

GMAT Verbal Section

1. Read the passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the question based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

In Ursula LeGuin's short story "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas," everyone in the city of Omelas is happy — everyone, that is, except the child who is kept locked in a basement closet. The child is left entirely alone and neglected except for occasional visits from the citizens of Omelas. They come at a certain age as a rite of initiation, to learn the secret of the happiness they enjoy. They come to learn that their happiness has a price: the suffering of an innocent child. In the end, most people stay in Omelas; but a few, unable to bear the fact that they are responsible for the suffering of that child, reject this utopia built upon a utilitarian morality. Utilitarianism is an ethical theory based upon the belief that happiness is the ultimate good and that people should use happiness as the measure for determining right and wrong. For utilitarian, the right thing to do is that which will bring about the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of people. Furthermore, utilitarianism argues that the intention of people's actions does not matter; only the consequences of their actions are morally relevant, because only the consequences determine how much happiness is produced. Although many useful social policies and much legislation are founded on this "greatest good" philosophy, utilitarianism can be problematic as a basis for morality. First, happiness is not so easy to quantify, and any measurement is bound to be subjective. Second, in a theory that treats everything except happiness as instrumentally rather than intrinsically valuable, anything — or, more importantly, anyone — can (and should) be treated as a means to an end, if it means greater happiness. This rejects the notion that human beings have their own intrinsic value. Further, utilitarianism puts the burden of the happiness of the masses on the suffering of the few. Is the happiness of many worth the suffering of a few? Why do those few deserve to suffer? Isn't this burden of suffering morally irresponsible? This is the dilemma so brilliantly illustrated in LeGuin's story.

Which of the following best sums up the author's opinion of utilitarianism?

A. It is an ethical theory.

B. It is the ethical theory that people should all live by.

C. It is a useful but problematic ethical theory.

D. It does not adequately measure happiness.

E. It underestimates the intrinsic value of human beings.

Answer(s): C

2. Read the passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the question based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

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According to the passage, in utilitarianism

A. only intentions have moral significance.

B. consequences are important, but intentions are more important.

C. intentions and consequences are equally important.

D. intentions are important, but consequences are more important.

E. only consequences have moral significance.

Answer(s): E

3. Read the passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the question based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

In Ursula LeGuin's short story "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas," everyone in the city of Omelas is happy — everyone, that is, except the child who is kept locked in a basement closet. The child is left entirely alone and neglected except for occasional visits from the citizens of Omelas. They come at a certain age as a rite of initiation, to learn the secret of the happiness they enjoy. They come to learn that their happiness has a price: the suffering of an innocent child. In the end, most people stay in Omelas; but a few, unable to bear the fact that they are responsible for the suffering of that child, reject this utopia built upon a utilitarian morality. Utilitarianism is an ethical theory based upon the belief that happiness is the ultimate good and that people should use happiness as the measure for determining right and wrong. For utilitarian, the right thing to do is that which will bring about the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of people. Furthermore, utilitarianism argues that the intention of people's actions does not matter; only the consequences of their actions are morally relevant, because only the consequences determine how much happiness is produced.

Although many useful social policies and much legislation are founded on this "greatest good" philosophy, utilitarianism can be problematic as a basis for morality. First, happiness is not so easy to quantify, and any measurement is bound to be subjective. Second, in a theory that treats everything except happiness as instrumentally rather than intrinsically valuable, anything — or, more importantly, anyone — can (and should) be treated as a means to an end, if it means greater happiness. This rejects the notion that human beings have their own intrinsic value. Further, utilitarianism puts the burden of the happiness of the masses on the suffering of the few. Is the happiness of many worth the suffering of a few? Why do those few deserve to suffer? Isn't this burden of suffering morally irresponsible? This is the dilemma so brilliantly illustrated in LeGuin's story.

The author summarizes LeGuin's story primarily to

A. show how good the story is.

B. get readers interested in the story.

C. illustrates the power of words.

D. illustrates the central problem with utilitarianism.

E. illustrates a utilitarian utopia.

Answer(s): D

4. Read the passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the question based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

In Ursula LeGuin's short story "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas," everyone in the city of Omelas is happy — everyone, that is, except the child who is kept locked in a basement closet. The child is left entirely alone and neglected except for occasional visits from the citizens of Omelas. They come at a certain age as a rite of initiation, to learn the secret of the happiness they enjoy. They come to learn that their happiness has a price: the suffering of an innocent child. In the end, most people stay in Omelas; but a few, unable to bear the fact that they are responsible for the suffering of that child, reject this utopia built upon a utilitarian morality.

Utilitarianism is an ethical theory based upon the belief that happiness is the ultimate good and that people should use happiness as the measure for determining right and wrong. For utilitarian, the right thing to do is that which will bring about the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of people. Furthermore, utilitarianism argues that the intention of people's actions does not matter; only the consequences of their actions are morally relevant, because only the consequences determine how much happiness is produced.

Although many useful social policies and much legislation are founded on this "greatest good" philosophy, utilitarianism can be problematic as a basis for morality. First, happiness is not so easy to quantify, and any measurement is bound to be subjective. Second, in a theory that treats everything except happiness as instrumentally rather than intrinsically valuable, anything — or, more importantly, anyone — can (and should) be treated as a means to an end, if it means greater happiness. This rejects the notion that human beings have their own intrinsic value. Further, utilitarianism puts the burden of the happiness of the masses on the suffering of the few. Is the happiness of many worth the suffering of a few? Why do those few deserve to suffer? Isn't this burden of suffering morally irresponsible? This is the dilemma so brilliantly illustrated in LeGuin's story.

From the passage, it can be inferred that the author

A. may use utilitarianism occasionally but not as a guiding moral principle.

B. would never use utilitarianism to make a decision about what is right or wrong.

C. uses utilitarianism regularly to make moral decisions.

D. believes utilitarianism is a good basis for social policy.

E. thinks most people do not really understand utilitarianism.

Answer(s): A

5. Read the passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the question based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

In Ursula LeGuin's short story "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas," everyone in the city of Omelas is happy — everyone, that is, except the child who is kept locked in a basement closet. The child is left entirely alone and neglected except for occasional visits from the citizens of Omelas. They come at a certain age as a rite of initiation, to learn the secret of the happiness they enjoy. They come to learn that their happiness has a price: the suffering of an innocent child. In the end, most people stay in Omelas; but a few, unable to bear the fact that they are responsible for the suffering of that child, reject this utopia built upon a utilitarian morality. Utilitarianism is an ethical theory based upon the belief that happiness is the ultimate good and that people should use happiness as the measure for determining right and wrong. For utilitarian, the right thing to do is that which will bring about the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of people. Furthermore, utilitarianism argues that the intention of people's actions does not matter; only the consequences of their actions are morally relevant, because only the consequences determine how much happiness is produced. Although many useful social policies and much legislation are founded on this "greatest good" philosophy, utilitarianism can be problematic as a basis for morality. First, happiness is not so easy to quantify, and any measurement is bound to be subjective. Second, in a theory that treats everything except happiness as instrumentally rather than intrinsically valuable, anything — or, more importantly, anyone — can (and should) be treated as a means to an end, if it means greater happiness. This rejects the notion that human beings have their own intrinsic value. Further, utilitarianism puts the burden of the happiness of the masses on the suffering of the few. Is the happiness of many worth the suffering of a few? Why do those few deserve to suffer? Isn't this burden of suffering morally irresponsible? This is the dilemma so brilliantly illustrated in LeGuin's story.

From the author's summary of LeGuin's story, the reader can infer that

A. most people in Omelas are utilitarian.

B. most people in Omelas reject utilitarianism.

C. everyone in Omelas is happy.

D. the child willingly sacrifices himself for others.

E. LeGuin is a popular science-fiction writer.

Answer(s): A

6. Read the passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the question based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

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The child is left entirely alone and neglected except for occasional visits from the citizens of Omelas. They come at a certain age as a rite of initiation, to learn the secret of the happiness they enjoy. They come to learn that their happiness has a price: the suffering of an innocent child. In the end, most people stay in Omelas; but a few, unable to bear the fact that they are responsible for the suffering of that child, reject this utopia built upon a utilitarian morality.

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Utilitarianism could best be expressed in which of the following formulas?

-X _ action

-Y _ consequences that create happiness

-Z _ consequences that create unhappiness

A. Do X if Y _ Z

B. Do X if Y _ Z.

C. Do X if Y _ Z.

D. Do X if Y _ Z.

E. Do X if Y _ Z.

Answer(s): D

7. Read each passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the questions based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

For many years, there has been much hand-wringing over the fate of Social Security once the

baby boomers reach retirement age. Baby boomers, people born between 1946 and 1964, represent the largest single sustained growth of population in the history of the United States. It is the sheer enormity of this generation that has had economists worried as retirement beckons. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, by 2020, an estimated 80,000,000 Americans will have reached or surpassed the conventional age of retirement. With so many boomers retiring and drawing benefits but no longer paying into Social Security, many fear that the Social Security fund itself could go bankrupt.

However, a study released by the American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) that examined baby boomers' plans for retirement found that for the most part, this generation is not expected to adhere to the conventional retirement scheme, a fact that may please the worriers in Washington, DC.

In its survey, the AARP broke baby boomers into different categories based on their financial standing, degree of preparedness for retirement, and optimism toward the future. The AARP found that of all groups surveyed, only 13% planned to stop working altogether once they reached retirement age; the remaining 87% planned to continue working for pay. The reasons to continue working varied among the different groups. For some, the plan to continue working is a financial decision. Between 25% and 44% of respondents reported they are not financially prepared to retire and will therefore continue working past retirement age. For the remainder of those planning to work past their mid to late 60s, the decision is based on long-held goals to start a business and/or the desire to stay active in their industry or community.

Eventually, most baby boomers will need to stop working as they progress into their 70s, 80s, and beyond. But with such large numbers planning to continue working, thereby continuing to pay into the Social Security fund, perhaps Social Security will be able to withstand the end of the baby boom and continue to be a safety net for future generations.

Which of the following titles would be most appropriate for this passage?

A. The AARP and Social Security

B. Baby Boomers Bankrupt Social Security

C. Baby Boomers Will Work for Pay beyond Retirement

D. Worries about Social Security May Be Unfounded

E. Economists Fear Baby Boomers' Impact on Social Security

Answer(s): D

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According to the author, baby boomers are not likely to bankrupt the Social Security fund primarily because

A. the government has raised the official age for retirement.

B. most baby boomers are financially prepared for retirement.

C. most baby boomers plan to work past retirement age.

D. most baby boomers are active in their communities.

E. most baby boomers will not need supplemental income.

Answer(s): C

9. Read each passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the questions based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

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The author cites statistics from the AARP survey primarily to

A. supports the assertion that baby boomers are the largest group of retirees in U.S. history.

B. show that baby boomers will not retire en masse as feared.

C. suggests that better financial planning is needed for the elderly.

D. show how optimistic baby boomers are about their future.

E. show the correlation between retirement age and optimism.

Answer(s): B

10. Read each passage carefully and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the questions based upon what is stated or implied in the reading passage.

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Eventually, most baby boomers will need to stop working as they progress into their 70s, 80s, and beyond. But with such large numbers planning to continue working, thereby continuing to pay into the Social Security fund, perhaps Social Security will be able to withstand the end of the baby boom and continue to be a safety net for future generations.

It can be inferred from the AARP survey results that

A. many baby boomers do not have adequate savings.

B. many baby boomers are afraid of retirement.

C. most baby boomers are unaware of the actual cost of retirement.

D. few baby boomers are realistic about their retirement goals.

E. politicians do not understand the baby boom generation.

Answer(s): A

11. The Florida panther, known for its distinctive characteristics, including a kinked tail and cowlicks, is nearing extinction with the help of scientists and government officials. Though once

abundant in Florida, by the end of the twentieth century, only approximately 30 Florida panthers remained. Efforts to preserve the panthers had focused on shielding them from human encroachment with the hope that they could develop sustainable numbers to survive as a species. However, pressure from development caused officials to grow impatient and shift their strategy and goals.

In 1995, new breeds of female panthers were brought to Florida from Texas to bolster the population. The change has been dramatic. In 1990, 88% of the panthers in Florida had the distinct kinked tail. By 2000, five years after the introduction of the Texas panthers, not a single kitten born to the Texas females had a kinked tail. The breed known as the Florida panther is now on an expedited, ineluctable road to extinction — with the assistance of wildlife protection agencies.

If the goal was to have any kind of panther in Florida, it has been realized. Since the introduction of the Texas panthers, the panther population in Florida has risen to approximately 80 mixed-breed panthers. However, this “success” could portend a tragic trend in wildlife management in the United States. We cannot and should not create genetically mixed species as a means of achieving a compromise between the needs of development and a species’ survival. This type of species tampering is a perversion of the ideal of wildlife management and will irrevocably transform our national landscape.

The primary goal of this passage is to

- A. demonstrate the fragility of an endangered species.
- B. demonstrate the importance of effective wildlife management.
- C. argue that mixing species to ensure a species’ survival is wrong.
- D. demonstrate the effectiveness of mixing species.
- E. limit development in areas with endangered species

Answer(s): C

12. The Florida panther, known for its distinctive characteristics, including a kinked tail and cowlicks, is nearing extinction with the help of scientists and government officials. Though once abundant in Florida, by the end of the twentieth century, only approximately 30 Florida panthers remained. Efforts to preserve the panthers had focused on shielding them from human encroachment with the hope that they could develop sustainable numbers to survive as a species. However, pressure from development caused officials to grow impatient and shift their strategy and goals.

In 1995, new breeds of female panthers were brought to Florida from Texas to bolster the population. The change has been dramatic. In 1990, 88% of the panthers in Florida had the

distinct kinked tail. By 2000, five years after the introduction of the Texas panthers, not a single kitten born to the Texas females had a kinked tail. The breed known as the Florida panther is now on an expedited, ineluctable road to extinction — with the assistance of wildlife protection agencies.

If the goal was to have any kind of panther in Florida, it has been realized. Since the introduction of the Texas panthers, the panther population in Florida has risen to approximately 80 mixed-breed panthers. However, this “success” could portend a tragic trend in wildlife management in the United States. We cannot and should not create genetically mixed species as a means of achieving a compromise between the needs of development and a species’ survival. This type of species tampering is a perversion of the ideal of wildlife management and will irrevocably transform our national landscape.

The author supports the central idea of this passage primarily by

A. contrasting the Florida panther with the Texas panther

B. showing how interbreeding has destroyed the Florida panther species.

C. attacking government wildlife protection policies

D. showing how human encroachment has depleted Florida’s panther population

E. describing the history of panthers in the United States

Answer(s): B

13. The Florida panther, known for its distinctive characteristics, including a kinked tail and cowlicks, is nearing extinction with the help of scientists and government officials. Though once abundant in Florida, by the end of the twentieth century, only approximately 30 Florida panthers remained. Efforts to preserve the panthers had focused on shielding them from human encroachment with the hope that they could develop sustainable numbers to survive as a species. However, pressure from development caused officials to grow impatient and shift their strategy and goals.

In 1995, new breeds of female panthers were brought to Florida from Texas to bolster the population. The change has been dramatic. In 1990, 88% of the panthers in Florida had the distinct kinked tail. By 2000, five years after the introduction of the Texas panthers, not a single kitten born to the Texas females had a kinked tail. The breed known as the Florida panther is now on an expedited, ineluctable road to extinction — with the assistance of wildlife protection agencies.

If the goal was to have any kind of panther in Florida, it has been realized. Since the introduction of the Texas panthers, the panther population in Florida has risen to approximately 80 mixed-breed panthers. However, this “success” could portend a tragic trend in wildlife management in

the United States. We cannot and should not create genetically mixed species as a means of achieving a compromise between the needs of development and a species' survival. This type of species tampering is a perversion of the ideal of wildlife management and will irrevocably transform our national landscape.

It can be inferred from the passage that

A. extinction is preferable to mixing species.

B. wildlife protection and development are completely incompatible.

C. wildlife protection agencies are in the pocket of development corporations.

D. scientist and government officials are equally disappointed with the results of the experiment.

E. there is alternatives to interbreeding, but they take longer.

Answer(s): E

14. The Florida panther, known for its distinctive characteristics, including a kinked tail and cowlicks, is nearing extinction with the help of scientists and government officials. Though once abundant in Florida, by the end of the twentieth century, only approximately 30 Florida panthers remained. Efforts to preserve the panthers had focused on shielding them from human encroachment with the hope that they could develop sustainable numbers to survive as a species. However, pressure from development caused officials to grow impatient and shift their strategy and goals.

In 1995, new breeds of female panthers were brought to Florida from Texas to bolster the population. The change has been dramatic. In 1990, 88% of the panthers in Florida had the distinct kinked tail. By 2000, five years after the introduction of the Texas panthers, not a single kitten born to the Texas females had a kinked tail. The breed known as the Florida panther is now on an expedited, ineluctable road to extinction — with the assistance of wildlife protection agencies.

If the goal was to have any kind of panther in Florida, it has been realized. Since the introduction of the Texas panthers, the panther population in Florida has risen to approximately 80 mixed-breed panthers. However, this “success” could portend a tragic trend in wildlife management in the United States. We cannot and should not create genetically mixed species as a means of achieving a compromise between the needs of development and a species' survival. This type of species tampering is a perversion of the ideal of wildlife management and will irrevocably transform our national landscape.

The author suggests that blame for the extinction of Florida panthers rests chiefly upon

A. government officials who bowed to pressure from developers

B. developers who encroached upon protected areas.

C. scientists who suggested interbreeding as a solution

D. advocates of species preservation.

E. wildlife agencies that did not act sooner to protect the panther population

Answer(s): A

15. The Florida panther, known for its distinctive characteristics, including a kinked tail and cowlicks, is nearing extinction with the help of scientists and government officials. Though once abundant in Florida, by the end of the twentieth century, only approximately 30 Florida panthers remained. Efforts to preserve the panthers had focused on shielding them from human encroachment with the hope that they could develop sustainable numbers to survive as a species. However, pressure from development caused officials to grow impatient and shift their strategy and goals.

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If the goal was to have any kind of panther in Florida, it has been realized. Since the introduction of the Texas panthers, the panther population in Florida has risen to approximately 80 mixed-breed panthers. However, this “success” could portend a tragic trend in wildlife management in the United States. We cannot and should not create genetically mixed species as a means of achieving a compromise between the needs of development and a species’ survival. This type of species tampering is a perversion of the ideal of wildlife management and will irrevocably transform our national landscape.

The passage suggests that the author

A. is a former member of the Wildlife Protection Agency.

B. is willing to compromise if it means the survival of a species.

C. is afraid that species tampering will become the norm in wildlife preservation management.

D. believes the government has encouraged species tampering as a means of conducting genetic experiments

E. believes that “sustainable numbers” statistics are not realistic and lead to the expedited extinction of species.

Answer(s): C

16. Using art to condemn the moral shortcomings of society is nothing new. English artist William Hogarth (1697 — 1764) was renowned for prints that revealed the moral lapses of eighteenth-century England. Despite the fact that Hogarth enjoyed the patronage of England’s wealthier citizens, he did not shrink away from producing scathing depictions of all levels of English society. In the ten-print series *Industry and Idleness*, Hogarth presents two apprentices who begin working side by side only to arrive at vastly different ends. The first apprentice is portrayed as a morally incorruptible, diligent worker. He is promoted, marries his boss’s daughter, and achieves great distinction and financial success. The other apprentice does little work and engages in many unsavory activities. He is fired from his apprenticeship and continues down a path of illicit behavior and corruption. The series comes to a climax when the two former coworkers are reunited with the industrious apprentice — now elevated to alderman — standing in judgment of the idle coworker brought before him for murder. The idle apprentice is sentenced to death and executed, whereas the industrious apprentice goes on to become Lord Mayor of London. Among Hogarth’s most popular series was *The Rake’s Progress*, which tells the story of wealthy Tom Rakewell. In the first of eight prints, Tom inherits a large sum of money that he foolishly spends on enhancing his image and prestige in superficial ways. His prodigal ways lead to his rapid decline as he is arrested for debt and in return marries an old maid for her money. He begins gambling, is imprisoned, and eventually goes insane in Bedlam. Tom’s descent and desperate outcome, like many of Hogarth’s subjects, is tied directly to moral corruption and poor self-discipline. It is interesting that Hogarth’s prints were extremely popular in his day. Whatever the moral shortcomings of eighteenth-century England, its citizens welcomed Hogarth’s social critiques and harsh judgments.

According to the passage, Hogarth’s prints

A. portrayed many different kinds of moral corruption.

B. focused on the weak and disenfranchised.

C. were extremely controversial.

D. often offended his wealthy patrons.

E. are extremely valuable today.

Answer(s): A

17. Using art to condemn the moral shortcomings of society is nothing new. English artist William Hogarth (1697 — 1764) was renowned for prints that revealed the moral lapses of eighteenth-century England. Despite the fact that Hogarth enjoyed the patronage of England's wealthier citizens, he did not shrink away from producing scathing depictions of all levels of English society. In the ten-print series *Industry and Idleness*, Hogarth presents two apprentices who begin working side by side only to arrive at vastly different ends. The first apprentice is portrayed as a morally incorruptible, diligent worker. He is promoted, marries his boss's daughter, and achieves great distinction and financial success. The other apprentice does little work and engages in many unsavory activities. He is fired from his apprenticeship and continues down a path of illicit behavior and corruption. The series comes to a climax when the two former coworkers are reunited with the industrious apprentice — now elevated to alderman — standing in judgment of the idle coworker brought before him for murder. The idle apprentice is sentenced to death and executed, whereas the industrious apprentice goes on to become Lord Mayor of London. Among Hogarth's most popular series was *The Rake's Progress*, which tells the story of wealthy Tom Rakewell. In the first of eight prints, Tom inherits a large sum of money that he foolishly spends on enhancing his image and prestige in superficial ways. His prodigal ways lead to his rapid decline as he is arrested for debt and in return marries an old maid for her money. He begins gambling, is imprisoned, and eventually goes insane in Bedlam. Tom's descent and desperate outcome, like many of Hogarth's subjects, is tied directly to moral corruption and poor self-discipline. It is interesting that Hogarth's prints were extremely popular in his day. Whatever the moral shortcomings of eighteenth-century England, its citizens welcomed Hogarth's social critiques and harsh judgments.

The passage suggests that Hogarth's work is important because

A. Hogarth developed the technique of story-telling through prints.

B. Hogarth defied authorities and convention by depicting the life of common criminals.

C. it reveals the hardships of life in eighteenth-century England.

D. it provides a critical view of the moral shortcomings of Hogarth's society.

E. it demonstrates that art is an important medium for social change.

Answer(s): D

18. Using art to condemn the moral shortcomings of society is nothing new. English artist William Hogarth (1697 — 1764) was renowned for prints that revealed the moral lapses of eighteenth-century England. Despite the fact that Hogarth enjoyed the patronage of England's wealthier citizens, he did not shrink away from producing scathing depictions of all levels of English society. In the ten-print series *Industry and Idleness*, Hogarth presents two apprentices who begin working side by side only to arrive at vastly different ends. The first apprentice is portrayed as a morally incorruptible, diligent worker. He is promoted, marries his boss's daughter, and achieves great distinction and financial success. The other apprentice does little work and engages in many unsavory activities. He is fired from his apprenticeship and continues down a path of illicit behavior and corruption. The series comes to a climax when the two former coworkers are reunited with the industrious apprentice — now elevated to alderman — standing in judgment of the idle coworker brought before him for murder. The idle apprentice is sentenced to death and executed, whereas the industrious apprentice goes on to become Lord Mayor of London. Among Hogarth's most popular series was *The Rake's Progress*, which tells the story of wealthy Tom Rakewell. In the first of eight prints, Tom inherits a large sum of money that he foolishly spends on enhancing his image and prestige in superficial ways. His prodigal ways lead to his rapid decline as he is arrested for debt and in return marries an old maid for her money. He begins gambling, is imprisoned, and eventually goes insane in Bedlam. Tom's descent and desperate outcome, like many of Hogarth's subjects, is tied directly to moral corruption and poor self-discipline. It is interesting that Hogarth's prints were extremely popular in his day. Whatever the moral shortcomings of eighteenth-century England, its citizens welcomed Hogarth's social critiques and harsh judgments.

The description of *Industry and Idleness* suggests that

A. people in eighteenth-century England were too quick to judge each other.

B. the moral choices people make determine whether they will succeed or fail.

C. apprentices often engaged in immoral behavior in Hogarth's time.

D. successful politicians are morally incorruptible.

E. the moral apprentice feels sorry for his former coworker.

Answer(s): B

19. Using art to condemn the moral shortcomings of society is nothing new. English artist William Hogarth (1697 — 1764) was renowned for prints that revealed the moral lapses of eighteenth-

century England. Despite the fact that Hogarth enjoyed the patronage of England's wealthier citizens, he did not shrink away from producing scathing depictions of all levels of English society. In the ten-print series *Industry and Idleness*, Hogarth presents two apprentices who begin working side by side only to arrive at vastly different ends. The first apprentice is portrayed as a morally incorruptible, diligent worker. He is promoted, marries his boss's daughter, and achieves great distinction and financial success. The other apprentice does little work and engages in many unsavory activities. He is fired from his apprenticeship and continues down a path of illicit behavior and corruption. The series comes to a climax when the two former coworkers are reunited with the industrious apprentice — now elevated to alderman — standing in judgment of the idle coworker brought before him for murder. The idle apprentice is sentenced to death and executed, whereas the industrious apprentice goes on to become Lord Mayor of London. Among Hogarth's most popular series was *The Rake's Progress*, which tells the story of wealthy Tom Rakewell. In the first of eight prints, Tom inherits a large sum of money that he foolishly spends on enhancing his image and prestige in superficial ways. His prodigal ways lead to his rapid decline as he is arrested for debt and in return marries an old maid for her money. He begins gambling, is imprisoned, and eventually goes insane in Bedlam. Tom's descent and desperate outcome, like many of Hogarth's subjects, is tied directly to moral corruption and poor self-discipline. It is interesting that Hogarth's prints were extremely popular in his day. Whatever the moral shortcomings of eighteenth-century England, its citizens welcomed Hogarth's social critiques and harsh judgments.

Based on the passage, which of the following best expresses the main lesson of Hogarth's work?

A. If you are diligent and industrious, you will achieve great distinction.

B. Wealth leads to moral corruption.

C. Do not judge others until you have walked in their shoes.

D. Some people are born immoral and cannot be changed.

E. Wise choices and self-discipline can keep us from moral lapses.

Answer(s): E

20. The labor market is changing yet again. Increasingly, American business is turning to interim staffing to cover a greater number of its employment vacancies. Once interim (or temporary) staffing was reserved for the lower-level positions requiring little training, such as an envelope stuffer, receptionist, day laborer, and the like. Today, however, a more highly trained professional is being sought for interim work. It is not uncommon to find computer programmers, writers, marketing professionals, CPAs, and even chief financial officers working in an interim capacity. The reasons for these changes in staffing norms are generated at both the employer and

employee level. Employers are pushing the drive toward interim staffing in order to maintain maximum flexibility.

Companies can be more innovative and flexible in their planning cycles if they have the option to hire employees on an as-needed basis. Additionally, employers save money using interim staffers, as they are not required to provide health insurance to temporary workers and they are not obligated to pay severance when the job terminates. Employees, too, are pushing the trend toward interim staffing. Increasingly, professionals are seeking more flexibility in their work schedules — often in response to family obligations. No longer does the permanent 9 to 5, Monday through Friday schedule work for everyone. By working interim, employees can work when it fits their schedules. However, interim staffing is not for everyone. Organizations whose workflow requires continuity of personnel may find interim staffing an impediment to productivity. Likewise, employees who need a steady source of income or who require the health insurance and other benefits provided by permanent employers may find the unpredictability in interim work problematic.

According to the passage, the main benefit to employers of interim staffing is

A. cost savings from not having to provide benefits.

B. constant influx of new ideas

C. flexibility in hiring

D. flexibility in scheduling

E. a more highly trained interim employee pool.

Answer(s): C
