

Level D - Form 1 - Reading: Construct Meaning

Sample Question

Read the paragraph. Then choose the best answer to the question.

At the club, Bob sang in a band. While he was onstage, he would look into the crowd. Some people danced, and others just listened. Bob felt good when the people cheered.

How did Bob feel when he sang?

- A ugly
- B happy
- C scared
- D untalented

Level D - Form 1 - Reading: Construct Meaning

Read these two letters about a smokers' lounge in an office. Then do Numbers 1 through 10.

Letter A

Dear Mrs. Sanchez:

My desk is next to the smokers' lounge, and I simply cannot sit there any longer. I cough all day long. I've tried using fans, air fresheners, and air purifiers, but nothing seems to help. I hate to think about the long-term effects the smoke might have on my health.

The thing that worries me most is what happened to Manuel Diaz. He used to sit right next to me, and I really must wonder if his asthma attacks are a result of breathing smoke all day at work. Before sitting next to me, Manuel told me he thought he had outgrown his asthma. Now he believes the smoke from the smokers' lounge has caused him to have asthma attacks again.

I am willing to tolerate the situation for one more week; however, if my desk remains next to the smokers' lounge after that time, I will not come back to work. I hate to be nasty about this, but I'm scared for my health.

Sincerely,

Albert Smith

Albert Smith, Accounting

Letter B

Dear Mrs. Sanchez:

I am writing on behalf of all the hardworking and loyal smokers who work at Hale Foods. Our names are on the attached list. We feel that you abandoned us when you told the building manager to close the lounge. Could we meet with you to discuss the problem?

Right now, we have to stand outside or sit in our cars when we smoke. That is not just uncomfortable; it's a terrible waste of time. I'm sure the company would like us to finish our work.

We understand how the lounge bothers people sitting nearby. Perhaps the lounge could be moved farther away from offices. That way, maybe everyone would be happy. We would appreciate a chance to discuss this matter with you in person.

Respectfully,

Evelyn Lynette Carter

Evelyn Lynette Carter, Production

1. Which of these best describes the writer of letter A?
 - A concerned about effects of smoking
 - B unhappy about working assignment
 - C tends to talk to other employees about smoking
 - D believes employees should have a new cafeteria

2. Which of the following statements best summarizes letter A?
 - F The writer hates his current job and would like to transfer.
 - G Smokers are rude, and the writer doesn't want to be near them.
 - H The writer wants his desk moved away from the smokers' lounge.
 - J Manuel Diaz has the right to sue the company for causing his asthma.

3. What happened to Manuel Diaz that supports Albert Smith's argument?
 - A He was fired.
 - B He quit his job.
 - C He and the smokers did not get along.
 - D He started to have asthma attacks again.

4. Which of the following most likely occurred between the time Mr. Smith wrote his letter and Ms. Carter wrote her letter?
 - F The smokers at Hale Foods were fired.
 - G The smokers' lounge at Hale Foods was closed.
 - H The smokers at Hale Foods asked for a lounge.
 - J There was a fire at Hale Foods, and smokers caused it.

5. Which of these is the most likely reason that Ms. Carter sent her letter?
 - A No one else cared about the problem.
 - B Ms. Carter is a friend of Mrs. Sanchez.
 - C Ms. Carter was the only one who would do it.
 - D The other smokers elected her to speak for them all.

6. Which of the following best describes the main idea of letter B?
 - F Hale Foods treats its employees unfairly.
 - G Smokers have a right to smoke anywhere.
 - H The smokers want to speak with Mrs. Sanchez.
 - J The smokers work harder than other employees.

7. The smokers are probably upset with Mrs. Sanchez because she
- A didn't speak up for them
 - B won't smoke in the lounge
 - C won't let them smoke during the day
 - D moved her office away from the lounge
8. Which of the following is the most likely effect of the list of names attached to Ms. Carter's letter?
- F It makes the letter appear longer than it is.
 - G Mrs. Sanchez might write back to each person listed.
 - H It shows that many people agree with what Ms. Carter writes.
 - J Others can take the blame if the letter makes someone angry.
9. Which of these is most likely a part of Mrs. Sanchez's job?
- A typing letters
 - B cleaning offices
 - C dealing with employee complaints
 - D buying equipment, such as cigarette machines
10. In which of the following ways is letter A different from letter B?
- F Letter A reflects anger.
 - G Letter A is more descriptive.
 - H Letter A insults smokers and Mrs. Sanchez.
 - J Letter A tells only one person's point of view.

Here is an article about the career of a remarkable woman, Wilma Mankiller. Read the article. Then do Numbers 11 through 17.

Wilma Mankiller: Defender of the Cherokee Nation

“Prior to my election, young Cherokee girls would never have thought that they might grow up and become chief,” Wilma Mankiller said. By becoming the Cherokee nation’s first female chief, Wilma has earned her place in American history.

Wilma was born in Oklahoma, in 1945, to a Cherokee father and a Dutch-Irish mother. She grew up with six brothers and four sisters on a farm with no electricity or running water. When Wilma was eleven years old, her family moved to San Francisco as part of a program sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The program relocated Native Americans from the reservations to the cities. Her family had to adjust to a new way of life in the city. Wilma had difficulty making the leap from rural life to city life. She was used to hearing the sounds of roosters and crickets in Oklahoma, so the police sirens and traffic noises of the city frightened her. In school, students teased her because of her name, but her father taught her to be proud of the family’s heritage.

In 1969, Wilma took part in the occupation of Alcatraz Island, when Native Americans joined together to call attention to the issues that affected their tribes. The time Wilma spent there inspired her to devote herself to improving the quality of life for her people. She studied at San Bruno College and at San Francisco State College. She returned to Oklahoma in the 1970s and began to work for the Cherokee Nation. At that time, it had fewer than 10,000 members.

After graduating from college in 1977, Wilma worked as a community development director for the Cherokee Nation, which was based in Tahlequa, Oklahoma. She helped build water systems, so people could have running water in their homes. She also showed people in the community how to renovate old homes and build new ones. In 1983, she was elected to be the Cherokee Nation’s deputy principal chief. Wilma was appointed tribal chief in 1985. She had become the first woman to lead the Cherokee, the second largest nation in the United States after the Navajo.

Years earlier, in 1839, the Cherokees had been forced to relocate to reservations in Oklahoma. During her years as chief from 1985 to 1995, Wilma oversaw these 45,000 acres of Oklahoma land. As part of the tribal government, Wilma’s role was also valuable to the Cherokee residents who no longer live on reservations in Oklahoma. The government’s job was to run social programs and support the development of the Cherokee community. Wilma believed that the local residents could help solve problems in the community. She listened to their ideas and recruited them as volunteers. She created many jobs for residents and improved educational opportunities for Cherokee children.

As a top authority on Native-American affairs, Wilma testified before congressional committees about tribal rulership and met with Presidents Reagan, Bush, and Clinton. In 1986, she was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame, won reelection as tribal chief the following year, and later became president of the InterTribal Council of Oklahoma. Although she did not seek reelection as chief of the Cherokee Nation in 1995, she remains a lasting symbol of Native-American pride.

11. Which of the following best describes Wilma Mankiller?
- A a native of Oklahoma
 - B a champion of women's rights
 - C a great leader of the Cherokee Nation
 - D a member of a large Cherokee family
12. Which of the following supports the idea that Wilma influenced others outside of the tribe?
- F She took part in the occupation of Alcatraz Island.
 - G She studied at San Bruno College and at San Francisco State College.
 - H She testified before congressional committees and met with U.S. presidents.
 - J She and her family moved to San Francisco when she was a young girl.
13. According to this passage, Wilma will be remembered because she
- A became the first female Cherokee chief
 - B spoke to Congress about tribal problems
 - C protested at Alcatraz with other students
 - D moved from a farm in Oklahoma to San Francisco
14. Which statement about Wilma Mankiller is best supported by the passage?
- F She believes that women are the heart of the Cherokee Nation.
 - G She endured great hardships for the sake of her career.
 - H She favors programs that show people how to help themselves.
 - J She was the most respected chief the Cherokee Nation ever had.

15. “Wilma had difficulty making the leap from rural life to city life.” Which of the following statements is the best restatement of this sentence?
- A Wilma had trouble adjusting to city life.
 - B The drive from Oklahoma was an ordeal for Wilma.
 - C The move to San Francisco left Wilma physically weak.
 - D Wilma believed that Native Americans should not live in a city.
16. Of the following leaders, who can best be compared to Wilma Mankiller?
- F Golda Meir, the first female Prime Minister of Israel
 - G Gene Boyer, founder of the National Organization for Women
 - H Chief Joseph, who spoke against injustice toward his people
 - J Sacagawea, Shoshone guide of the Lewis and Clark expedition
17. Which of these best summarizes the entire passage about Wilma Mankiller?
- A She saved the Cherokee Nation from disaster.
 - B The story of her family reveals many problems faced by Native Americans.
 - C She has had a long and highly successful career serving the Cherokee people.
 - D She had a stormy childhood, but as an adult she resolved most of her problems.

Here is a speech to a friend. Read the speech. Then do Numbers 18 through 20.

Listen to Me, Dorian!

I must speak to you, and you must listen. You shall listen. When you met Lady Gwendolyn, her reputation was flawless. Now there is not one single decent woman in London who would drive with her in the park. Why, even her children are not allowed to live with her. Then there are other stories—stories that you have been seen creeping at dawn out of dreadful houses. They say you’ve been seen slinking in disguise into the foulest dens in London. Are they true? Can they be true? When I first heard them, I laughed. I hear them now, and they make me shudder. What about your country house, and the life that you lead there? Dorian, you don’t know what is said about you. I won’t tell you that I don’t want to preach to you. I do want to preach to you. I want you to lead a life that will make the world respect you.

—adapted from *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>18. Which of these best summarizes this speech?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">F Lady Gwendolyn’s reputation is ruined.G The speaker’s friendship with Dorian is over.H Dorian should use better disguises when he goes out.J People are talking about Dorian, and he should lead a better life. <p>19. According to the speaker, why won’t anyone associate with Lady Gwendolyn?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A Her reputation is flawless.B Her children aren’t well liked.C She has had a relationship with Dorian.D The women of the town gossip about her. | <p>20. Based on the speech, it is clear that the speaker thinks Dorian is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">F hopelessG worth savingH evil by natureJ good for nothing |
|--|---|