

# Section 1: Critical Reading

## Critical Reading Question 1

Choice (B) is correct. The word “Because” establishes that there will be a cause-and-effect relationship between the two parts of the sentence. If the female telegraph operators were “paid well” for their skills, this would probably have caused them to enjoy relative “financial” independence, or freedom with regard to money.

Choice (A) is incorrect. “Bureaucratic” means having the characteristics of a large and complex administrative group or structure. Being “paid well” would not necessarily cause one to experience “bureaucratic independence.”

Choice (C) is incorrect. “Numerical” means of or relating to numbers. It does not make sense to say that being “paid well” would result in telegraph operators enjoying relative independence from numbers.

Choice (D) is incorrect. “Political” means of or relating to government or politics. The sentence establishes that these telegraph operators were “paid well.” It does not necessarily follow, though, that they had political independence as a result.

Choice (E) is incorrect. “Legal” means relating to the law. The fact that the telegraph operators were “paid well” does not necessarily mean that they enjoyed any sort of independence related to the law.

## Critical Reading Question 2

Choice (D) is correct. The phrase “so drastically” suggests that the word that best fits the second blank involves an extreme result of the action described in the first blank. If widespread use of the pesticide DDT “diminished,” or reduced, the peregrine falcon population “drastically,” then this species might well have become “extinct,” or no longer in existence, on the East Coast.

Choice (A) is incorrect. If the use of the pesticide DDT “swelled,” or increased, the peregrine falcon population, then this species probably would not have become “nonexistent” on the East Coast. On the contrary, it is more likely that its population would have grown.

Choice (B) is incorrect. To “extinguish” something is to eliminate or destroy it. If the use of the pesticide DDT “extinguished” the peregrine falcon population, then that population would have ceased to exist. It would not make sense, then, to say that the species was merely “reduced,” or made smaller.

Choice (C) is incorrect. To “obstruct” something is to hinder or prevent its movement or progress. If the use of the pesticide DDT “obstructed” the peregrine falcon population, it is not likely that the species would have become “stabilized” on the East Coast. It is more likely that it would have been reduced or eliminated.

Choice (E) is incorrect. To be “stalled” is to be brought to a standstill. To be “prolific” is to produce many offspring. If the use of the pesticide DDT drastically stalled the peregrine falcon population, it could not also have made the species prolific.

### **Critical Reading Question 3**

Choice (C) is correct. To “epitomize” something is to serve as a typical or ideal example of it. “Successful” means having a favorable or desired outcome. If the space shuttle’s landing was “flawless,” or perfect, then it might well be said to have “epitomized” the “successful” nature of the entire mission.

Choice (A) is incorrect. To “invalidate” something is to weaken or destroy its validity. A “flawless” landing would not have “invalidated” the “triumphant,” or notably successful, nature of the entire mission. Rather, it would have further emphasized its triumphant nature.

Choice (B) is incorrect. A “flawless” landing would not have “reflected” the “futile,” or completely ineffective, nature of the entire mission. A flawless landing could only reflect something successful.

Choice (D) is incorrect. Something that is “conservative” is characterized by moderation or caution. A “flawless” landing would not have “underscored,” or emphasized, the “conservative” nature of the entire mission. Achieving something that is flawless would not necessarily involve acting with moderation or caution.

Choice (E) is incorrect. To be “meticulous” is to be extremely careful and precise. A “flawless” landing would not have “belied,” or proved false, the meticulous nature of the entire mission. If anything, it would suggest that the mission was meticulous.

### **Critical Reading Question 4**

Choice (D) is correct. “Speculative thinking” is theoretical in nature; it is not based on concrete evidence. If the researcher’s training made her “wary of,” or cautious about, “baseless conjecture,” or conclusions deduced by guesswork, she probably would avoid engaging in “purely speculative” thinking.

Choice (A) is incorrect. “Scholarly thinking” is the kind of thinking associated with research in an academic field. Scholarly thinking is usually characterized by careful and informed thought and therefore would not involve “baseless conjecture.”

Choice (B) is incorrect. That which is “topical” is of current interest. There is no reason to assume the researcher would avoid “topical thinking” because of her wariness of “baseless conjecture.”

Choice (C) is incorrect. “Symbolic thinking” would involve thinking with symbols. Symbolic thinking would not necessarily involve “baseless conjecture,” and therefore the researcher would have no reason to avoid it.

Choice (E) is incorrect. That which is “controversial” is characterized by dispute. There is no reason to think that being “wary of baseless conjecture” would make the researcher avoid engaging in controversial thinking.

### **Critical Reading Question 5**

Choice (C) is correct. A “brainchild” is the product of a person’s creative imagination. Since Chester Gould created the cartoon detective Dick Tracy, it makes sense to refer to this character as Gould’s brainchild.

Choice (A) is incorrect. An “understudy” is an actor who has learned another actor’s part in order to replace that actor in an emergency. It does not make sense to suggest that an imaginary cartoon detective could act as the understudy for a cartoonist.

Choice (B) is incorrect. A “pseudonym” is a false name. The sentence does not suggest that “Dick Tracy” was Chester Gould’s pseudonym. Rather, the sentence indicates that Tracy was a cartoon character created by Gould.

Choice (D) is incorrect. A “disciple” is an active follower of a movement or an individual. It does not make sense to suggest that an imaginary cartoon character is a disciple of its creator.

Choice (E) is incorrect. An “invocation” is an act or instance of calling on a higher authority for assistance. It makes little sense to call a cartoon character an invocation of its creator.

### **Critical Reading Question 6**

Choice (B) is correct. If the gubernatorial debate were characterized by “gravity,” or extreme seriousness, people would probably feel that they should try to “quell,” or suppress, their laughter. The sentence says that “despite” this gravity—even though the debate was serious—some people could not quell their laughter.

Choice (A) is incorrect. To “rebut” something is to refute it by offering opposing evidence. It makes little sense to suggest that people might try to “rebut” their own laughter. “Irony” is an inconsistency between what is expected and what actually occurs. In some instances, irony can provoke laughter. It makes no sense to say that “despite” the irony, some people could not rebut their laughter.

Choice (C) is incorrect. “Solemnity” is extreme seriousness. To “abhor” something is to hate or detest it. “Solemnity” makes good sense in the first blank, since political debates are often serious. But “abhor” is not a good word for the second blank. People would not attempt to abhor their laughter in a serious situation. More likely, they would try to stop it.

Choice (D) is incorrect. “Intensity” is extreme concentration, force, or feeling. To “coerce” is to bring something about by force or threat, or to compel a person or group of people to act in a certain way. “Intensity” makes sense in the first blank because a political debate could be characterized by intensity. But “coerce” does not fit well in the

second blank. One might coerce another person or persons to do something, but it makes no sense to speak of coercing one's own laughter.

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Levity" is lightness in manner or speech, especially when inappropriate. To "squench" something is to silence it. It is possible, though unlikely, that a political debate would be characterized by levity. And it makes sense to suggest that people might squench their laughter at a political debate. But taken together, these two words don't create a logical sentence. It does not make sense to say that "despite" the levity, some people could not squench their laughter.

### **Critical Reading Question 7**

Choice (E) is correct. A "rhetorician" is an eloquent speaker or writer. If Douglass' speeches were of "unsurpassed eloquence and clarity," then they would demonstrate his skills as a rhetorician. To speak "extemporaneously" is to speak without preparation. If Douglass delivered "unrehearsed speeches," then he spoke extemporaneously.

Choice (A) is incorrect. An "explicator" is a person who explains things. This term makes some sense in the first blank, since speeches marked by eloquence and clarity might well explain things. To speak "belligerently" is to speak aggressively or with hostility. This word does not fit the meaning of the sentence, which indicates that Douglass was a talented public speaker. It does not suggest that he spoke in a belligerent manner.

Choice (B) is incorrect. An "orator" is a person who is skilled at public speaking. This term makes excellent sense in the first blank, since the sentence indicates that Douglass was a skilled public speaker. To speak "cryptically" is to speak in a way that is difficult to understand. This word does not fit the meaning of the sentence, which says that Douglass spoke with "unsurpassed eloquence and clarity."

Choice (C) is incorrect. To speak "improvisationally" is to speak without notes or preparation. This term makes good sense in the second blank because the sentence indicates the Douglass' speeches were "unrehearsed." An "obfuscator" is someone who "obfuscates," or makes things difficult to understand. This word does not fit the meaning of the sentence, which indicates that Douglass' speeches were marked by "clarity," or clearness of expression.

Choice (D) is incorrect. Neither of these terms fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole. A "diplomat" is a person who uses skill or tact in dealing with others. Although the sentence indicates that Douglass was a talented public speaker, this does not necessarily mean that he was tactful in his dealings with others. To speak "censoriously" is to speak in a highly critical way. The sentence says that Douglass spoke eloquently and clearly, not that he was particularly critical.

### **Critical Reading Question 8**

Choice (D) is correct. "Draconian" means exceedingly harsh. The sentence indicates that the "ordinances," or regulations, are "unusually severe," so it makes sense that the musicians would have "denounced," or condemned, them as draconian.

Choice (A) is incorrect. To be “judicious” is to exercise sound judgment, to be prudent. It is highly unlikely that the musicians would characterize “unusually severe” ordinances that restricted where they could practice as “judicious.” Also, one would not “denounce” something as being “judicious,” since having sound judgment is generally regarded as a positive characteristic.

Choice (B) is incorrect. To be “ingenuous” is to be candid or straightforward. It is unlikely that the musicians would “denounce” the ordinances as “ingenuous,” since being straightforward is generally regarded as a positive characteristic. Also, the sentence indicates that the ordinances are “unusually severe,” not that they are straightforward.

Choice (C) is incorrect. It is unlikely that the musicians would have denounced the “unusually severe ordinances” as “indubitable,” or beyond doubt. One would not “denounce” something for being “indubitable,” since this term does not refer to something bad. Also, the point of the sentence is that the ordinances are “unusually severe,” not that they are beyond doubt.

Choice (E) is incorrect. To be “anarchistic” is to reject all forms of control and regulation. An ordinance is a regulation and thus a form of control, so it would not make sense to denounce an ordinance as anarchistic.

### **Critical Reading Question 9**

Choice (B) is correct. The author of Passage 1 confesses to having “little patience with shopping and little comprehension of those who enjoy doing it” and speaks of trying to “minimize the time” spent in stores. So this author views shopping as a “major imposition,” or burden. The author of Passage 2, on the other hand, writes that “Shopping invites us to engage in the play that can lead to self-discovery.” So this author views it as a “potentially enriching experience.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author of Passage 1 does, in fact, view shopping as a “necessary evil,” but nothing in Passage 2 suggests that its author views it as a “costly proposition.” This author focuses on the beneficial aspects of shopping—the way it can lead to “self-discovery”—rather than on the costs involved.

Choice (C) is incorrect. This answer choice is not correct for either passage. While the author of Passage 1 goes to stores only when a “particular need” must be filled, this does not mean that this author finds shopping a “difficult task to schedule.” And while the author of Passage 2 likes to shop, this does not mean that this author views it as “part of a daily routine.”

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author of Passage 2 enjoys shopping and sees it as an opportunity for “self-discovery.” So this author might well view it as “an exciting aspect of contemporary life.” But the author of Passage 1 does not view it as a “guilty pleasure.” This author not only finds no pleasure in it, but admits to having “little comprehension of those who enjoy doing it.”

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author of Passage 1 does not suggest that shopping is a “social activity.” In fact, this author does whatever is necessary to “minimize the time”

spent in stores. And nothing in Passage 2 indicates that this author views it as a “solitary endeavor,” or an activity to be undertaken alone.

### Critical Reading Question 10

Choice (E) is correct. In the final sentence of Passage 1, the author refers to the “risks” involved with shopping. While the author of Passage 2 appears to agree that some risks may be involved, noting that the “decisions we make as shoppers aren’t always good ones,” this author also argues that shopping “invites us to engage in the play that can lead to self-discovery.” So this author would probably say that “some chances are worth taking because they yield personal insights.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. While the author of Passage 2 clearly enjoys shopping, this author also finds it valuable because it “invites us to engage in the play that can lead to self-discovery.” So this author would be unlikely to assert that shopping is done just “for its pure enjoyment.” Also, this answer choice would not be a good response to the final sentence of Passage 1 because it does not address the main idea of that sentence—that life is “too short to take risks.”

Choice (B) is incorrect. There is nothing in Passage 2 to indicate that its author believes that “life’s risks need to be managed carefully.” If anything, this author believes that certain risks are worth taking.

Choice (C) is incorrect. While one must indeed shop to obtain certain “necessities,” Passage 2 does not make this point. Instead, Passage 2 mentions purchases like lamps, hats, and stuffed boa constrictors, which can hardly be considered necessities. There is no information in Passage 2 that would support this answer choice.

Choice (D) is incorrect. The “risks” referred to in Passage 1 involve the possibility of making bad purchases, not any danger or harm that a shopper might experience. Since this author does not suggest that people believe that shopping is dangerous, it would not make sense for the author of Passage 2 to respond by addressing this issue.

### Critical Reading Question 11

Choice (D) is correct. The “you” imagined in Passage 2 is said to be “trying on . . . an identity” by shopping, an act that is subsequently characterized as “play that can lead to self-discovery.” This “you” is said to “ponder,” or wonder, whether he or she has “become the sort of person who wears a hat.” This is similar to the individual mentioned in choice (D). This man is said to wonder whether buying an all-terrain vehicle will “make him more of an outdoors enthusiast.” “You” and the “man” are similar in that both see shopping as a mode of self-discovery. Both wonder how certain purchases might be linked to new identities.

Choice (A) is incorrect. There is nothing in this answer choice to suggest that the child sees a link between shopping and self-discovery. Therefore, the child is not similar to the “you” imagined in Passage 2.

Choice (B) is incorrect. One cannot tell if the “athlete” in this choice sees any link between shopping and self-discovery. In fact, this answer choice does not refer to either of these things.

Choice (C) is incorrect. The “teenager” in this answer choice is not said to think about a link between shopping and self-discovery and so cannot be said to be similar to the “you” mentioned in Passage 2.

Choice (E) is incorrect. While this answer choice does deal with a person shopping, there is no suggestion that the woman sees a link between shopping and self-discovery. We only know that the woman has decided to purchase a fishing boat after doing extensive research.

### **Critical Reading Question 12**

Choice (B) is correct. Passage 1 is quite critical of shopping as a pastime. The author speaks of having “little patience” with shopping, refers to interactions with “hapless” salesclerks as a waste of time, and concludes that “Life is too short” to take the “risks” involved in shopping. Passage 2 takes a much more positive view, describing shopping as “play that can lead to self-discovery.” So Passage 1 can be said to “censure,” or harshly criticize, a pastime that Passage 2 “considers favorably.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. Passage 1 is harshly critical of shopping. Passage 2 cannot be said to “celebrate” this attitude.

Choice (C) is incorrect. Passage 1 discusses a shopping experience that involves planning, research, and minimal time spent in stores. It does not analyze shopping as an impulse. And Passage 2 celebrates the act of shopping for fun. One cannot say that Passage 2 “critiques” an impulse “more vigorously.”

Choice (D) is incorrect. For the author of Passage 1, shopping is “an exercise in pragmatism.” This author speaks of carefully researching all large purchases in order to minimize the time actually spent in a store. This process cannot be said to be “illustrated more fully” in Passage 2, since Passage 2 discusses an entirely different approach to shopping.

Choice (E) is incorrect. Passage 1 could be considered a “personal account” of shopping, but Passage 2 does not discuss shopping in a “historical context.”

### **Critical Reading Question 13**

Choice (B) is correct. In lines 1-12, the author describes some important animal communication studies in great detail, which suggests that the author is “informed” about the subject. In lines 13-18, the author speaks knowledgeably about two problems associated with these studies, which is something that a “critic” would do. So the author discusses these studies from the standpoint of an “informed critic.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. Although the author points out two problems with the studies described in lines 1-12, one could not describe the author as a “hostile detractor.” This

description would imply feelings of strong ill will that are not evident in the passage. Rather, the author's criticism is fair and not too harsh.

Choice (C) is incorrect. Nothing in the passage suggests that the author can be described as a "reluctant convert." The author has not converted to, or become a believer in, the claims made by the studies; the author actually disagrees with them.

Choice (D) is incorrect. Nothing in lines 1-18 suggests that the author is "puzzled" by anything. Rather, the author appears to thoroughly understand the findings of the studies and presents a clear critique of them.

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author describes two problems with the studies discussed in lines 1-12. The author does not, therefore, regard them from the standpoint of "an enthusiastic supporter."

### **Critical Reading Question 14**

Choice (E) is correct. In the first paragraph, the author summarizes the approach of existing animal communication studies, which take as a given that animals have "a sort of universal telegraph that can carry information." These studies, the author suggests, assume that animal sounds carry "semantic meaning"—that is, that they function much like words do for people. In the second paragraph, the author describes two problems with this approach. In doing so, the author places quotation marks around "word," "dialects," and "meanings" to express doubt that animal sounds can accurately be described in the way that human language is described. The author uses the quotation marks to "convey skepticism about the aptness," or appropriateness, of these terms.

Choice (A) is incorrect. In the second paragraph, the author describes two problems with the approach to animal communication studies described in the first paragraph. The author is not suggesting that any theory is "definitive," or absolutely authoritative.

Choice (B) is incorrect. In lines 13-18, the author places the terms "word," "dialects," and "meanings" in quotation marks. These are not the terms of any particular animal behaviorist, representative or otherwise. Rather, these terms typify the way that traditional animal communication studies refer to animal sounds. The author is skeptical of the use of these terms and therefore places them in quotation marks.

Choice (C) is incorrect. Although the terms in quotation marks do refer to ideas mentioned earlier in the passage (that animal sounds are sometimes thought to carry semantic meaning), the purpose of the quotation marks is not to "restate" these concepts. Rather, it is to signal skepticism about the use of these terms to describe animal communication.

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author is not emphasizing the "importance" of a form of animal communication. Rather, the author is trying to better understand animal communication and, in doing so, questions the appropriateness of some terms used to describe it.

### Critical Reading Question 15

Choice (A) is correct. In lines 19-20, the author asserts that “the most universal characteristic of animal signals is their adherence to a basic rule of pitch,” and the subsequent references to a “whine” and a “growl” support this point. The author notes that high-pitched tones (like a whine) convey “appeasement, fear, and an overall nonthreatening state,” while low tones (like a growl) convey “aggression, hostility, threat.” The author then cites many different animals (including opossums, rats, elephants, guinea pigs, wombats) that use these sounds in this way. So the “whine” and the “growl” are best understood as examples of sounds that “different species use in a similar manner.”

Choice (B) is incorrect. The author suggests that both mammals (elephants, rhinoceroses, etc.) and birds (pelicans, pheasants, etc.) use whines and growls in similar ways. The author does not suggest that mammals use these sounds more than birds do.

Choice (C) is incorrect. The author treats Eugene Morton’s study of “56 bird and mammal species” as though it definitively supports the point about the whine and the growl. The author does not suggest that broader studies need to be conducted.

Choice (D) is incorrect. In lines 30-35, the author suggests that humans also use sounds like whines and growls. But the author never suggests that humans would use them more commonly “if not for the influence of etiquette.”

Choice (E) is incorrect. This choice is wrong because the author makes the opposite point. The author argues that whines and growls mean roughly the same thing regardless of context.

### Critical Reading Question 16

Choice (C) is correct. In lines 19-20, the author asserts that animal signals adhere to “a basic rule of pitch.” The author goes on to explain this “rule”: high-pitched sounds convey nonthreatening states, while deep sounds convey aggression and hostility. The word “rule” is used here to indicate a consistent pattern.

Choice (A) is incorrect. In some contexts, the word “rule” can be used to indicate a “guide for behavior,” but that is not what it means here. The author is not arguing that animals follow a “guide” when making sounds, which would imply that they make conscious choices. Rather, the author is asserting that a pattern can be discerned in the sounds they do make.

Choice (B) is incorrect. A “procedure” is a series of steps taken in a particular order to accomplish something. The author is not suggesting that animal sounds involve any kind of procedure.

Choice (D) is incorrect. The “rule” referred to in line 20 involves a pattern that can be discerned among animal sounds. It does not involve a belief held by zoologists.

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author is not concerned with issues of “scientific exactness” in this part of the passage.

### **Critical Reading Question 17**

Choice (C) is correct. In lines 20-24, the author refers to a “dog’s whine” as an example of a high-pitched sound that communicates “appeasement” and “fear.” A “dog’s growl,” on the other hand, is said to signal “aggression” and “hostility.” Since fear and hostility are emotions, this author evidently assumes that dogs “have emotions that are expressed through a variety of tones.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. Although the author later suggests that humans make sounds that are similar to a dog’s growl or whine, it is never suggested or implied that animals need be trained to make such sounds.

Choice (B) is incorrect. The author never considers whether dogs might reflect the personalities of the people with whom they live.

Choice (D) is incorrect. While it is true that some breeds of dogs are more aggressive than others, this is not an assumption that underlies the author’s discussion. In lines 20-24, the author does not distinguish among breeds of dogs.

Choice (E) is incorrect. While a dog’s emotions might indeed change rapidly during its encounters with other animals, this is not an assumption that underlies the author’s discussion. In lines 20-24, the author refers to different emotions but makes no assumptions about the speed with which these emotions can change.

### **Critical Reading Question 18**

Choice (A) is correct. In line 22, the word “rough” is used to characterize the kind of sound (exemplified by a dog’s growl) that conveys “aggression, hostility, threat.” “Harsh” means disagreeable to the senses, including the sense of hearing. “Rough” most nearly means “harsh” in this sentence.

Choice (B) is incorrect. While “rough” can sometimes mean “unfinished” (as in a rough draft of a piece of writing), that is not what it means here. It does not make sense to suggest that a dog’s growl sounds “unfinished,” or incomplete.

Choice (C) is incorrect. While “rough” can sometimes mean “irregular” (as in a rough or uneven surface), the passage is not suggesting that a dog’s growl sounds “irregular.”

Choice (D) is incorrect. While “rough” can sometimes mean “vulgar,” or crudely indecent (as in rough language), that is not what it means here. It does not make sense to suggest that a dog’s growl sounds “vulgar.”

Choice (E) is incorrect. While “rough” can sometimes mean “uneven” (as in rough ground), that is not what it means here. The passage is not suggesting that a dog’s growl sounds “uneven” or that “uneven” sounds are used to convey “aggression, hostility, threat.”

### Critical Reading Question 19

Choice (D) is correct. In lines 30-35, the author makes the point that people, like animals, use different tones in different contexts: when talking to babies, we “naturally” use a “soft, high-pitched sound”; when telling another driver to get out of our way, we find ourselves using a “rough, low—even growling—sound.” The sentence in lines 30-32 supports the general point that “we automatically adjust pitch in response to different situations.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. Although lines 30-32 point out that adults often talk to babies using a “soft, high-pitched sound,” they do not imply that this is done in an unconscious effort to get children to imitate such a tone.

Choice (B) is incorrect. Although lines 30-32 refer to what might possibly be interpreted as “private conversations” (between an adult and a baby), the important distinction is not between public and private interactions but, rather, between aggressive and nonaggressive ones and the pitch of the signals used in them.

Choice (C) is incorrect. Although the passage implies that our use of certain pitches in different circumstances resembles that of animals, there is no suggestion that we unintentionally pattern our pitches after those of animals.

Choice (E) is incorrect. In lines 20-30, the author argues that various animals use “whines” and “growls” in similar ways and then says, “So, in fact, do people.” The author’s point is that humans use tones similar to those of animals rather than tones that are “very different.”

### Critical Reading Question 20

Choice (E) is correct. In lines 41-42, the author notes that “Big things make low sounds.” In the subsequent sentence, the author illustrates this phenomenon by pointing out that “A longer string or a longer organ pipe makes a lower sound than a short one.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. It is arguable whether or not a long string and a long organ pipe are “two very different objects.” In the sense that both produce different sounds depending on their length, they can be considered similar. In other respects, they are different. But in either case, the purpose of the author’s reference is not simply to compare these two objects. Rather, it is to illustrate the claim that “Big things make low sounds.”

Choice (B) is incorrect. The most obvious “previous generalization” is that “Big things make low sounds.” The reference to a “longer string or a longer organ pipe” supports this generalization. It does not “disprove” it.

Choice (C) is incorrect. While the author does refer here to a musical instrument (an organ pipe) in the context of a scientific discussion, there is nothing to suggest that the primary purpose of the reference is to “link science and the arts.” Rather, the purpose is to illustrate the phenomenon described in lines 41-42.

Choice (D) is incorrect. The reference to a “longer string or a longer organ pipe” could possibly be considered “interesting.” But it cannot be considered a “digression,” or a deviation from the main argument in the passage, because it serves to illustrate and support a key point.

### **Critical Reading Question 21**

Choice (A) is correct. The sentence in lines 44-46 says that “big animals did not go around making low sounds *in order* to show that they were big.” The italicized words help make the point that intention is not involved, that animals are “not consciously expressing meaning with the sounds they make.”

Choice (B) is incorrect. The sentence in lines 44-46 does not suggest that “humans unknowingly take behavioral cues from animals.” The author does not make this argument in lines 44-46 or anywhere else in the passage.

Choice (C) is incorrect. In lines 42-43, the author does refer to a musical instrument (an organ pipe) in suggesting that big things make lower-pitched sounds than small things. However, one could not conclude from this reference that “the sounds of musical instruments often resemble those of animals.” Moreover, the sentence in lines 44-46 does not discuss a relationship between musical instruments and animals.

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author never suggests that “the tonal quality of sounds is unrelated to physical size.” In fact, the author makes the opposite argument, stating that “Big things make low sounds.”

Choice (E) is incorrect. While deep sounds from animals do not always indicate a genuine threat, the author suggests that they are, in fact, usually perceived as threatening. Additionally, the sentence in lines 44-46 does not discuss whether certain sounds are perceived as threatening. Rather, it makes the point that animals do not make certain sounds intentionally.

### **Critical Reading Question 22**

Choice (B) is correct. In lines 50-64, the author suggests that over time animals have learned to manipulate tone to their advantage. “Senders” have learned to use high-pitched sounds to attract other animals and lower-pitched sounds to scare them away. “Receivers” have learned that it is best to avoid animals that make lower-pitched sounds, and that animals making high-pitched sounds need not be avoided. By beginning sentences with “Back to the senders” and “Back to the receivers,” the author emphasizes the idea that the animals are learning from one another. That is, the learning is “reciprocal” in that it goes both ways.

Choice (A) is incorrect. While one can infer from the passage that there is a “debate about animal signals,” that debate is among scientists. The two statements beginning with the word “Back” deal with interactions between animals.

Choice (C) is incorrect. The author never suggests that the process described in these lines is speedy. Rather, the emphasis is on how the animals learn with and from one another.

Choice (D) is incorrect. While the relationships among animals can sometimes be combative, the two statements beginning with the word “Back” do not chiefly serve to make this point. Rather, they indicate the way that learning takes place among animals.

Choice (E) is incorrect. This section of the passage does refer to dramatic differences in pitch in animal sounds, but the two statements beginning with the word “Back” do not “dramatize the alternation in pitch between different sounds.” That is, they do not suggest that animals alternate between making low- and high-pitched sounds.

### **Critical Reading Question 23**

Choice (E) is correct. In lines 50-64, the author describes how animals may have developed the ability to manipulate signals to their advantage. “Senders” came to use high-pitched sounds to attract other animals and lower-pitched sounds to drive them away; “receivers” developed the ability to understand or interpret these signals. Or, as the author puts it in line 64, a “social function” (the way animals interact with one another) may have “piggybacked” on a “physical fact” (that low sounds are associated with big, potentially dangerous animals, and high sounds are associated with small, harmless ones.) This supports the author’s central point that animal signals “don’t evolve because they ‘mean’ something; they evolve because they work” (lines 66-67). The statement in line 64 helps reinforce this point about “the evolution of behavior.”

Choice (A) is incorrect. Although the author uses the term “piggybacked” in this sentence, this is a purely metaphorical usage. The author is not making any claim about “animal mobility.”

Choice (B) is incorrect. A “paradox” is a statement that is seemingly contradictory but is also apparently true. The author does not suggest or imply that it is paradoxical that a social function may have developed out of, or alongside, a physical fact.

Choice (C) is incorrect. “Mimicry” refers to the act of mimicking, or imitating. The statement in line 64 suggests that a social function may have developed out of, or alongside, a physical fact. This is a way of explaining how certain animal behaviors may have evolved. It is not reinforcing a point about mimicry.

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author is not suggesting that animals are being exploited, or used unfairly.

### **Critical Reading Question 24**

Choice (B) is correct. In the final sentence, the author asserts that if certain claims are true, then “Griffin’s argument is cast in a very different light.” That is, his argument would be “presented” in a different light.

Choice (A) is incorrect. It does not make sense to say that an argument might be “discarded,” or thrown away, in a different light.

Choice (C) is incorrect. “Molded” means shaped. Griffin’s argument has already been made. If one of his claims turns out to be wrong, his argument would not then be shaped in a different light.

Choice (D) is incorrect. To be “directed” is to be ordered to do something, or to be shown the way to a certain place. These meanings do not make sense in this context.

Choice (E) is incorrect. “Cast” does not mean “assigned” in this context. It would not make sense to say that Griffin’s argument could be assigned in a different light.