

# ANSWERING THE RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

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TO BE USED WITH RELEASED MARCH 2020 EXAM



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Which choice provides the most appropriate context for the discussion that follows in the passage?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Settlers from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri were part of the Great Exodus.
- C) The Great Exodus has parallels to large-scale migrations that occurred in the United States during the twentieth century.
- D) Drawn by the promise of farming on their own land rather than sharecropping for a landlord, exodusters founded dozens of communities in the West in the 1870s and 1880s.

## PROVIDING CONTEXT

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- Either finish reading the passage or scan the remainder of the passage before answering
- Keep the answer general if that is what the answer calls for (discussion that follows in the passage)
- Avoid specific details

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## ADDING A SENTENCE

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- Read the two sentences without inserting the new sentence
- Ask yourself does there seem to be something missing, or do the sentences flow together
- Read the sentences with the inserted sentence and ask yourself if they flow together
- Most common reason sentences will not flow is if it goes off topic

# SETTING UP INFORMATION

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- Read ahead
- Use the general or specific scale as needed
- For setting up information in a paragraph you may want an answer choice that is a little more specific

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Which choice most effectively sets up the information that follows in the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) wrote songs and slogans to attract settlers,
- C) advertised the location and characteristics of Nicodemus,
- D) promised plentiful harvests and abundant wildlife,

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The writer is considering revising the underlined portion to the following.

However, using cutting-edge techniques to analyze skeletal specimens,

Should the writer make this revision?

- A) Yes, because it introduces information that is developed later in the passage.
- B) Yes, because it gives details that reinforce the description in the previous sentence.
- C) No, because it adds an idea that is not directly related to the passage's main discussion.
- D) No, because it contradicts information provided in the concluding paragraph.

## REVISING OR ADDING A SENTENCE

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- Once again, read the sentences without the additional sentences
- Ask yourself if the two sentences flow
- Ask yourself if the sentence that is being added is specific and relevant, is so add it.
- Always check your answer by reading the three sentences together

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

The team also argued for the anatomical significance of the ridges and indentations in the dodo's wing bones.

To make the paragraph most logical, the sentence should be placed

- A) after sentence 1.
- B) after sentence 2.
- C) after sentence 3.
- D) after sentence 4.

## DECIDING WHERE TO INSERT A SENTENCE

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- Look for clue words in the sentence that is to be inserted
- Simply place the sentence in each space and look for IDEA and word FLOW

## ACKNOWLEDGING A POTENTIAL OBJECTION

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The writer wants to acknowledge a potential objection to the means by which Gold and her team reached their conclusion. Which choice most effectively accomplishes this goal?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Comparing dodos to Neanderthals, another underestimated extinct species,
- C) Despite the fact that the dodo is extinct,
- D) Since the dodo's brain volume was correlated to its body size,

- Understand the main point or initial claim in the question
- Ask yourself what answer choice would argue this point, weaken this claim, refute the argument, etc.

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Which choice provides the most effective introduction to the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) learning to meet deadlines.
- C) determining what they want to do for a living.
- D) furthering their commitment to public service.

## CHOOSING TOPIC SENTENCES

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- The majority of the time, you will go back and look to the previous paragraph and make sure IDEAS transition
- Inverse umbrella
- Look for key words in the portion of the sentence that can't be changed
- Make sure to read/scan ahead

The writer is considering revising the underlined portion to the following.

intentions: to them, it seemed that Elgin was stealing rather than protecting an important part of Greek culture.

Should the writer make this revision here?

- A) Yes, because it clarifies the opinions of the public figures in a way that helps establish the focus of the passage.
- B) Yes, because it suggests that Greek culture was able to thrive within the Ottoman Empire.
- C) No, because it disrupts the passage's narrative about the Parthenon sculptures by giving loosely related information.
- D) No, because it merely records uncredited hearsay about the actions of Elgin.

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Which choice provides the most effective transition between the discussion of the committee's investigation and the next event in the narrative?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) The concept of asylum typically applies to situations involving political refugees.
- C) They were installed in the British Museum the same year.
- D) They no longer had the vivid colors applied by ancient Greek artisans.

## PROVIDING A TRANSITIONAL IDEA BETWEEN SENTENCES

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- Scan/read the sentences without the middle sentence
- This is just really adding a sentence-but with this type of question, you know you have to add one, you just have to decide which one
- Look for key words that make the sentences FLOW