

# Writing and Language Test

35 MINUTES, 44 QUESTIONS

Turn to Section 2 of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

## DIRECTIONS

Each passage below is accompanied by a number of questions. For some questions, you will consider how the passage might be revised to improve the expression of ideas. For other questions, you will consider how the passage might be edited to correct errors in sentence structure, usage, or punctuation. A passage or a question may be accompanied by one or more graphics (such as a table or graph) that you will consider as you make revising and editing decisions.

Some questions will direct you to an underlined portion of a passage. Other questions will direct you to a location in a passage or ask you to think about the passage as a whole.

After reading each passage, choose the answer to each question that most effectively improves the quality of writing in the passage or that makes the passage conform to the conventions of standard written English. Many questions include a “NO CHANGE” option. Choose that option if you think the best choice is to leave the relevant portion of the passage as it is.

Questions 1-11 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

### The Lemur's Unique Traits

The often striped tail of the lemur, a primate found only on the island nation of Madagascar, is just one of this animal's unique qualities. While most primates eat only during the day, the lemur eats during the day and at night, **1** and while most primates primarily eat fruit, the lemur primarily eats leaves. A 2017 study conducted by an international team of scientists **2** suggest that a lack of nitrogen in Madagascar's fruits may have caused the lemur to develop these unusual feeding traits through evolution.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) which
- C) so
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) suggests
- C) have suggested
- D) are suggesting

Nitrogen, a key element found in all proteins, is one of the most important factors in any animal's 3 survival. It is important because proteins are used for functions such as building muscle and moving oxygen through the bloodstream. Many primates 4 obtain a large proportion of their dietary nitrogen from fruit, so the researchers suspected that Madagascar's fruit had insufficient levels of nitrogen for the lemur; without it, lemurs' bodies cannot synthesize enough protein to live. To get an answer, the scientists tested the levels of nitrogen in fruit from multiple primate habitats.

Sites were chosen in continental 5 Africa; South America, and Madagascar because primate families in these locations all have the same relative nitrogen requirements. At the continental African sites in Uganda and Cameroon, 6 however, the scientists found fruit to have nitrogen concentrations of 1.53 percent and 1.44 percent, respectively. The South American sites yielded similar results, with nitrogen concentrations in fruit

3

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

- A) survival; the importance is that
- B) survival, and it is because
- C) survival, important since
- D) survival, as

4

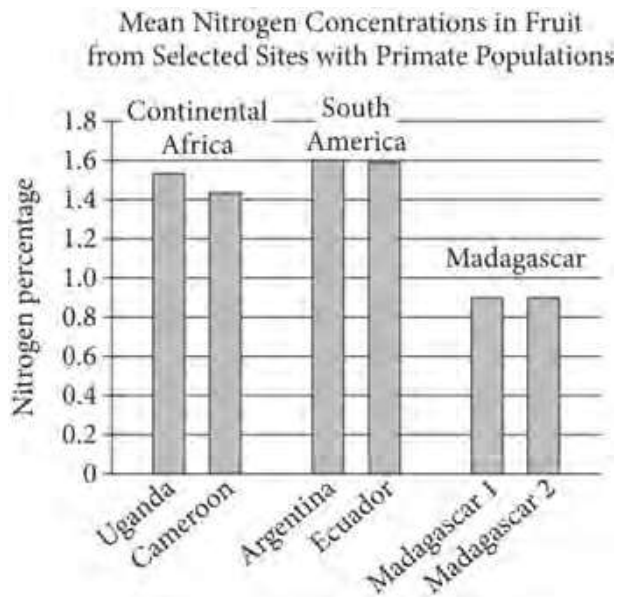
- A) NO CHANGE
- B) get a bunch
- C) bring in lots
- D) procure a preponderance

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Africa, South America, and Madagascar
- C) Africa, South America, and, Madagascar
- D) Africa South America, and Madagascar;

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) likewise,
- C) therefore,
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.



Source: Data from Giuseppe Donati et al., “Low Levels of Fruit Nitrogen as Drivers for the Evolution of Madagascar’s Primate Communities.” ©2017 by Giuseppe Donati et al.

of 1.60 percent in **7** Ecuador and 1.30 percent in Argentina. Madagascar’s levels, however, were lower:

**8** fruit selected from one site there showed a nitrogen concentration of only 0.6 percent. Although it remains unclear if primates in areas other than Madagascar acquire all the nitrogen they need by eating fruit, the researchers knew from prior studies that fruit with a nitrogen concentration of 0.9 percent is below the minimum amount of nitrogen (1.1 percent) that a primate requires.

7

Which choice provides accurate information from the graph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Argentina, Ecuador, and one site in Madagascar.
- C) Argentina and 1.59 percent in Ecuador.
- D) Argentina and less than 1 percent in Ecuador.

8

Which choice most accurately reflects the information provided in the graph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) the fruit selected from there showed nitrogen concentrations that were lower than those at the South American sites but similar to those found at the continental African sites.
- C) fruit selected from two sites there both showed nitrogen concentrations of 0.9 percent.
- D) none of the fruit selected from there showed nitrogen concentrations above 0.8 percent.

[1] These data indicated to scientists that the lower levels of nitrogen in Madagascar’s fruit **9** likely forced the lemurs to start eating nitrogen-rich leaves so that their bodies could synthesize protein. [2] In addition, the lemur’s tendency to eat both day and night may be an adaptation it developed due to limited nitrogen: lemurs may need to eat for more hours per day to meet their dietary needs. [3] As Abigail Derby Lewis, one of the **10** studies’ ecologists’, says, “Knowing how and why they evolved in the direction they have—from their diet, to social structure and cognition—is crucial in helping to inform effective conservation approaches.” **11**

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) likely force
- C) will likely force
- D) are likely forcing

10

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) study’s ecologists,
- C) study’s ecologist’s,
- D) studies ecologists,

11

The writer wants to add the following sentence to this paragraph.

Both unique traits have key implications for protecting these endangered primates.

The best placement for the sentence is

- A) before sentence 1.
- B) after sentence 1.
- C) after sentence 2.
- D) after sentence 3.