

ASVAB-SECTION-8^{Q&As}

ASVAB Section Eight : Paragraph comprehension

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QUESTION 1

Railroads originating on both coasts of the United States were joined on May 10, 1869, when a golden spike was driven to join the last rail at Promontory Point, Utah. Great numbers of immigrants moved west to take up free homestead land or purchase tracts at low prices.

According to the passage, the settling of the American West _____.

- A. made immigrants very wealthy from land ownership
- B. followed the completion of the railroad
- C. made it impossible for anyone to purchase land
- D. was finished before the summer of 1869

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

According to the passage, the settling of the American West took place after both coasts were joined by completion of the railroad.

QUESTION 2

Captain Agnew had located the Italian naval convoy by means of radar, and then brought his Force K into the most favorable attacking position. To the Italians, who possessed no such technology, the darkness remained impenetrable, and their surprise was consequently complete.

What happened to the Italian convoy?

- A. It used radar to locate Captain Agnew's Force K.
- B. It was surprised by a nighttime attack.
- C. It surprised the Force K nighttime convoy.
- D. It got lost in the impenetrable darkness.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The Italian convoy did not have radar or anything like it, so they could not see Captain Agnew's Force K in the darkness and Force K surprised them with an attack.

QUESTION 3

The maggot larvae may be more than just a repugnant animal. Maggot larvae, called *Phaenicia sericata*, have recently

been used in a treatment known as Maggot Therapy. Twice a week, larvae are placed on a wound and left there for 48 to 72 hours. The maggots only eat the dead tissue, leaving healthy tissue intact, a process called debridement. In a recent study, wounds that got presurgical maggot therapy developed no infections after surgery. While about one-third of wounds that didn't get maggot therapy developed an infection.

In the context, repugnant means _____.

- A. distasteful
- B. cute
- C. friendly
- D. jovial

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 4

Regular weight lifting has been shown to improve muscle mass in people of all ages. Even 80-year-old subjects in weight lifting studies show signs of benefits by supplementing their muscle mass.

It can be inferred from the passage that _____.

- A. young people do not benefit from weight lifting
- B. weight lifting even once a week will produce benefits for all ages
- C. older people show the most improvements in muscle mass in weight lifting studies
- D. any able body person can begin weight lifting at any age and see benefits

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 5

After a series of well-publicized failures by various inventors, Orville and Wilbur Wright succeeded in flying and controlling a heavier than-air craft on December 17, 1903. The War Department, stung by its investment in a failed effort by Samuel Langley and compounded by the Wright's own secretiveness, initially rejected the brothers' overtures toward the government to buy the aircraft. Prevailing sentiments held that the immediate future still belonged to the balloon. In August 1908, the two brothers delivered the first Army aircraft to the U.S. Government. That the U.S. government managed to purchase an airplane was a minor miracle. For more than four years after the Wright brothers' successful flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the government refused to accept the fact that man had flown in a heavier than air machine.

Which of the following statements is not supported by the above passage?

- A. The U.S. Government felt that balloons were more practical than airplanes.

- B. The Wright Brother's own secretiveness contributed to their problems in getting the government interested in their aircraft.
- C. The historic flight took place on the East Coast.
- D. It took more than six years for the Wright Brothers to interest the U.S. Government in their airplane.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

According to the passage it took over four years for the Government to believe that anyone had flown a heavier-than-air craft.

The historic flight was in December 1903, and the Wright Brothers delivered the first aircraft to the government in August 1908, 4 1/2 years later.

All of the other statements are supported by the passage.

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