

#1

ID: 6f08641e

On April 5, 1977, Kitty Cone and 150 other disability rights activists entered a San Francisco federal building. After pleading for years—to no effect—for the passage of key antidiscrimination legislation, \_\_\_\_\_ until their demands were addressed. Finally, on April 28, the legislation was signed.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) pressure on lawmakers increased when the activists staged a sit-in protest
- B) a sit-in protest staged by the activists increased pressure on lawmakers
- C) lawmakers came under increased pressure when the activists staged a sit-in protest
- D) the activists increased pressure on lawmakers by staging a sit-in protest

#2

ID: 2c49940e

French philosopher René Descartes doubted whether he could prove his own existence. Eventually, he found proof in his famous phrase “I think, therefore I am.” The \_\_\_\_\_ complexity: only those who exist would be able to ponder their existence.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) phrases' simplicity masks its
- B) phrases simplicity masks their
- C) phrase's simplicity masks their
- D) phrase's simplicity masks its

#3

ID: 1ee7b429

Bonnie Buratti of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_ data about Saturn's rings collected by the *Cassini* spacecraft when she made an interesting discovery: the tiny moons embedded between and within Saturn's rings are shaped by the buildup of ring material on the moons' surfaces.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) studies
- B) has been studying
- C) will study
- D) was studying

#5

ID: 9eb43963

Water in the North Atlantic Ocean is pushed eastward by powerful winds, but the rotation of Earth and interference from nearby landmasses together cause \_\_\_\_\_ to swirl into a massive, churning whirlpool—also called the North Atlantic Gyre—that spins clockwise.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) these
- B) those
- C) them
- D) it

#4

ID: 6e193b19

Professional American football player Fred Cox invented one of the world's most popular toys. In the 1970s, he came up with the idea for the Nerf football, which \_\_\_\_\_ of the harder and heavier regulation football.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) were a smaller, foam version
- B) are smaller, foam versions
- C) were smaller, foam versions
- D) is a smaller, foam version

#6

ID: eeb14722

The soundtrack to Mira Nair's 1991 film *Mississippi Masala* expressively captures the clashing of cultures that happens when \_\_\_\_\_ (a young Indian woman from Uganda and a young African American man from Mississippi) meet. Featured throughout the film are songs from Uganda's Afrigo Band, the Indian composer L. Subramaniam, and the Mississippi blues musician Sam Chatmon.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) it's two protagonists
- B) its two protagonist's
- C) it's two protagonist's
- D) its two protagonists

#7

ID: 20ea68b7

It can take time for proposed amendments to the US Constitution to become law. For example, the Twenty-Second Amendment, which limits the number of \_\_\_\_\_ can serve, was first proposed in 1947 but wasn't approved by the required three-fourths majority of state legislatures until 1951.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) terms presidents
- B) term's presidents
- C) term's president's
- D) terms president's

#8

ID: 56315bd0

Solarpunk is an art movement that imagines renewable energy–powered technology infused complementarily into nature. In Paolo Bacigalupi’s solarpunk short story “Efficiency,” an artificial intelligence that absorbs sustainable energies, redistributing them through intricate networks of weights and generators, \_\_\_\_\_ Chicago’s energy grid.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) have been powering
- B) power
- C) powers
- D) are powering

#9

ID: b74f676f

Classical composer Florence Price’s 1927 move to Chicago marked a turning point in her career. It was there that Price premiered her First Symphony—a piece that was praised for blending traditional Romantic motifs with aspects of Black folk music—and \_\_\_\_\_ supportive relationships with other Black artists.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) developing
- B) developed
- C) to develop
- D) having developed

#10

ID: 1f8cd95f

In the 1950s, a man named Joseph McVicker was struggling to keep his business afloat when his sister-in-law Kay Zufall advised him to repurpose the company's product, a nontoxic, clay-like substance for removing soot from wallpaper, as a modeling putty for kids. In addition, Zufall \_\_\_\_\_ selling the product under a child-friendly name: Play-Doh.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) suggested
- B) suggests
- C) had suggested
- D) was suggesting

#11

ID: 7f1df833

In 1966, Emmett Ashford became the first African American to umpire a Major League Baseball game. His energetic gestures announcing when a player had struck out and his habit of barreling after a hit ball to see if it would land out of \_\_\_\_\_ transform the traditionally solemn umpire role into a dynamic one.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) bounds helped
- B) bounds, helping
- C) bounds that helped
- D) bounds to help

#12

ID: 59209b6d

Based on genetic evidence, archaeologists have generally agreed that reindeer domestication began in the eleventh century CE. However, since uncovering fragments of a 2,000-year-old reindeer training harness in northern Siberia, \_\_\_\_\_ may have begun much earlier.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) researcher Robert Losey has argued that domestication
- B) researcher Robert Losey's argument is that domestication
- C) domestication, researcher Robert Losey has argued,
- D) the argument researcher Robert Losey has made is that domestication

#13

ID: 4f2ff5f2

Tortoises can be found in many works of literature. For example, in Tom Stoppard's 1993 play *Arcadia*, there is a tortoise that \_\_\_\_\_ by two names (Plautus and Lightning) and appears in both of the play's parallel timelines. As a character, the tortoise symbolizes the connection between the past and present.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) goes
- B) will have gone
- C) went
- D) had gone

#14

ID: dd6a0326

African American Percy Julian was a scientist and entrepreneur whose work helped people around the world to see. Named in 1999 as one of the greatest achievements by a US chemist in the past hundred years, \_\_\_\_\_ led to the first mass-produced treatment for glaucoma.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) Julian synthesized the alkaloid physostigmine in 1935; it
- B) in 1935 Julian synthesized the alkaloid physostigmine, which
- C) Julian's 1935 synthesis of the alkaloid physostigmine
- D) the alkaloid physostigmine was synthesized by Julian in 1935 and

#15

ID: 684b8bd2

Far from being modern inventions, \_\_\_\_\_ more than 5,000 years ago.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) Sumerians in ancient Mesopotamia used drinking straws
- B) drinking straws were used by Sumerians in ancient Mesopotamia
- C) the use of drinking straws by Sumerians in ancient Mesopotamia happened
- D) ancient Mesopotamia was home to Sumerians who used drinking straws

#16

ID: dd428136

Cheng Dang and her colleagues at the University of Washington recently ran simulations to determine the extent to which individual snow \_\_\_\_\_ affect the amount of light reflecting off a snowy surface.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) grain's physical properties'
- B) grains' physical properties
- C) grains' physical property's
- D) grains physical properties

#17

ID: 9f737b2a

In Death Valley National Park's Racetrack Playa, a flat, dry lakebed, are 162 rocks—some weighing less than a pound but others almost 700 pounds—that move periodically from place to place, seemingly of their own volition. Racetrack-like trails in the \_\_\_\_\_ mysterious migration.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) playas sediment mark the rock's
- B) playa's sediment mark the rocks
- C) playa's sediment mark the rocks'
- D) playas' sediment mark the rocks'

#18

ID: c52652c9

The human brain is primed to recognize faces—so much so that, due to a perceptual tendency called pareidolia, \_\_\_\_\_ will even find faces in clouds, wooden doors, pieces of fruit, and other faceless inanimate objects. Researcher Susan Magsamen has focused her work on better understanding this everyday phenomenon.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) she
- B) they
- C) it
- D) those



#19

ID: 36944347

Official measurements of the Mississippi River's length vary: according to the US Geologic Survey, the river is 2,300 miles long, whereas the Environmental Protection Agency records its length as 2,320 miles. This disparity can be explained in part by the fact that rivers such as the Mississippi expand and contract as \_\_\_\_\_ sediment.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) they accumulate
- B) one accumulates
- C) it accumulates
- D) we accumulate

#21

ID: 75f49353

The Progressive Era in the United States witnessed the rise of numerous Black women's clubs, local organizations that advocated for racial and gender equality. Among the clubs' leaders \_\_\_\_\_ Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, founder of the Women's Era Club of Boston.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) was
- B) were
- C) are
- D) have been

#20

ID: 8d53e7a0

Slam poet Elizabeth Acevedo's debut novel *The Poet X*, winner of the 2018 National Book Award for Young People's Literature, is composed of \_\_\_\_\_ protagonist, fifteen-year-old Xiomara Batista.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) poems putatively written by the novel's
- B) poem's putatively written by the novel's
- C) poem's putatively written by the novels'
- D) poems putatively written by the novels'

#22

ID: 97e7bedc

Oyster mushrooms typically get their nutrients from the damp logs on which they grow, but the fungi are also carnivorous, with the ability to kill and consume microscopic worms known as nematodes. As researcher Yen-Ping Hsueh has shown, the mushrooms release a toxin that is deadly to nematodes that \_\_\_\_\_ in contact with it.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) has come
- B) comes
- C) is coming
- D) come

#23

ID: 28166dc6

In knot theory (the mathematical study of curved, closed loops), knots are characterized by their crossing numbers—that is, the number of times the knotted thread crosses over itself. The trefoil knot and the figure-eight knot, each with a crossing number below five, \_\_\_\_\_ among the simplest possible knots with the fewest number of crossings.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) was
- B) are
- C) has been
- D) is

#24

ID: 7a0d9031

In many of her landscape paintings from the 1970s and 1980s, Lebanese American artist Etel Adnan worked to capture the essence of California's fog-shrouded Mount Tamalpais region through abstraction, using splotches of color to represent the area's features. Interestingly, the triangle representing the mountain itself \_\_\_\_\_ among the few defined figures in her paintings.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) are
- B) have been
- C) were
- D) is

#25

ID: 3595a991

In 1930, Japanese American artist Chiura Obata depicted the natural beauty of Yosemite National Park in two memorable woodcuts: *Evening at Carl Inn* and *Lake Basin in the High Sierra*. In 2019, \_\_\_\_\_ exhibited alongside 150 of Obata's other works in a single-artist show at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) it was
- B) they were
- C) this was
- D) some were

#26

ID: d2cf0e11

Inventor John Friedman created a prototype of the first flexible straw by inserting a screw into a paper straw and, using dental floss, binding the straw tightly around the \_\_\_\_\_. When the floss and screw were removed, the resulting corrugations in the paper allowed the straw to bend easily over the edge of a glass.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) screw's thread's.
- B) screws' threads.
- C) screw's threads.
- D) screws threads'.

#27

ID: 0bcb4417

Oglala Lakota poet Layli Long Soldier's star quilt poems offer an unusually open-ended reading experience. With \_\_\_\_\_ eight panels of text stitched together in the shape of a traditional eight-pointed Lakota star quilt, the poems present viewers with a seemingly infinite number of ways to read them.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) their
- B) it's
- C) they're
- D) its

#28

ID: c8607bdf

"Praise Song for the Day," Elizabeth Alexander's 2009 inaugural poem, asserts that "We cross dirt roads and highways...to see what's on the other side." Alexander's use of "we" \_\_\_\_\_ Americans' collective efforts and shared desire to seek new opportunity.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) evokes
- B) are evoking
- C) have evoked
- D) evoke

#29

ID: db2e480a

By the time Hawaiian king Kamehameha III \_\_\_\_\_ the throne, the number of longhorn cattle, first introduced to the islands in 1793, had drastically increased, and so too had the need for *paniolo* (Hawaiian cowboys) to manage the wild herds that then roamed throughout the volcanic terrain.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) ascended
- B) will ascend
- C) ascends
- D) is ascending

#30

ID: a30567fd

Nuhād al-Ḥaddād, known as Fairuz, was one of the most beloved Lebanese singers of the twentieth century. Her broad singing repertoire—which included traditional forms, such as the Arabic *qasida* and *maqam*, alongside modern pop and jazz styles—lent Fairuz a timeless, cross-generational appeal, \_\_\_\_\_ her the moniker “the soul of Lebanon.”

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) earned
- B) had earned
- C) earning
- D) earn

#31

ID: b85c19ed

The violins handmade in the seventeenth century by Italian craftsman Antonio Stradivari have been celebrated as some of the finest in the world. In close collaboration with musicians, Stradivari introduced changes to the shape of a traditional violin, flattening some of the instrument's curves and making \_\_\_\_\_ lighter overall.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) those
- B) one
- C) them
- D) it

#32

ID: d073983d

Known for her massive photorealistic paintings of African American figures floating or swimming in pools, Calida Garcia \_\_\_\_\_ was the logical choice to design the book cover for Ta-Nehisi Coates's *The Water Dancer*, a novel about an African American man who can travel great distances through water.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) Rawles—
- B) Rawles:
- C) Rawles,
- D) Rawles

#33

ID: cd2443c0

A pioneer in the field of taphonomy (the study of how organic remains become fossils), \_\_\_\_\_ may be just as prevalent in the fossil record as those of thick-shelled organisms.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) fossils of thin-shelled organisms, Anna Behrensmeyer demonstrated in a 2005 analysis,
- B) Anna Behrensmeyer demonstrated in a 2005 analysis that fossils of thin-shelled organisms
- C) it was demonstrated in a 2005 analysis by Anna Behrensmeyer that fossils of thin-shelled organisms
- D) a 2005 analysis—by Anna Behrensmeyer—demonstrated that fossils of thin-shelled organisms

#34

ID: e44db0a0

Because a cycle of lunar phases \_\_\_\_\_ 29.5 days to complete, it's possible to observe two full moons in a single month, one at the beginning and one at the end.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) are taking
- B) have taken
- C) take
- D) takes

#35

ID: 67614549

After winning the 1860 presidential election, Abraham Lincoln appointed Edward Bates, Salmon P. Chase, and William H. Seward to his cabinet. Lincoln's decision was surprising, since each of these men had run against him, but historians have praised it, noting that Lincoln \_\_\_\_\_ his rivals' diverse talents to strengthen his administration.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) has leveraged
- B) is leveraging
- C) will leverage
- D) leveraged