

# ASVAB-SECTION-8<sup>Q&As</sup>

ASVAB Section Eight : Paragraph comprehension

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### QUESTION 1

Scientists believe that a black hole is created when a supernova from a large star collapses on itself. This collapse causes a gravitational field that grows more and more intense until nothing can escape from its pull, not even light. It's thought that the universe may end as a black hole.

According to this passage, \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. a black hole emits light
- B. a supernova is a black hole
- C. the gravitational field of a black hole allows nothing to escape
- D. the universe was created by a black hole

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Nothing escapes from a black hole, including light, so Choice "a black hole emits light" is incorrect.

A black hole occurs when a supernova collapses, but they're not the same thing, so Choice "a supernova is a black hole" is incorrect.

The passage states that the universe might end as a black hole, not that a black hole created the universe, so Choice "the universe was created by a black hole" is incorrect.

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### QUESTION 2

Cloud seeding is accomplished by dropping particles of dry ice (solid carbon dioxide) from a plane onto super-cooled clouds. This process encourages condensation of water droplets in the clouds, which usually, but not always, results in rain or snow.

From this passage, it's reasonable to assume that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. cloud seeding could be used to end a drought
- B. cloud seeding is prohibitively expensive
- C. cloud seeding is rarely used
- D. cloud seeding can be accomplished by using regular ice

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

One can assume that causing rain or snow would end a drought. Nothing in the passage has to do with expense, so Choice "cloud seeding is prohibitively expensive" is incorrect.

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The passage says nothing about how frequently the process is used, so Choice "cloud seeding is rarely used" is incorrect.

The passage specifies that dry ice (solid carbon dioxide) is used; solid water (regular ice) is a different chemical, so Choice "cloud seeding can be accomplished by using regular ice" is wrong.

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### QUESTION 3

Lasers and incandescent lights are different in an important way. Incandescent light from light bulbs emits light of different wavelengths and moves in many directions. On the other hand, laser beams are monochromatic, consisting of a single wavelength. They can travel great distances without spreading.

Any comparison of laser and incandescent lights must include a discussion of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. small and large light bulbs
- B. wavelengths
- C. soundwaves
- D. echoes

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The purpose of the paragraph is to make a comparison between laser and incandescent light.

The two are compared in one way, that is, in terms of their different wavelengths.

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### QUESTION 4

In privatization, the government relies on the private sector to provide a service. However, the government divests itself of the entire process, including all assets. With privatized functions, the government may specify quality, quantity, and timeliness requirements, but it has no control over the operations of the activity. Also, the government may not be the only customer. Whoever the government chooses to provide the services would likely provide the same services to others.

This paragraph best supports the statement that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the government must closely supervise privatized functions
- B. privatized functions consist of a mixture of government employees, military personnel, and private contractors
- C. privatized functions are those institutions that provide services only to a government agency
- D. privatized functions provide essential services to the government

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Privatized functions operate independently of the government, making Choices "the government must

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closely supervise privatized functions" and "privatized functions consist of a mixture of government employees, military personnel, and private contractors" incorrect. The passage states that privatized functions may sell goods and services to other customers as well as the government, so Choice "privatized functions are those institutions that provide services only to a government agency" is also incorrect. Choice "privatized functions provide essential services to the government" is the correct answer, as privatized functions do perform essential services to government agencies.

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#### QUESTION 5

A noted communication researcher has found that 7 percent of our feelings and attitudes are communicated with words, 38 percent through tone of voice, and 55 percent with nonverbal expressions. These facts tell us that the communications channels over which we have the most control – and understand the best – have the least amount of impact, and that the channels over which we have the least control – and understand the least – have the most impact.

How much of our communication with other people is with words?

- A. 7 percent
- B. 38 percent
- C. 55 percent
- D. Depends upon which communication channel it goes through.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

According to the passage, only 7 percent of our feelings and attitudes are communicated with words.

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