

ASVAB-SECTION-8^{Q&As}

ASVAB Section Eight : Paragraph comprehension

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QUESTION 1

Epidemiology is the study of what causes diseases, injuries, and other physiological damage to humans and why such problems occur. Epidemiologists examine where and when disease outbreaks occur. By using statistics and other scientific methods, epidemiologists determine what factors affect the frequency and severity of disease patterns. The primary goal of epidemiology is to control or prevent outbreaks of disease – other goals are subordinate.

What would be the best title for this passage?

- A. Epidemiology: The Study of Disease Patterns.
- B. Goals for the Future of Epidemiology.
- C. Using Statistical Methods in Epidemiology.
- D. Employment Outlook for Epidemiologists.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The main point of the passage is to define epidemiology.

Choices "Goals for the Future of Epidemiology," "Using Statistical Methods in Epidemiology," and

"Employment Outlook for Epidemiologists" aren't the main points of the passage.

QUESTION 2

The process by which the Roman legions came to serve so far from the Roman army's birthplace began in earnest during the Punic wars with Carthage. The Phoenician colony first clashed with the Romans when Rome's success in subduing its Italian neighbors drew it south to Sicily, which Carthage regarded as within its sphere of influence. In 265 B.C., after Rome's expensive victory over Pyrrhus, Rome and Carthage found themselves at war over Sicily. The war rapidly extended by both land and sea until the Carthaginians had to admit defeat and allow the establishment of Roman control over the island. Rome soon after added Corsica and Sardinia to these beginnings of its overseas empire.

What area were the Romans and Carthaginians fighting over in 265 B.C.?

- A. Phoenicia
- B. Carthage
- C. Sicily
- D. Corsica

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The passage states, "In 265 B.C. ...Rome and Carthage found themselves at war over Sicily."

QUESTION 3

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 4

Doctors and experts recommend that an aspirin a day may cut the risk of developing colon cancer. However, a smaller dose of baby aspirin may be more effective at this than a full size aspirin.

A full size aspirin _____.

- A. does not cut the risk of developing colon cancer
- B. prevents colon cancer
- C. may cut the risk of colon cancer
- D. is not as effective as a baby aspirin

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Of the following choices only, the only one that is true is that a full size aspirin may cut the risk of colon cancer.

The last choice is not correct, because it does not limit the statement to cutting the risk of colon cancer.

QUESTION 5

Surveys show that the average child under the age of 18 watches four hours of television per day. Although some of the programming may be educational, most isn't. Spending this much time watching television interferes with a child's ability to pursue other interests, such as reading, participating in sports, and playing with friends.

The author of this passage would agree that _____.

- A. television viewing should be restricted
- B. parents who let their children watch this much television is neglectful
- C. reading, participating in sports, playing with friends, and watching television should all be given equal time
- D. adults over 18 can watch as much television as they want

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The author makes no reference to parents in the passage, so Choice "parents who let their children watch this much television is neglectful" is incorrect.

The author doesn't imply anything about all these interests requiring equal time, so Choice "reading, participating in sports, playing with friends, and watching television should all be given equal time" is incorrect.

The passage is about children under 18; no conclusion can be drawn about what the author thinks people over 18 should do, so Choice "adults over 18 can watch as much television as they want" is incorrect.

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