5 - \frac{4}{5} = 4\frac{1}{5}$; (C) is correct.

10. E

This problem calls for substitution. u = a, v = 3, and $a \otimes 3 = 4\frac{1}{2}$. Using the definition for the left side of this equation, which is $a \otimes 3$, we have $a - (1 - \frac{1}{2}) =$ $4\frac{1}{3}$; then $a - \frac{2}{3} = 4\frac{1}{3}$ and a = 5.

11. E

Call the unknown number x and translate the information in the question into math. Remember that of means "times." Twenty percent of 64 means $\frac{20}{100}$ (64), and 5% of x means $\frac{5}{100}$ x. Then 20% of 64 is equal to 5% of x means that $\frac{20}{100}$ (64) = $\frac{5}{100}$ x. Reducing $\frac{20}{100}$ and $\frac{5}{100}$ yields $\frac{1}{5}(64) = \frac{1}{20}x$. Isolate the x by multiplying both sides by 20. Then $x = \frac{1}{5}(64) \times 20 = \frac{64 \times 20}{5} = 64 \times 4 = 256.$

12. B

The minimum number of fish Andy could have caught was 36, or 1 more than Rich caught. Use the average formula, Average = $\frac{\text{Sum of the terms}}{\text{Number of terms}}$. Sum of the terms = 36, and number of terms (or number of fishing trips) = 4. Hence, Andy must have caught an average of at least $\frac{36}{4}$ = 9 fish per trip.

13. B

We need to set up an equation here. We know all the boys earned the same amount per hour, so $4 \times \text{Rate} + 6 \times \text{Rate} + 8 \times \text{Rate} = 27$. Thus, $18 \times \text{Rate} = 27$ and the Rate = $\frac{27}{18} = \$1.50$ per hour. Lee worked 8 hours, so Lee earned $8 \times \$1.50 = \12 .

14. C

Johnny has already picked 200 apples in 2.5 hours. He must pick an additional 600 - 200 = 400 apples. Call the number of additional hours that Johnny must spend picking apples x. To find x, set up a ratio and solve for $x:\frac{200 \text{ apples}}{2.5 \text{ hours}} = \frac{400 \text{ apples}}{x \text{ hours}}$. Since the numerator of the fraction on the right is equal to twice the numerator of the fraction on the left, the denominator of the fraction on the right must also be equal to twice the denominator of the fraction on the left. So $x = 2 \times 2.5 = 5$. Since Johnny must work an additional 5 hours, the latest time that he can begin picking apples again is 5 hours earlier than 7:15 p.m. So 2:15 p.m. is the latest that Johnny can start picking apples again.

15. A

Set up an equation: 8W = 0.88. Isolate the W by dividing each side by 8. $W = \frac{0.88}{8} = 0.11$.

16. D

Figure 4 indicates that the legs of two sides of the triangle are equal and thus the triangle is isosceles. Angles that are opposite equal sides must be equal. Thus, each of the two base angles is 50 degrees, and we know that the sum of the three interior angles of any triangle is 180 degrees, so r = 180 - 50 - 50 = 80.

17. B

To determine how many times the income of 1988 was of the income of 1958, divide the 1988 income by the 1958 income. Then the number we are seeking is $\frac{4,500,000}{9,000}$. Dividing the numerator and the denominator by 1,000, we have $\frac{4,500}{9} = 500$.

18. C

The correct answer choice, when 2 is subtracted from it, must be a multiple of 5. A number is a multiple of 5 only if its ones digit is a 5 or a 0. Looking at the choices, 25 - 2 = 23 is not a multiple of 5, so eliminate choice (A). 33 - 2 = 31 is not a multiple of 5, so eliminate (B). 47 - 2 = 45, which is a multiple of 5. So (C) is correct.

19. C

Recall Kaplan's strategy: A figure can be drawn without lifting the pencil or retracing if there are exactly 0 or 2 points where an odd number of lines intersect. (C) has no points where an odd number of lines intersect. Hence, this is the correct answer.

20. E

Pick 100 as the initial population of Country X. The increase for the first year was $\frac{10}{100}$ of 100 = 10, and the total at the end of the first year was 100 + 10 or 110 people. The increase for the second year was $\frac{10}{100}$ of 110 = 11, and the total at the end of the second

year was 110 + 11 or 121 people. The population increased from 100 to 121 over the two-year period. The increase in the population was 121 - 100 = 21. Hence, the percent increase in the population over the entire two-year period was $\frac{21}{100}$ or 21%.

21. C

The value of z is given to us in terms of y; we need to multiply this value by 2 and add 1. Hence, 2z + 1 = 2(y + 2) + 1 = 2y + 4 + 1 = 2y + 5, (C).

22. D

Picking numbers for x and y is a foolproof method for solving this problem. Pick a positive fraction for x that is less than 1, such as $\frac{1}{2}$. Then pick a positive value for y that is greater than x, which in this case means that the y that we pick must also be greater than $\frac{1}{2}$. Remember, the question says that y is greater than x and the numbers you pick must always be consistent with the question stem. So let's pick 1 for y. So we're letting x be $\frac{1}{2}$ and y be 1. With these values, (A) is 2, (B) and (C) are both $\frac{1}{2}$, and (D) is -2. Further examining (D), we see that the denominator, x-y, has a larger positive number y subtracted from a smaller positive number x. So x-y will always be negative. Therefore $\frac{1}{x-y}$ will also always be negative.

23. B

If 6 people can sit at each of x tables and 5 people can sit at each of y tables, then the maximum number of people that may be seated is 6x + 5y.

24. B

Draw 3 squares: big, bigger, and biggest. Let the side of the middle fabric piece be 9. The side of the largest fabric piece must be three times this, or 27. Likewise, the side of the smallest square piece must be 3. The area of the largest piece is $27 \times 27 = 729$, and the area of the smallest piece is 9. Now determine the number of times that 9 goes into $729: \frac{729}{9} = 81$.

25. A

Begin by determining how many gallons of gas it takes to make the 18 trips: $\frac{3}{4} \times 18 = \frac{27}{2} = 13.5$ gallons. If there are 9 gallons in a tank, Mr. Dali will need $\frac{13.5}{9} = 1.5$ tanks of gas.

SECTION 3: READING COMPREHENSION

SCOTT JOPLIN PASSAGE

First up is a brief history passage about Scott Joplin, a composer best known for his ragtime music. Don't try to absorb all the details, even in a brief passage like this. Just get a feel for the Big Idea, which is that Joplin was instrumental in developing the ragtime genre but wasn't recognized as a serious composer until almost 60 years after his death.

1. C

Lines 2–3 note that Joplin composed 41 piano pieces known as "rags," the only time the word is used in the passage. (C), then, must be correct. (E) is tempting, but the genre or style of songs Joplin invented is described as "ragtime," not "rag." (A)'s "operatic" is incorrect; Joplin's *Treemonisha* was his only opera. (B) and (D) are incorrect because ragtime is never described as "dance" music or as being played by marching bands.

2. E

Only (E) has the proper scope here. (A) and (B) focus too narrowly on details. It was Joplin's "rhythmic diversity," not his stylistic diversity, (C), that distinguished his composing. The passage doesn't say how Joplin finally won the Pulitzer, (D).

3. B

The passage states that Joplin received the Pulitzer in 1976, "59 years after his death." Subtract 59 from 76 and you get 17, so Joplin died in 1917, choice (B).

4. E

The author discusses Joplin's "significant creative contribution" to music, his great popularity, and how he "at last" received "the praise he deserved." Thus, (E)'s "appreciative" best sums up the author's tone toward Joplin.

5. E

The passage states that Joplin was instrumental in developing ragtime "as a genre, a unique musical form." Therefore, (B) is the correct inference: A genre is a distinct category or style. While ragtime is an example of a musical genre, a genre is not an example of a particular type of ragtime, (A). There's no evidence that Joplin coined the term *genre*, (C).

6. A

Lines 13–14 say "he was not considered a serious composer during his lifetime," even though his "Maple Leaf Rag" was "the most popular piano rag of the time" (lines 10–11). That says his work was liked but people didn't appreciate it as serious music. The last sentence says he wasn't celebrated until 59 years after he died, making (A) correct.

(C) is incorrect because line 5 says he made a "contribution" to ragtime; he didn't invent it.

BIRD COURTSHIP PASSAGE

Next up is a science passage about the courtship procedures and "identification checks" used by birds during courtship and mating. Paragraph 1 introduces the topic, paragraph 2 details the roles of plumage and aggressive behavior, and paragraph 3 discusses the role of sounds in the birds' courting and mating rituals.

7. C

This Inference question is answered in the opening paragraph. The author states that the bird's identification and courtship procedures are important "because if birds of different species mate, any offspring" will be sterile and have a low chance for survival. Thus, the procedures are important because they help a bird find a mate of its own species. (B) focuses too narrowly on a detail from paragraph 2.

8. D

The answer lies in paragraph 3, which states that a male's singing tells females of its species that "it is in breeding condition," I. After mating, the singing enables the nesting female "to continue to identify" her partner, III. The passage does not mention that male birds use sound to intimidate male rivals, II, so I and III only are correct.

9. C

This Detail question focuses on the last sentence of paragraph 2. There we learn that whooping cranes "perform wonderfully elaborate courtship dances."

ackSSAT.com

So the whooping crane is an example of a bird that behaves in an unusual, noteworthy way during courtship, and (C) is correct. (B), (D), and (E) incorrectly mention other details from paragraph 2—plumage, reversed roles, and aggressiveness.

10. D

The answer here is taken from the same sentence—the last of paragraph 1—that answered question 7. If birds of different species mate, "any offspring will usually be sterile or badly adapted to their surroundings." This point is restated in (D). (B) is the opposite of the correct choice. The frequency of interspecies mating, (A), is not mentioned in the passage, but it must happen occasionally, contrary to (E), or the author wouldn't warn against its dangers. The idea of a new species evolving, (C), is not discussed.

11. B

This time the Big Idea question comes near the end of the set. The passage is about the various courtship behaviors and "identification checks" used by birds, which makes (B) correct. (A) and (E) raise issues not debated in the passage. (C) and (D) focus too narrowly on details.

12. B

Think about where you would most likely find this passage. (C) and (D) are incorrect because the passage contains nothing personal or fictional, just facts. (E) is incorrect because the passage does not talk about endangered birds. (A) is incorrect. The passage discusses how birds of the same species identify one another in order to mate, not how you would identify birds, so (B) is correct.

NATIVE AMERICAN PASSAGE

Next up is a brief passage about the 1,500 Native American languages that have been discovered by linguists. The Big Idea here is simple: A pioneering linguist originally divided these 1,500 languages into six main groups; a recent group of scholars thinks they can all be divided into three broader groups, but other scholars disagree with this new theory.

13. A

(A) is the most specific and accurate, and it's correct here. (B) leaves out the recent debate over the revised classification of Native American languages into three groups. (C) and (E) are too broad; they could be talking about any group of languages, not just Native American languages. And (D) focuses too narrowly on a detail from paragraph 2.

14. B

According to paragraph 2, scholars believe Native American languages can be classified into only three families because of "similarities and differences among words and sounds." (B) can be inferred from this statement. (A) distorts a detail from paragraph 1. (C) is the argument of those who think Native American languages can't be classified into three families. (D) is too broad, and (E) is beyond the scope of the passage.

15. B

Where would you be likely to come upon this passage? In a discussion of Native American languages or a linguistics textbook (B). (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect because there's nothing either personal or fictional in the text; it's just a series of factual statements. And while Sapir pioneered the field of Native American linguistics, the passage doesn't contain any significant biographical information about his life, (E).

16. A

Why is classifying Native American languages controversial? Those who group them into three families have "no doubt about the validity" of their theory. But "the vast majority of linguists" argue that "linguistic science has not yet advanced far enough" to group 1,500 languages into only three families. So the controversy exists because scholars do not yet agree on how to classify languages, and (A) is correct. (B) is a point argued by linguists who think Native American languages might never be properly grouped into families, but it's not the source of the controversy. We don't know when the field of linguistics was founded, but even though it hasn't "advanced far enough," it is not a "very new" field, as (C) suggests. There's no evidence for (D) or (E).

17. E

Paragraph 1 states that Sapir classified Native American languages into six families. None of the other questions is answered in the passage.

18. C

Look at the sentence "extent" appears in. The author says the languages have "diverged" so much that it would be impossible to classify them into three linguistic families. Therefore, the answer needs to mean something close to "wide". (C) is the answer.

POETRY PASSAGE

Next up is a famous poem by Emily Dickinson. The first stanza creates a metaphor of hope as a bird that lives inside us and never stops singing. The second stanza says that the bird of hope sings even in bad weather (i.e., bad times). And in the final stanza, the poet claims that, while she has heard the bird

of hope singing in distant places, "It never asked a crumb of me."

19. D

Hope is "the thing with feathers" in stanza 1 and "the little bird" in stanza 2, so (D) is correct. (A), (B), and (C) are trials and dangers that the bird/hope faces; (E) is what the bird sings.

20. C

Paraphrase the final stanza: "I've heard the bird of hope in far-off places, and it never asked me for anything." This points to (C) as correct. (A) is incorrect because the poem says nothing about a world without hope or about preserving hope at all costs. (B) summarizes the second stanza, not the third. (D) takes the poem literally to the point of absurdity; the "crumb" line doesn't mean that the bird is always hungry, but rather that it gives its song of hope freely. And (E) is incorrect because, according to the poet, hope is always present; no great effort is required to make it so.

21. B

Remember you're dealing with metaphor. This poem isn't about a bird; it's comparing hope to a bird that never stops singing. The statement that it "kept so many warm" means that hope has given comfort to a lot of people; therefore, (B) is correct. (A) and (C) take the poem literally. (D) is pessimistic where the poet is optimistic about hope, and (E) implies that hope *only* works in the worst of situations. But the poet is saying that hope is helpful *even* in the worst of situations.

22. E

The poet likens hope to a bird that, thankfully, is always there to help people, never asking anything

in return. Her tone is one of gratitude, making choice (E) correct. (C) is the closest character, but "respectful" is too formal, too distancing. Hope in this poem isn't a great person or awesome display of nature; it's a little bird "that perches in the soul."

23. C

Figure out what the poet is saying in the lines "sore" appears in. The poet is saying only the worst of storms could discourage the bird. The only choice that comes close to meaning "worst" is "severe," (C).

RECYCLING PASSAGE

The next passage is about recycling, the remaking of waste products and materials for practical purposes. In paragraph 1, we learn that recycling is now considered a necessity, that it saves money and resources and reduces waste. In paragraph 2, the author focuses on residential recycling—what we as private citizens can do to reduce waste.

24. D

Statement I is false: Recycling "reduces the amount of waste produced" (lines 13–14). This eliminates (B), (C), and (E). Since statement II is included in both of the remaining answer choices, it must be true, and it is: We're told twice that recycling can save money. Statement III, then, is the crucial one. And it's true: Lines 17–19 state that "the amount of...waste produced at home has been steadily increasing." So only Statements II and III are true, and choice (D) is correct.

25. C

(A) is easily eliminated: The author thinks the individual's role in recycling "has been seriously underemphasized." The first half of (B) is correct: Businesses do recycle to save money. But the

second half is incorrect: The author doesn't think individuals are motivated to recycle by a sense of the greater good—but the author does think that we should be so motivated. This point is restated in correct choice (C). (D) says we shouldn't recycle, which the author would certainly disagree with, and (E) claims that recycling is only the responsibility of businesses, which goes against the thrust of paragraph 2.

26. D

You're looking for the choice that is not an example of recycling, which the author defines in lines 5–7 as "the remaking of waste products and other used materials for practical purposes." Using this definition, (A), (B), and (E) are easily checked off as examples of recycling. (C) involves a second use for empty soda bottles, as does the author's example in lines 8–10. This leaves (D): Selling jewelry to buy a car is not recycling, because the jewelry is not a waste product that's being remade.

27. A

The author argues that recycling is "important... even...necessary," that "it is our duty to ourselves and to our fellow human beings." These and similar signals throughout the passage reveal the author's tone as insistent, (A). By the same token, (B), (D), and (E) are easy to eliminate. (C) may be tempting since the author tells us that the future of humanity is at stake, but (A) remains the best choice, because more than being formal, the author is trying to motivate us to do something (recycle).

28. E

Paragraph 3 argues that individuals can and must learn to recycle their waste products. You can predict, then, that the author will go on to suggest one or more ways in which individuals can pitch in to help the recycling effort, a point restated in (E). There's no evidence to suggest (A) or (B). (C) wrongly suggests the author will return to a detail from the previous paragraph. And (D) doesn't even mention recycling.

29. B

In lines 15–17, the author states that businesses recycle "based primarily on the goal of saving money." So you can infer that the author believes that businesses recycle primarily for financial gain, (B). (A) is incorrect because the economics of recycling are of greatest interest to businesses, not to the author. Nor can it be inferred from the passage that the author's knowledge of the financial aspects of recycling, (C), is limited. And while (D) is probably true, it can't be inferred from lines 15–17.

EL NIÑO PASSAGE

The passage begins with a statement that, although bad weather is usually only an "inconvenience" for us, it can have "disastrous consequences" for communities in other parts of the world. The remainder of the passage describes an example of this disastrous bad weather: El Niño, a change in the Humboldt Current (an ocean current) that disrupts marine life and can thereby threaten villagers on the northwest coast of South America with starvation.

30. D

The Humboldt Current flows off the northwest coast of South America, making (D) correct. Each of the other choices contradicts the passage. El Niño occurs only at Christmastime (A), but the Humboldt Current flows all year long. The Humboldt Current does fail when El Niño occurs (B). The passage does not state the directional flow of the Humboldt Current, (C),

but does state that it is a cold-water current, not a hotwater current, (E).

31. E

The bulk of the passage concerns what happens when the Humboldt Current fails, which makes (D) very tempting, but the Big Idea of the passage is really stated in the first sentence: Changes in weather patterns can dramatically affect the way people live, making (E) correct here. Remember, the Humboldt Current and El Niño information is there only to back up this claim by the author. (A), (B), and (C) focus on details and should have been easier to eliminate.

32. C

Here you're looking for the one choice that isn't true. Only (C) is not confirmed in the passage. As we noted in question 30, the Humboldt Current carries cold water, not warm; the passage also never states that the current affects "the climate of nearby land masses."

33. A

If you answered question 31 correctly, you probably answered this one correctly too. This passage is not about El Niño; El Niño is discussed in order to prove the author's larger point: that bad weather can harm communities. This means that (A), not (C), is the correct answer.

34. A

We're told that bad weather can have a "dramatic effect" on these villages, "depriving" them "of their livelihood." The author's attitude toward the villagers, then, is—what? Not condescending, (C), angry, (D), or emotional, (E). And though the author doesn't express undue alarm, you wouldn't say she was simply unconcerned about the villagers, as (B) puts it. No, the author's attitude is best described as

377

PART FOUR: SSAT PRACTICE TESTS AND EXPLANATIONS SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2 ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

sympathetic, (A). The villagers occasionally have this awful problem, and the author expresses concern about it.

35. D

The "chain reaction" described in the passage is as follows: the current fails, stopping the flow of nutrients to the fish and squid, which die, thereby harming the villagers. A chain reaction then, is not a pair but a series of causally linked occurrences. (A), (B), and (C), concern only a pair—not a chain—of occurrences. The best example of a chain reaction in the choices is therefore (D), where global warming leads to melted glaciers, which lead to higher water levels and then less available land for people. (E) gives two phenomena that occur at the same time.

Marshall Plan Passage

The final passage is a history passage about the Marshall Plan, an American scheme to help rebuild Europe after World War II. Paragraph 1 sets the scene, explaining that the United States believed that Europe's economic devastation needed to be cured in order to keep it from falling under the domination of the Soviet Union. Paragraph 2 explains that in 1948, U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall instituted the Marshall Plan, which distributed 12 billion dollars among 16 different European countries over the next four years.

36. B

The answer will probably mention the Marshall Plan and how it helped Europe; (B) fits this bill nicely. (A) and (E) are way too broad. (C) describes what happened during World War II that made the Marshall Plan so necessary but says nothing about the Plan itself. (D) suggests that the passage is about Marshall himself, when the author actually tells

you nothing more than Marshall's name and job—Secretary of State.

37. A

The author's tone is not noticeably positive (B) or negative (E). It betrays no personal feelings such as insistence, (C), or anxiety, (D). Instead, it's objective.

38. D

This is a Detail question that careful readers will get. Paragraph 2 states that the Marshall Plan doled out "a combined total of \$12 billion" to the 16 "participating countries." So each country did not get \$12 billion. All of the other statements are substantiated in the passage.

39. E

What was the driving force behind the Marshall Plan? Early in paragraph 1, we learn that post-World War II Western Europe was economically devastated and that when tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union escalated, U.S. policymakers felt "substantial financial assistance" was needed in Western Europe "to maintain a state of political stability." This points to (E). None of the other choices draws a correct inference from the passage.

40. C

The first paragraph describes the postwar economic and political problems that the Marshall Plan was intended to solve, and paragraph 2 describes, in general terms, how much money was distributed and how well the plan worked. You can infer, then, that the author will go on to talk about specifics—how the Plan's money was put to work in some or all of the 16 participating countries. (A) wrongly sees the Cold War, not the Marshall Plan, as the focus of the passage. (B) goes back in time, to events before the

Marshall Plan was ever dreamed up. Other economic recovery plans are never mentioned, and (E) is also unwarranted.

SECTION 4: VERBAL

SYNONYMS

1. E

Harsh means rough or overly demanding—in other words, severe, (E). A crime might be punished by a harsh penalty, for example. One can be angry, (B), without being harsh; these words are not synonyms.

2. D

Indicate means to show, state, or point out.

3. C

Bleak means desolate and barren, or cheerless, (C). "We camped out in a bleak wilderness."

4. D

Secure means free from danger or safe.

5. A

Alien means foreign or strange.

6. A

Chronic means frequently occurring, habitual, or persistent, (A), as in a "chronic cough."

7. D

To quench a thirst means to slake or satisfy it, (D).

8. B

Severe, as we saw in question 1, means harsh, overly demanding, or extreme, (B). Severe cold leaves you frozen, (A), but severe and frozen are not synonyms. Don't just think associatively; look for the word that's closest in meaning to the stem word.

9. A

When thieves ransack an apartment, they turn it upside down looking for things to steal. In other words, to ransack is to search thoroughly, (A).

10. E

The summit is the top of something, as in the summit of a mountain peak, which makes (E) correct.

11. B

A tumult is a loud noise, an uproar, or commotion, (B).

12. C

To retard means to delay the progress of, hold back, or slow down, (C).

13. B

An antidote is a cure or remedy, (B), such as an antidote for poison.

14. D

Solitary is the state of being secluded or alone, (D).

15. D

To camouflage means to hide or disguise, (D).

16. E

To expel means to drive out, to reject, or to cast out, (E).

17. C

To lunge is to make a sudden forward stride or leap. A lunge—especially with a weapon—is also called a thrust, (C). To pursue, (A), means to chase, that is, to follow with the intent of overtaking. Pursuit may begin with a lunge, but the two verbs are not synonyms. In similar fashion, a lunge may involve a turn, (B), or startle someone, (E), but these words are not synonyms of lunge, either.

PART FOUR: SSAT PRACTICE TESTS AND EXPLANATIONS SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2 ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

18. E

Brevity is the quality of being brief, which means of short duration—so shortness, (E), is correct.

19. E

To marvel is to feel surprise, amazed curiosity, or wonder, (E).

20. C

Candor is truthfulness, or honesty, (C). To be daring, (B), is to be bold but not necessarily honest.

21. C

To convene is to meet or to assemble, (C). The closest distracters, (B) and (D), are actions associated with meetings that are convened, but they're not synonyms.

22. B

A catastrophe is a great misfortune, a terrible occurrence, or a disaster, (B).

23. B

Gregarious means talkative, outgoing, or sociable, (B).

24. D

Dexterity is mental or physical skill and quickness. The best synonym here is nimbleness, (D).

25. E

To say that something is imminent means that it's about to happen, that it is forthcoming, (E).

26. B

Animosity is hostility, ill will, or resentment. The best synonym here is hatred, (B).

27. E

To amend means to change, alter, or improve, (E).

28. A

Someone who feels despondent is very sad or depressed, (A).

29. C

Unflinching means not flinching or shrinking from; it's the quality of being steadfast. The best synonym here is uncompromising, (C). (A) and (D) are near-antonyms for unflinching.

30. A

To repudiate means to cast off, disown, or refuse to have anything to do with. The choice with the closest meaning to repudiate is renounce, (A). To impede, (B), is to slow or interfere with someone's progress.

Analogies

31. A

Anything having to do with the sun is solar. In the same way, anything having to do with the earth is terrestrial, (A). Marine refers to a sea or ocean, not to a pond. Subterranean refers to what is below the ground, not to the ground itself. You might suspect (E), but lunar refers to anything having to do with the moon, not planets.

32. A

Botany is the study of plants. Similarly, meteorology is the study of weather, (A). Flora is the generic word for plant life or vegetation.

33. E

You use a hammer to *put in* a nail. In the same way, you use a screwdriver to *put in* a screw, (E). You use an axe to chop wood, a lathe to smooth or shape molding, a chisel to chip marble, and a nut to secure a bolt.

34. A

A bone is part of the structural system that supports a mammal. A girder is part of the structural system that supports a skyscraper, (A). The other choices are also part of the structural system that supports a skyscraper, not the skyscraper itself.

35. B

A primate is an order of mammals that includes monkeys, apes, and humans. So a human is one species of the primate order, just as a snake is one species of the order of reptiles. Vegetarians are not an order in the same way as primates and reptiles. A disease is not necessarily bacterial in nature. Birds are mammals, not amphibians; amphibians are a class in the animal kingdom that includes frogs and toads.

36. D

A tremor is a quivering motion of the earth. A powerful tremor may be an earthquake. In the same way, wind is a motion of the air, and a powerful wind may be a tornado, (D). The analogy isn't exact here, but it's better than the other choices. An eye is the calm center of a hurricane, (A); a powerful desert is not a sandstorm, (B). A faucet is a man-made object through which water flows; a deluge, (C), is a great flood. And a powerful flood, (E), is not a river.

37. C

Something tremendously amusing is uproarious; similarly, something tremendously interesting is hypnotic, fascinating, or mesmerizing, (C).

38. D

Being fickle, or inconstant, is the opposite of steadfastness. In the same way, being tempestuous, or stormy, is the opposite of peacefulness, (D). Ire, (E), means anger.

39. C

A group of fish is called a school, just as a group of birds is called a flock.

40. D

A cartographer is a designer of maps, just as a chef is a designer of meals.

41. B

A throne is the official chair for a monarch, just as a bench is the official chair for a judge, (B). A miter, (A), is the headdress worn by bishops.

42. D

A canal is a man-made river, just as a mine is a man-made cavern, (D). It's stretching things to call a boat a man-made piece of driftwood, (A), even though both float.

43. B

When milk goes bad it gets sour; when bread goes bad it gets stale, (B).

44. E

Ore is mined to bring it up out of the earth, just as oil is drilled to bring it up out of the earth, (E). Grain is plowed, (D), but it's not found buried in the earth.

45. E

Weight is measured on a scale, just as altitude is measured on an altimeter. Speed, not distance, is measured on a speedometer (A). (B) is a little tricky: Numbers are measured on a slide rule, but only special kinds of numbers called logarithms.

46. C

A porcupine protects itself with quills. In a similar fashion, a skunk protects itself with odor.

47. D

The purpose of a jar is to contain, just as the purpose of a pillar is to support, (D).

48. B

Irrigate means to flush with liquid. So you irrigate something that is dry, just as you smooth something that's coarse, (B). (A) and (C) are tempting but not as good. You soften something that's hard, not uneven. And you purify something that's impure, or tainted. To ferment something is to induce a chemical process that makes alcohol; this has nothing to do with saltiness.

49. B

Electricity flows through a wire, just as water flows through an aqueduct. Sound is broadcast from a radio, choice (A), which is not the same thing. (C) and (D) have similar problems; in each case the music or light is emitted from the object, it doesn't flow through it. And in (E), a river is contained by its bank.

50. E

You can express contempt with a sneer. In the same way, you express displeasure with a frown, (E). Each of the other actions is inappropriately matched to its emotion.

51. E

The base of a building is its foundation. The base of a plant is its root, (E). If you chose (A), (C), or (D), you were probably confusing the vegetative meaning of "plant" with, say, a manufacturing plant. A grotto is a cave.

52. C

Olfactory refers to anything having to do with the sense of smell. So our bridge could be, *The nose is*

the organ of the olfactory sense. Similarly, the ear is the organ of the sense of hearing or auditory sense, (C).

53. C

Irk means to annoy, disgust, or irritate. So the relationship here is of opposites: Something that irks is not soothing. In the same way, something that supports is not weakening or undermining, (C). Irritating, (D), is second-best here; it would go better with soothing than with support.

54. A

Something illegible is impossible to read, just as something invisible is impossible to see, (A). Something broken is not by definition impossible to fix.

55. B

Tact is sensitivity, or the ability to do or say the right thing with people. So tact is a necessary quality for a diplomat. In the same way, agility is a necessary quality for a gymnast, which makes (B) correct. Parsimony, (A), or stinginess, is a quality a philanthropist will not have, since a philanthropist is someone who gives generous amounts of money to charity. Similarly, a judge, (E), should be unbiased, not biased, which means having a declared preference for one side or the other. Victims may be vulnerable, (C), but you wouldn't ordinarily say that vulnerability is a necessary quality for being a victim. And training in (D) is too vague; it's not a quality specific to the practice of medicine.

56. E

Ravenous means extremely hungry. So to be ravenous is to be in an extreme state of hunger. In the same way, to be furious is to be in an extreme state of indignation, (E). None of the other choices has a first word that's an extreme version of the second word. Pliable, (A), means flexible, while

obstinacy is stubbornness, so these words are opposites. The same is true for (B) and (C). Tenacity, (D), is stubborn persistence; being smart is not being in an extreme state of tenacity.

57. B

To amplify sound is to make it stronger or louder. To bolster something means to strengthen it. In the same way, then, to bolster courage is to make it stronger. Getting the right answer here depends a little on knowing common usage. You can't bolster a smell, (A), insomnia or sleeplessness, (C), or light, (D), or silence, (E).

58. A

Reverse the order of the stem pair: You attend a lecture in an auditorium. In the same way, you attend a concert in a theater, (A). This bridge clearly doesn't work on (B), (D), or (E). One attends religious services, not religion itself, in a temple, (C).

59. C

Philanthropic means generous, giving; benevolence is the quality of generosity. So our bridge might be, *A philanthropic act is evidence of benevolence*. In the same way, a miserly act is evidence of stinginess, (C). Ostentatious, (B), means showy or extravagant.

60. D

Spurious is simply a fancy word meaning fake. So we've got a relationship of opposites here: Something spurious has no authenticity. Similarly, something laughable has no seriousness, (D). Lavish, (A), means extravagantly expensive. Abject means miserable; subjectivity may or may not be miserable, (B). There's no obvious bridge between the words in (C), and in (E), totalitarian refers to an imposing system of government, so it is not the opposite of completeness.

SECTION 5: MATH

1. E

Begin with \$5 + cover price – \$9 and simplify it: cover price – \$4, which means \$4 below the cover price. (B) is correct.

2. D

Note here that each cube = 20 boxes. February has two cubes less than March, hence 2(20) = 40 boxes less.

3. A

In January, 6 cubes were sold, and in February, 3 cubes were sold. Thus, in January, the number of boxes sold was $\frac{6}{3} = 2$ times the number of boxes sold in February. It is not necessary to perform the calculation using the fact that 20 boxes are represented by each cube.

4. B

Let x = the number of ties for Team A; keep in mind that x is an integer here. Thus, Team A had 4x losses. Adding the losses and ties (there were no wins), the number of games the team played was x + 4x = 5x. Thus, the correct answer choice must be a multiple of 5 (because x is an integer). Only (B), 15, is a multiple of 5.

5. E

In order to make the discussion simpler, the five rectangles that are in the figure to begin with have been labeled.

A	В	
С	D	Е

SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2 ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Systematically count the different rectangles in the figure. There are 5 rectangles in the figure to begin with, which we will call basic rectangles. Next, let's count the number of rectangles that are made up of 2 basic rectangles. Rectangles made up of 2 basic rectangles can be formed from basic rectangles A and B, C and D, D and E, A and C, and B and D. There are 5 rectangles made up of 2 basic rectangles. Next, let's count the number of rectangles that can be made up of 3 basic rectangles. There is just one such rectangle. This is the rectangle that is made up of the 3 basic rectangles at the bottom, rectangles C, D, and E. Next, let's count the number of rectangles that can be made up of 4 basic rectangles. There is just one such rectangle, the rectangle that is made up of basic rectangles A, B, C, and D. There are no other rectangles that can be made up of basic rectangles. There is a total of 5 + 5 + 1 + 1 = 12

6. D

different rectangles in the figure.

We are looking for the fraction that is NOT less than $\frac{1}{4}$, that is, a fraction that is greater than or equal to $\frac{1}{4}$. (D) is correct because $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{19}{19 \times 4} = \frac{19}{76}$ is less than $\frac{19}{70}$ because $\frac{19}{70}$ has a smaller denominator. Looking at the other choices, since $\frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{2}{9}$ must be less than $\frac{1}{4}$ (since 9 is a greater denominator). Since $\frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{14}$ must be less than $\frac{1}{4}$ (due to the greater denominator, 14). Reducing $\frac{14}{64}$, we get $\frac{7}{32}$ and since $\frac{8}{32} = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{14}{64} = \frac{7}{32}$ is less than $\frac{1}{4}$. Since $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{27}{27 \times 4} = \frac{27}{108}$, then $\frac{27}{125}$ is less than $\frac{27}{108} = \frac{1}{4}$.

7. D

Begin by labeling each side 1. Using the answer choices, count the lengths of 1 in the path: (A) = 4, (B) = 4, (C) = 4, (D) = 5, and (E) = 4. (D) is the longest path.

CrackSSAT.com

8. D

No lengthy calculation is needed here. In order for a product of numbers to equal 0, at least one of the numbers must equal zero. Since $5\frac{1}{3}$ is not 0, the other factor, 14 - x, must equal 0. So 14 - x = 0, and x = 14.

9. D

Since 1.18 has 2 places after the decimal point, write each answer choice with 2 places after the decimal point. (A) and (B) are more than 1.00 away from 1.18. (C), 1.90, is more than 0.70 away from 1.18, (D), 1.10, is 0.08 away from 1.18, and (E), 1.00, is 0.18 away from 1.18.

10. C

Write out the given inequality: X > 15. Next multiply both sides by $\frac{1}{3}$ (or divide both sides by 3). We now have $\frac{1}{3}X > \frac{15}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{3}X > 5$, (C).

11. B

Round \$26.95 to 27.00. Then we have $\frac{35}{100} \times 27 = ?$ Canceling yields $\frac{7}{20} \times 27 = \frac{189}{20} = 9.45$.

12. D

Let T be the number of minutes. Set up a ratio:

$$\frac{600}{3} = \frac{27,000}{T}. \text{ Reduce } \frac{600}{3} \text{ to } \frac{200}{1}. \text{ Then } \frac{200}{1} = \frac{27,000}{T}. \text{ Next cross-multiply: } 200T = 27,000.$$
 Divide both sides by 100: $2T = 270$, and thus $T = 135$. Put this into the time format of hours and minutes by dividing 135 minutes by 60 minutes per hour and we have $2\frac{1}{4}$ hours, which is 2 hours and 15 minutes

13. D

Translate what is stated in the question step-by-step. To begin with, Sally has x dollars. After she receives 100 dollars, she has x + 100 dollars. She spends 125 dollars, so she has (x + 100) - 125 dollars left. Now simplify (x + 100) - 125: (x + 100) - 125 = x + 100 - 125 = x - 25. Sally has x - 25 dollars left, so (D) is correct.

14. E

Begin by multiplying both sides by 3 to eliminate the denominator. Then A + B = 12. If A is greater than 1, then B must be less than 11. Thus (E), 12, could not be the value of B.

Use the average formula, which is Average =

15. E

Sum of the terms Number of terms. Call X the sum of all 5 numbers. Then $\frac{X}{5} = 10$, so X = 50. Call Y the sum of the 3 remaining numbers. Then $\frac{Y}{3} = 9$, so Y = 27. Subtracting from the sum of all 5 numbers the sum of the 3 numbers that remain leaves the sum of the

2 numbers that were removed. So the sum of the

2 numbers that were removed is X - Y = 50 - 27 = 23.

16. B

The bottom surface of the bag is a rectangle and all points are inside the rectangle, so choice (A) can be eliminated. (B) is correct.

17. B

The formula for percent increase is Percent

increase =
$$\frac{\text{New value} - \text{Old value}}{\text{Old value}} \times 100\%$$
. Here, $\frac{1,448-1,086}{1,086} \times 100\% = \frac{362}{1,086} \times 100\% = \frac{1}{3} \times 100\%$ = $33\frac{1}{3}\%$, so (B) is the best choice.

18. A

Let the length of WX be represented by a. Then the length of WY is 3a. The length of XY must be 3a - a = 2a. Then, the length of XZ must be $2 \times 2a = 4a$. So WZ = WX + XZ = a + 4a = 5a = 5(2) = 10.

19 4

Draw a rectangle. Label its width w and its length 3w. The perimeter is 240, thus 3w + w + 3w + w = 240, so 8w = 240 and w = 30.

20. C

The phrase "for every" indicates a ratio is needed. Call the amount she receives from the \$18,000 collection x. Here set up $\frac{50}{900} = \frac{x}{18,000}$. After cancellation on the left we have $\frac{1}{18} = \frac{x}{18,000}$. Cross-multiply and get 18x = 18,000. Solve for x by dividing each side by 18, and x = 1,000.

21. C

We need to find out how many 4×6 rectangles fit into a square with a side of 24. Use our area formula $A = L \times W$: $\frac{24 \times 24}{4 \times 6} = 24$.

22. C

Pick Numbers. Let S = -2 and T = -3. Thus, we have R = -5. Taking this value for R through our choices, only (C) fits.

23. D

Call the number of DVDs Greg has d and the number of CDs he has c. Our first equation is d + c = 60. The second equation is $\frac{1}{2}r = 2(\frac{1}{8}c)$. So $\frac{1}{2}r = \frac{1}{4}c$ and $c = 4 \times \frac{1}{2}r = 2d$. Now, substitute 2d for c in the first equation, d + c = 60. Then d + 2d = 60, 3d = 60, and $d = \frac{60}{3} = 20$. The problem asks how many DVDs he sold, which is $\frac{1}{2}(20) = 10$.

24. D

Mary received \$20 each week for 2 weeks and saved 60% of this or $\frac{60}{100}$ (\$40) = \$24. Since she saved only \$8 the first week, she must have saved \$16 the second week. Looking at the Roman numeral statements, I is true so eliminate (A) and (C). Looking at statement II, \$20 - \$16 = \$4 was spent during the second week, not \$6, so it is not true. Eliminate (E). Finally in III, the percent of the second week's allowance that she saved was $\frac{16}{20} \times 100\% = \frac{4}{5} \times 100\%$ = 80%, so statement III is true. (D) is correct.

25. C

First work with Paul: Original wage + 20% of his original wage = \$4.50. Convert this into the equation: x + 0.20x = 4.50, 1.2x = 4.50, and x = \$3.75. Set up a similar equation for Bill: y + 0.20y = 5.40 and 1.2y = 5.40, so y = \$4.50. Hence, \$4.50 - \$3.75 = \$0.75.