

#1

ID: 87aa7bab

A common assumption among art historians is that the invention of photography in the mid-nineteenth century displaced the painted portrait in the public consciousness. The diminishing popularity of the portrait miniature, which coincided with the rise of photography, seems to support this claim. However, photography's impact on the portrait miniature may be overstated. Although records from art exhibitions in the Netherlands from 1820 to 1892 show a decrease in the number of both full-sized and miniature portraits submitted, this trend was established before the invention of photography.

Based on the text, what can be concluded about the diminishing popularity of the portrait miniature in the nineteenth century?

- A) Factors other than the rise of photography may be more directly responsible for the portrait miniature's decline.
- B) Although portrait miniatures became less common than photographs, they were widely regarded as having more artistic merit.
- C) The popularity of the portrait miniature likely persisted for longer than art historians have assumed.
- D) As demand for portrait miniatures decreased, portrait artists likely shifted their creative focus to photography.

#2

ID: d73a908a

Believing that living in an impractical space can heighten awareness and even improve health, conceptual artists Madeline Gins and Shusaku Arakawa designed an apartment building in Japan to be more fanciful than functional. A kitchen counter is chest-high on one side and knee-high on the other; a ceiling has a door to nowhere. The effect is disorienting but invigorating: after four years there, filmmaker Nobu Yamaoka reported significant health benefits.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Although inhabiting a home surrounded by fanciful features such as those designed by Gins and Arakawa can be rejuvenating, it is unsustainable.
- B) Designing disorienting spaces like those in the Gins and Arakawa building is the most effective way to create a physically stimulating environment.
- C) As a filmmaker, Yamaoka has long supported the designs of conceptual artists such as Gins and Arakawa.
- D) Although impractical, the design of the apartment building by Gins and Arakawa may improve the well-being of the building's residents.

#3

ID: 8c1be131

During the World War II era, some Mexican American women adopted a striking new look called *pachuca* style. They wore altered men's jackets or zoot suits (wide-legged, long-coated suits) and dramatic makeup, and they combed their hair into high, rounded shapes. Some people criticized *pachuca* style, saying it was dangerous and women should dress traditionally. But historians see things differently. They see *pachuca* style as a form of rebellion against the era's rigid social expectations for women. They say that it showed a desire for self-expression and freedom on the part of women who adopted the style.

According to the text, how do historians view *pachuca* style?

- A) They think that *pachuca* style was such a popular trend that it continues to influence fashion in the United States to the present day.
- B) They think that *pachuca* style was a way for some Mexican American women to express themselves and resist strict social expectations.
- C) They think that *pachuca* style was celebrated because it enabled some Mexican American women to show their support for the United States during World War II.
- D) They think that *pachuca* style was similar to other fashion trends that different groups of women adopted in the same period.

#4

ID: 92c2564d

Utah is home to Pando, a colony of about 47,000 quaking aspen trees that all share a single root system. Pando is one of the largest single organisms by mass on Earth, but ecologists are worried that its growth is declining in part because of grazing by animals. The ecologists say that strong fences could prevent deer from eating young trees and help Pando start thriving again.

According to the text, why are ecologists worried about Pando?

- A) It isn't growing at the same rate it used to.
- B) It isn't producing young trees anymore.
- C) It can't grow into new areas because it is blocked by fences.
- D) Its root system can't support many more new trees.

#5

ID: 602b47c7

Biologists have predicted that birds' feather structures vary with habitat temperature, but this hadn't been tested in mountain environments. Ornithologist Sahas Barve studied feathers from 249 songbird species inhabiting different elevations—and thus experiencing different temperatures—in the Himalaya Mountains. He found that feathers of high-elevation species not only have a greater proportion of warming downy sections to flat and smooth sections than do feathers of low-elevation species, but high-elevation species' feathers also tend to be longer, providing a thicker layer of insulation.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Barve's investigation shows that some species of Himalayan songbirds have evolved feathers that better regulate body temperature than do the feathers of other species, contradicting previous predictions.
- B) Barve found an association between habitat temperature and feather structure among Himalayan songbirds, lending new support to a general prediction.
- C) Barve discovered that songbirds have adapted to their environment by growing feathers without flat and smooth sections, complicating an earlier hypothesis.
- D) The results of Barve's study suggest that the ability of birds to withstand cold temperatures is determined more strongly by feather length than feather structure, challenging an established belief.

#6

ID: 11a9f635

Paleontologists searching for signs of ancient life have found many fossilized specimens of prehistoric human ancestors, including several from the Pleistocene era discovered in a geological formation in the Minatogawa quarry in Japan. However, to study the emergence of the earliest multicellular organisms to appear on Earth, researchers must turn elsewhere, such as to the Ediacaran geological formation at Mistaken Point in Canada. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the 146-hectare reserve contains more than 10,000 fossils that together document a critical moment in evolutionary history.

What does the text indicate about the geological formation at Mistaken Point?

- A) It holds a greater number of fossils but from a smaller variety of species than the formation in the Minatogawa quarry does.
- B) It has provided evidence that the earliest human species may have emerged before the Pleistocene era.
- C) It is widely considered by paleontologists to be the most valuable source of information about prehistoric life forms.
- D) It contains specimens from an older time period than those found in the formation in the Minatogawa quarry.

#7

ID: e677fa6c

The following text is adapted from Edgar Allan Poe's 1849 story "Landor's Cottage."

During a pedestrian trip last summer, through one or two of the river counties of New York, I found myself, as the day declined, somewhat embarrassed about the road I was pursuing. The land undulated very remarkably; and my path, for the last hour, had wound about and about so confusedly, in its effort to keep in the valleys, that I no longer knew in what direction lay the sweet village of B—, where I had determined to stop for the night.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) The narrator remembers a trip he took and admits to getting lost.
- B) The narrator recalls fond memories of a journey that he took through some beautiful river counties.
- C) The narrator describes what he saw during a long trip through a frequently visited location.
- D) The narrator explains the difficulties he encountered on a trip and how he overcame them.

#8

ID: 11c68ded

A contraction of "you all," the pronoun "y'all" has long been used as a plural version of "you" in the South and in Black communities around the US. In recent decades, most other English-speaking communities in the US have begun to use "y'all." What explains its rise in popularity? Many varieties of English have no pronoun that specifically addresses more than one person and instead must use "you" to address both one person and more than one. But "y'all" always refers to two or more people. As a result, it conveys the speaker's meaning more precisely than "you" can.

Which question does the text most directly attempt to answer?

- A) How many other plural versions of the pronoun "you" are there in English, besides "y'all"?
- B) Why has the pronoun "y'all" become more widely used in the US?
- C) When was the first recorded use of the pronoun "y'all" in the English language?
- D) Is "y'all" commonly used in English-speaking regions of the world besides the US?

#9

ID: 66c47028

In 1934 physicist Eugene Wigner posited the existence of a crystal consisting entirely of electrons in a honeycomb-like structure. The so-called Wigner crystal remained largely conjecture, however, until Feng Wang and colleagues announced in 2021 that they had captured an image of one. The researchers trapped electrons between two semiconductors and then cooled the apparatus, causing the electrons to settle into a crystalline structure. By inserting an ultrathin sheet of graphene above the crystal, the researchers obtained an impression—the first visual confirmation of the Wigner crystal.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Researchers have obtained the most definitive evidence to date of the existence of the Wigner crystal.
- B) Researchers have identified an innovative new method for working with unusual crystalline structures.
- C) Graphene is the most important of the components required to capture an image of a Wigner crystal.
- D) It's difficult to acquire an image of a Wigner crystal because of the crystal's honeycomb structure.

#10

ID: 0d81b7d9

Paleontologist Alan Tennyson and colleagues studied fossil bones found in New Zealand that are more than 55 million years old. The researchers determined that the fossil bones belonged to two previously unknown species of prehistoric penguins. Moreover, they estimated that one of the two penguin species was more than three times the size of the emperor penguin, which is the largest penguin species that exists today.

Based on the text, which choice best describes the two previously unknown penguin species?

- A) They are frequently studied by paleontologists.
- B) They are no longer living species.
- C) They were smaller than penguin species that exist today.
- D) They spent little of their lives in water.

#11

ID: 5325b3cc

Philadelphia's Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra, founded by Jeri Lynne Johnson, performs classical music, from well-known compositions by Beethoven to contemporary works by Jessie Montgomery. For the orchestra's iConduct! program, Johnson invites community members to learn some basic elements of conducting and then experience conducting the Black Pearl orchestra themselves.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) The Black Pearl orchestra performs music from all over the world but mostly performs music composed by Philadelphians.
- B) Johnson founded the Black Pearl orchestra to perform classical music by contemporary artist Jessie Montgomery.
- C) The Black Pearl orchestra gives community members the chance to both listen to and participate in classical music performance.
- D) Johnson has community members conduct an orchestra to demonstrate how difficult the task is.

#12

ID: b7d51f84

In West Africa, jalis have traditionally been keepers of information about family histories and records of important events. They have often served as teachers and advisers, too. New technologies may have changed some aspects of the role today, but jalis continue to be valued for knowing and protecting their peoples' stories.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Even though there have been some changes in their role, jalis continue to preserve their communities' histories.
- B) Although jalis have many roles, many of them like teaching best.
- C) Jalis have been entertaining the people within their communities for centuries.
- D) Technology can now do some of the things jalis used to be responsible for.

#13

ID: d2c2a7ef

The following text is from Anton Chekhov's 1898 short story "Ionitch" (translated by Marian Fell in 1915). The text is set in a Russian city referred to as the city of S.

If newcomers to the little provincial city of S. complained that life there was monotonous and dull, its inhabitants would answer that, on the contrary, S. was a very amusing place, indeed, that it had a library and a club, that balls were given there, and finally, that very pleasant families lived there with whom one might become acquainted. And they always pointed to the Turkins as the most accomplished and most enlightened family of all.

What does the text suggest about the Turkins?

- A) They are relative newcomers to the city of S.
- B) They have a unique status in the city of S.
- C) They have long disliked living in the city of S.
- D) They are amused by the other residents of the city of S.

#14

ID: dc3ea63e

To dye wool, Navajo (Diné) weaver Lillie Taylor uses plants and vegetables from Arizona, where she lives. For example, she achieved the deep reds and browns featured in her 2003 rug *In the Path of the Four Seasons* by using Arizona dock roots, drying and grinding them before mixing the powder with water to create a dye bath. To intensify the appearance of certain colors, Taylor also sometimes mixes in clay obtained from nearby soil.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Reds and browns are not commonly featured in most of Taylor's rugs.
- B) Taylor draws on local resources in the approach she uses to dye wool.
- C) Taylor finds it difficult to locate Arizona dock root in the desert.
- D) *In the Path of the Four Seasons* is widely acclaimed for its many colors and innovative weaving techniques.

#15

ID: 9fe7aafa

The ancient writing system used in the Maya kingdoms of southern Mexico and Central America had a symbol for the number zero. The earliest known example of the symbol dates to more than 2,000 years ago. At that time, almost none of the writing systems elsewhere in the world possessed a zero symbol. And the use of zero in Mexico and Central America may be even more ancient. Some historians suggest that Maya mathematicians inherited it from the Olmec civilization, which flourished in the region 2,400–3,600 years ago.

According to the text, what do some historians suggest about Maya civilization?

- A) Maya civilization acquired the use of zero from the Olmec civilization.
- B) Maya civilization respected its historians more than it respected its mathematicians.
- C) Maya civilization was highly secretive about its intellectual achievements.
- D) Maya civilization tried to introduce its writing system to other civilizations.

#16

ID: 2573d64b

At over a thousand pages across two volumes, *The Fifty-Year Mission*, compiled by Edward Gross and Mark A. Altman, is presented as the “complete, uncensored, unauthorized oral history” as told by the people behind the media franchise *Star Trek*. The work aspires to be comprehensive by, for example, including accounts from cast and crew members of every *Star Trek* television series and film to date. But while *The Fifty-Year Mission* is clearly a unique and valuable resource, it has a shortcoming common among oral histories: it lacks a clear authorial point of view that could otherwise unite the various accounts into a cohesive whole.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) The compilers of *The Fifty-Year Mission* had lofty goals for their oral history of the *Star Trek* franchise, but the published work lacks information about many key events in the franchise’s history.
- B) *The Fifty-Year Mission* includes more accounts from people involved with *Star Trek* television shows than it does from people involved with *Star Trek* films.
- C) The large amount of material compiled into *The Fifty-Year Mission* is surprising given that many of the people involved in the *Star Trek* franchise did not participate in the oral history project.
- D) *The Fifty-Year Mission* represents a worthwhile attempt to thoroughly recount the history of the *Star Trek* franchise, but its approach has an important limitation.

#17

ID: 04dff083

In present-day Chiapas, Mexico, archaeologist Robert Rosenswig, remote-sensing specialist Ricardo López-Torrijos, and colleagues have located 41 smaller settlements surrounding the ancient Mesoamerican city of Izapa. The researchers have concluded that these settlements were culturally linked to Izapa because each of the settlements is the same age and configured in the same manner as Izapa, with a pyramid to the north and a plaza to the south. Their shared structural orientation suggests that residents of the settlements likely performed some of the same cultural ceremonies as residents in Izapa did.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Researchers have determined that the arrangement of Izapa's structures was based on those of other nearby settlements.
- B) Cultural ceremonies in Izapa seem to have played a more important role for its residents than those in smaller, surrounding settlements did.
- C) Although archaeologists have learned much about Izapa over years of research, they have only recently found the smaller settlements that surrounded it.
- D) Researchers have inferred that Izapa was related to the smaller settlements that surrounded it based in part on the similarity of their construction.

#18

ID: a59245a1

The painter María Izquierdo played an important role in the development of twentieth-century Mexican art, but her work has never been well-known in the United States except among art historians. One reason for Izquierdo's relative obscurity is the enormous popularity of some of her peers. In particular, the painters Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera have so captivated the interest of US audiences that Izquierdo and other Mexican artists from the period often get overlooked, despite the high quality of their work.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Izquierdo's work is not as well-known in the United States as it should be because Kahlo and Rivera draw so much of the public's attention.
- B) During Izquierdo's lifetime, her paintings were displayed in galleries in the United States much more frequently than paintings by Kahlo and Rivera were.
- C) Izquierdo painted some of the same subjects that Kahlo and Rivera painted but used different techniques than they used.
- D) Few of Izquierdo's works are in galleries today because she produced only a small number of paintings.

#19

ID: 64b6427a

Since its completion in 2014, Bosco Verticale (Vertical Forest)—a pair of residential towers in Milan, Italy, covered by vegetation—has become a striking symbol of environmental sustainability in architecture. Stefano Boeri intended his design, which features balconies that are home to hundreds of trees, to serve as a model for promoting urban biodiversity. However, the concept has faced skepticism: critics note that although the trees used in Bosco Verticale were specifically cultivated for the project, it's too early to tell if they can thrive in this unusual setting.

According to the text, why are some critics skeptical of the concept behind Bosco Verticale?

- A) Some essential aspects of Bosco Verticale's design are difficult to adapt to locations other than Milan.
- B) The plant life on Bosco Verticale ended up being less varied than Boeri had envisioned it would be.
- C) The construction of Bosco Verticale was no less environmentally damaging than the construction of more conventional buildings is.
- D) It is unclear whether Bosco Verticale can support the plant life included in its design.

#20

ID: 66bef967

Choctaw/Cherokee artist Jeffrey Gibson turns punching bags used by boxers into art by decorating them with beadwork and elements of Native dressmaking. These elements include leather fringe and jingles, the metal cones that cover the dresses worn in the jingle dance, a women's dance of the Ojibwe people. Thus, Gibson combines an object commonly associated with masculinity (a punching bag) with art forms traditionally practiced by women in most Native communities (beadwork and dressmaking). In this way, he rejects the division of male and female gender roles.

Which choice best describes Gibson's approach to art, as presented in the text?

- A) He draws from traditional Native art forms to create his original works.
- B) He has been influenced by Native and non-Native artists equally.
- C) He finds inspiration from boxing in designing the dresses he makes.
- D) He rejects expectations about color and pattern when incorporating beadwork.

#21

ID: 668f75cb

The following text is from Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar's 1961 novel *The Time Regulation Institute* (translated from the Turkish in 2014 by Maureen Freely and Alexander Dawe). The narrator was once involved with the Time Regulation Institute, a fictional bureaucracy that regulates the time of Turkey's clocks.

I may be the most humble and absurd man in the world and, as my wife says, the most slovenly creature you may ever meet—that is, before the founding of our institute—but I did come to know a truly great man who possessed a natural genius for invention. I spent years at his side. I watched the way he worked. I witnessed how an idea would suddenly catch fire in his mind and take shape, like a tree sprouting shoots and branches, before coming into being.

©2014 by Maureen Freely and Alexander Dawe

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) A person was fortunate enough to have found love despite his obvious shortcomings.
- B) An exceptionally talented person professes humility to avoid intimidating others.
- C) A person appreciates the extensive time he passed in the company of someone he deeply admired.
- D) A truly brilliant person lets ideas mature in his mind before expressing them aloud.

#22

ID: 995d55fd

A subject of much speculation, distinctive sets of parallel ridges mark the icy crust of Europa, Jupiter's smallest moon. Researchers now claim that the ridges' formation mechanism mirrors that of a strikingly similar pair on Greenland's ice sheet. There, surface water seeped through fissures in the sheet and formed a water pocket that subsequently disrupted the overlying ice, forcing fragments of it upward and outward into peaks, as the pocket froze and expanded. Although Europa lacks liquid surface water, the same process could be driven by the moon's subsurface ocean.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Researchers think that the ridges on Europa and the ridges in Greenland may have been formed by the same process even though Europa, unlike Greenland, doesn't have liquid water on its surface.
- B) The primary difference between the ridges on Europa and the ridges in Greenland is that unlike the Europa ridges, the Greenland ridges are parallel.
- C) The pair of ridges found on Greenland's ice sheet appear to have formed long before the recently discovered sets of ridges on Europa formed.
- D) Researchers don't understand why Europa is marked by so many sets of ridges when the moon doesn't have any liquid water on its surface that could have collected and expanded under the icy crust.

#23

ID: 12030076

NASA's Aspera mission, led by Carlos Vargas, will investigate the circumgalactic medium (CGM), the huge swaths of low-density gas that fill and surround galaxies. Specifically, the team will focus on portions of the gas that exist in a "warm-hot" phase: these portions haven't previously been observable but are thought to fuel new star formation and hold most of the mass that makes up a galaxy. Using a telescope capable of revealing these parts of the CGM, the Aspera mission should help answer long-standing questions about how galaxies emerge, change, and even interact.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) As the leader of NASA's Aspera mission, Vargas will be the first person to investigate the makeup of the CGM.
- B) Although galaxies that are surrounded by the CGM have been studied, researchers have been unable to directly observe low-density gas in the CGM in the "warm-hot" phase.
- C) Researchers don't yet have a complete understanding of the process of galaxy evolution but have raised the possibility that galaxies interact with each other at times.
- D) The Aspera mission is expected to produce the first direct observations of CGM gas in the "warm-hot" phase, which likely has an important role in the evolution of galaxies.

#24

ID: f8befe75

Many intellectual histories of the Black Power movement of the 1960s and 1970s rely heavily on essays and other explicitly ideological works as primary sources, a tendency that can overrepresent the perspectives of a small number of thinkers, most of whom were male. Historian Ashley D. Farmer has shown that expanding the array of primary sources to encompass more types of print material—including political cartoons, advertisements, and artwork—leads to a much better understanding of the movement and the crucial and diverse roles that Black women played in shaping it.

Which choice best describes the main idea of the text?

- A) Farmer's methods and research have enriched the historical understanding of the Black Power movement and Black women's contributions to it.
- B) Before Farmer's research, historians had largely ignored the intellectual dimensions of the Black Power movement.
- C) Other historians of the Black Power movement have criticized Farmer's use of unconventional primary sources.
- D) The figures in the Black Power movement whom historians tend to cite would have agreed with Farmer's conclusions about women's roles in the movement.

#25

ID: 3cc7d73b

Using the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA), a team of astronomers mapped out the magnetic field of G47, one of the Milky Way's galactic bones (dense clouds of gas and dust that run through the middle of the arm of a spiral galaxy). Surprisingly, the map revealed a magnetic field with no clear pattern or direction. The researchers had expected the magnetic field to be similar to the more uniform fields seen in galactic bones in other arms of the Milky Way.

According to the text, what was surprising about the researchers' mapping of the magnetic field of galactic bone G47?

- A) It showed a weaker magnetic field than expected.
- B) It implied that previous mappings of the magnetic field were inaccurate.
- C) It produced magnetic field measurements similar to those for other galactic bones.
- D) It revealed a magnetic field that wasn't uniform.

#26

ID: 3f05e40f

In many of his sculptures, artist Richard Hunt uses broad forms rather than extreme accuracy to hint at specific people or ideas. In his first major work, *Arachne* (1956), Hunt constructed the mythical character Arachne, a weaver who was changed into a spider, by welding bits of steel together into something that, although vaguely human, is strange and machine-like. And his large bronze sculpture *The Light of Truth* (2021) commemorates activist and journalist Ida B. Wells using mainly flowing, curved pieces of metal that create stylized flame.

Which choice best states the text's main idea about Hunt?

- A) He often depicts the subjects of his sculptures using an unrealistic style.
- B) He uses different kinds of materials depending on what kind of sculpture he plans to create.
- C) He tends to base his art on important historical figures rather than on fictional characters.
- D) He has altered his approach to sculpture over time, and his works have become increasingly abstract.

#27

ID: 659c6c1d

The following text is adapted from Robert Louis Stevenson's 1883 novel *Treasure Island*. Bill is a sailor staying at the Admiral Benbow, an inn run by the narrator's parents.

Every day when [Bill] came back from his stroll he would ask if any seafaring men had gone by along the road. At first we thought it was the want of company of his own kind that made him ask this question, but at last we began to see he was desirous to avoid them. When a seaman did [stay] at the Admiral Benbow (as now and then some did) he would look in at him through the curtained door before he entered the parlour; and he was always sure to be as silent as a mouse when any such was present.

According to the text, why does Bill regularly ask about "seafaring men"?

- A) He's hoping to find an old friend and fellow sailor.
- B) He's trying to secure a job as part of the crew on a new ship.
- C) He isn't sure that other guests at the inn will be welcoming of sailors.
- D) He doesn't want to encounter any other sailor unexpectedly.

#28

ID: d5c2a4d4

The following text is adapted from Guy de Maupassant's nineteenth-century short story "The Trip of Le Horla" (translated by Albert M. C. McMaster, A. E. Henderson, Mme. Quesada, et al.). The narrator is part of a group traveling in a hot-air balloon at night.

The earth no longer seems to exist, it is buried in milky vapors that resemble a sea. We are now alone in space with the moon, which looks like another balloon travelling opposite us; and our balloon, which shines in the air, appears like another, larger moon, a world wandering in the sky amid the stars, through infinity. We no longer speak, think nor live; we float along through space in delicious inertia. The air which is bearing us up has made of us all beings which resemble itself, silent, joyous, irresponsible beings, peculiarly alert, although motionless.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) The narrator feels a growing sense of isolation even though his companions are nearby during the balloon ride.
- B) The narrator and his companions are completely absorbed in the change in perspective they gain while riding in the balloon.
- C) The narrator and his companions are troubled by the disorienting effects of the altitude while riding in the balloon.
- D) The narrator is pleasantly surprised by his companions' unrestrained enthusiasm about the sensation of riding in the balloon.

#29

ID: ad680167

The recovery of a 1,000-year-old Chinese shipwreck in the Java Sea near present-day Indonesia has yielded a treasure trove of artifacts, including thousands of small ceramic bowls. Using a portable X-ray fluorescence analyzer tool, Lisa Niziolek and her team were able to detect the chemical composition of these bowls without damaging them. By comparing the chemical signatures of the bowls with those of the materials still at old Chinese kiln sites, Niziolek and her team can pinpoint which Chinese kilns likely produced the ceramic bowls.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Because of a new technology, researchers can locate and recover more shipwrecks than they could in the past.
- B) Researchers have been able to identify the location of a number of Chinese kilns in operation 1,000 years ago.
- C) With the help of a special tool, researchers have determined the likely origin of bowls recovered from a shipwreck.
- D) Before the invention of portable X-ray fluorescence, researchers needed to take a small piece out of an artifact to analyze its components.

#30

ID: adbcbe0

The following text is adapted from Christina Rossetti's 1881 poem "Monna Innominata 2."

I wish I could remember that first day,

First hour, first moment of your meeting me,

If bright or dim the season, it might be

Summer or Winter for [all] I can say;

So unrecorded did it slip away,

So blind was I to see and to foresee,

So dull to mark the budding of my tree

That would not blossom yet for many a May.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) The speaker celebrates how the passage of time has strengthened a relationship that once seemed unimportant.
- B) Because the speaker did not anticipate how important a relationship would become, she cannot recall how the relationship began, which she regrets.
- C) As the anniversary of the beginning of an important relationship approaches, the speaker feels conflicted about how best to commemorate it.
- D) After years of neglecting a once valuable relationship, the speaker worries it may be too late for her to salvage the relationship.

#31

ID: b7f79059

The following text is from Ezra Pound's 1909 poem "Hymn III," based on the work of Marcantonio Flaminio.

As a fragile and lovely flower unfolds its gleaming
foliage on the breast of the fostering earth, if
the dew and the rain draw it forth;
So doth my tender mind flourish, if it be fed with the
sweet dew of the fostering spirit,
Lacking this, it beginneth straightway to languish,
even as a floweret born upon dry earth, if the
dew and the rain tend it not.

Based on the text, in what way is the human mind like a flower?

- A) It becomes increasingly vigorous with the passage of time.
- B) It draws strength from changes in the weather.
- C) It requires proper nourishment in order to thrive.
- D) It perseveres despite challenging circumstances.

#32

ID: 8fb67890

Archaeologists have discovered a runestone in Norway that may contain the earliest example of written words in Scandinavia. Carbon dating at the discovery site revealed that the stone was likely carved between 1 and 250 CE. Runologist Kristel Zilmer believes the stone will be helpful in learning more about the use of runic alphabets in early Iron Age Scandinavia.

Which choice best states the main topic of the text?

- A) Battles of the Iron Age
- B) A runestone found in Norway
- C) A new method for dating rock samples
- D) The research interests of Kristel Zilmer

#33

ID: 6540a976

To understand how Paleolithic artists navigated dark caves, archaeologist M^a Ángeles Medina-Alcaide and her team tested different lighting methods in a cave in Spain using replicas of artifacts found in European caves with art. They used three different Paleolithic light sources—torches, animal-fat lamps, and fireplaces—determining that each likely had a specific purpose. For instance, the team learned that the animal-fat lamps were less useful than torches while walking because the lamps didn't illuminate the cave floor.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Medina-Alcaide and her team's study demonstrated that fireplaces were essential to the creators of Paleolithic cave art.
- B) Medina-Alcaide and her team discovered that Paleolithic cave artists in Spain used animal-fat lamps more often than they used torches.
- C) Medina-Alcaide and her team were reluctant to draw many conclusions from their study because of the difficulty they had replicating light sources based on known artifacts.
- D) Medina-Alcaide and her team tested Paleolithic light sources and learned some details about how Paleolithic artists traveled within dark caves.

#34

ID: e47d2524

Microplastics are tiny pieces of plastic waste. Areas of the ocean with higher concentrations of microplastic particles also have smaller and fewer waves. A study by Yukun Sun and colleagues found that the concentration of microplastic particles cannot be the only reason for this reduced wave activity because the concentration of particles that would have the observed effect is much higher than that found in these areas of the ocean. However, they found that surfactants, chemicals often used to manufacture plastics, are released into the water from microplastics and have a much stronger wave-reducing effect.

According to the text, what did Sun and colleagues discover about surfactants?

- A) They have a much stronger effect on wave activity than microplastics alone do.
- B) They are mainly composed of water.
- C) They are helpful for removing microplastics from the ocean.
- D) They can be used to contain microplastics within certain areas of the ocean.

#35

ID: 95146ebb

The ice melted on a Norwegian mountain during a particularly warm summer in 2019, revealing a 1,700-year-old sandal to a mountaineer looking for artifacts. The sandal would normally have degraded quickly, but it was instead well preserved for centuries by the surrounding ice. According to archaeologist Espen Finstad and his team, the sandal, like those worn by imperial Romans, wouldn't have offered any protection from the cold in the mountains, so some kind of insulation, like fabric or animal skin, would have needed to be worn on the feet with the sandal.

What does the text indicate about the discovery of the sandal?

- A) Temperatures contributed to both protecting and revealing the sandal.
- B) The discovery revealed that the Roman Empire had more influence on Norway than archaeologists previously assumed.
- C) Archaeologists would have found the sandal eventually without help from the general public.
- D) The sandal would have degraded if it hadn't been removed from the ice.

#36

ID: 7ffae38a

The following text is adapted from Jack London's 1903 novel *The Call of the Wild*. Buck is a sled dog living with John Thornton in Yukon, Canada.

Thornton alone held [Buck]. The rest of mankind was as nothing. Chance travellers might praise or pet him; but he was cold under it all, and from a too demonstrative man he would get up and walk away. When Thornton's partners, Hans and Pete, arrived on the long-expected raft, Buck refused to notice them till he learned they were close to Thornton; after that he tolerated them in a passive sort of way, accepting favors from them as though he favored them by accepting.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A) Buck has become less social since he began living with Thornton.
- B) Buck mistrusts humans and does his best to avoid them.
- C) Buck has been especially well liked by most of Thornton's friends.
- D) Buck holds Thornton in higher regard than any other person.

#37

ID: 409058ee

To protect themselves when being attacked, hagfish—jawless marine animals that resemble eels—will release large quantities of slimy, mucus-like threads. Because these threads are unusually strong and elastic, scientist Atsuko Negishi and her colleagues have been trying to recreate them in a lab as an eco-friendly alternative to petroleum-based fibers that are often used in fabrics. The researchers want to reproduce the threads in the lab because farming hagfish for their slime would be expensive and potentially harmful to the hagfish.

Which choice best states the text's main idea?

- A) The slimy threads that hagfish release might help researchers create a new kind of fabric.
- B) Hagfish have inspired researchers to develop a new petroleum-based fabric.
- C) Hagfish are not well suited to being raised in captivity.
- D) The ability of hagfish to slime their attackers compensates for their being jawless.

#38

ID: b62cb782

Culinary anthropologist Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor may be known for her decades of work in national public television and radio, but her book *Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl* is likely her most influential project. The 1970 book, whose title refers to Smart-Grosvenor's roots in the Low Country of South Carolina, was unusual for its time. It combined memoir, recipes, travel writing, and social commentary and challenged notions about conventions of food and cooking. Long admired by many, the book and its author have shaped contemporary approaches to writing about cuisine.

Which choice best describes the main idea of the text?

- A) Smart-Grosvenor's unconventional book *Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl* is an important contribution to food writing.
- B) Smart-Grosvenor held many different positions over her life, including reporter and food writer.
- C) Smart-Grosvenor's groundbreaking book *Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl* didn't receive the praise it deserved when it was first published in 1970.
- D) Smart-Grosvenor was a talented chef whose work inspired many people to start cooking for themselves.

#39

ID: c188a397

Recently, scientists looked at data collected by NASA's InSight lander to learn more about seismic activity on Mars, known as marsquakes. The data show that the marsquakes all started from the same location on the planet. This discovery was surprising to scientists, as they expected that the marsquakes would originate from all over the planet because of the cooling of the planet's surface. Now, scientists believe that there could be areas of active magma flows deep beneath the planet's surface that trigger the marsquakes.

According to the text, what was surprising to scientists studying the seismic activity data from NASA's InSight lander?

- A) The surface temperature of Mars has been rising.
- B) There were different types of seismic waves causing marsquakes.
- C) NASA's InSight lander collected less data than scientists had expected.
- D) All the marsquakes started from the same location on the planet.

#40

ID: f64ff4fb

In her 1998 book *Blues Legacies and Black Feminism*, Angela Y. Davis bases her analysis in part on recordings of songs sung in the 1920s by Gertrude "Ma" Rainey and Bessie Smith. Davis focuses on how Rainey and Smith improvised the lyrics—replacing the original lines with mischievous jokes and wordplay. Davis's work was particularly labor intensive because in order to transcribe, or write down, the lyrics as Rainey and Smith sang them, Davis had to listen repeatedly to the vinyl recordings, which weren't very clear.

What does the text most strongly suggest about the songs sung by Rainey and Smith?

- A) The songs have grown in popularity since Rainey and Smith first sang them.
- B) There were more recordings made of Rainey's songs than there were of Smith's.
- C) There were few, if any, reliable transcriptions of Smith's and Rainey's improvised lyrics when Davis began her research.
- D) According to Davis, the songs sung by Rainey were more musically innovative than those sung by Smith typically were.

#41

ID: 835545cd

The following text is adapted from Charles W. Chesnutt's 1901 novel *The Marrow of Tradition*.

Mrs. Ochiltree was a woman of strong individuality, whose comments upon her acquaintance[s], present or absent, were marked by a frankness at times no less than startling. This characteristic caused her to be more or less avoided. Mrs. Ochiltree was aware of this sentiment on the part of her acquaintance[s], and rather exulted in it.

Based on the text, what is true about Mrs. Ochiltree's acquaintances?

- A) They try to refrain from discussing topics that would upset Mrs. Ochiltree.
- B) They are unable to spend as much time with Mrs. Ochiltree as she would like.
- C) They are too preoccupied with their own concerns to speak with Mrs. Ochiltree.
- D) They are likely offended by what Mrs. Ochiltree has said about them.

#42

ID: a66f9b8d

Cats can judge unseen people's positions in space by the sound of their voices and thus react with surprise when the same person calls to them from two different locations in a short span of time. Saho Takagi and colleagues reached this conclusion by measuring cats' levels of surprise based on their ear and head movements while the cats heard recordings of their owners' voices from two speakers spaced far apart. Cats exhibited a low level of surprise when owners' voices were played twice from the same speaker, but they showed a high level of surprise when the voice was played once each from the two different speakers.

According to the text, how did the researchers determine the level of surprise displayed by the cats in the study?

- A) They watched how each cat moved its ears and head.
- B) They examined how each cat reacted to the voice of a stranger.
- C) They studied how each cat physically interacted with its owner.
- D) They tracked how each cat moved around the room.