



# Multiple-choice, choose single answer

## Question Bank

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### Official Guide

(Lauren Kennedy, 2012)

1.

Indigenous Americans: The Sioux

Sioux or Dakota, is a confederation of Native North American tribes, the dominant group of the Hokan-Siouan linguistic stock, which is divided into several separate branches. The Sioux, or Dakota, consisted of seven tribes in three major divisions: Wahpekute, Mdewakantonwan, Wahpetonwan and Sisonwan (which together formed the Santee or Eastern division, sometimes referred to as the Dakota); the Ihanktonwan or Yankton, and the Ihanktonwana or Yanktonai (who together formed the Middle division, sometimes referred to as the Nakota); and the Tetonwan or Teton (who together formed the Western division, sometimes referred to as the Lakota). The Tetons, originally a single band, divided into seven sub-bands after the move to the plains. These seven sub-bands include the Hunkpapa, Sicasapa (or Blackfoot), and Oglala.

***The major divisions of the Sioux people or North America are \_\_\_\_\_***

The Wahpekute, Mdewakantonwan, Wahpetonwan and Sisonwan

The Santee, the Nakota and the Lakota

The Hunkpapa, Sicasapa (or Blackfoot), and Oglala

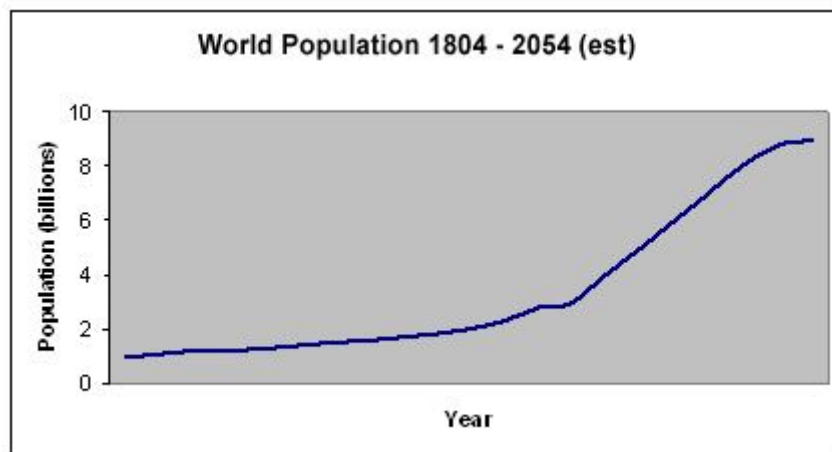
The Santee, the Eastern Division and Dakota.

2.

On October 12, 1999, the United Nations Population Fund estimated that the world's population reached six billion, celebrating the occasion as the "Day of 6 Billion." At two minutes past midnight, a male baby born in Bosnia was symbolically designated the world's six billionth person by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Different Estimates of the actual population turning point exist, most notably the one by the US Census Bureau.

According to the Census Bureau, the world population reached the 6 billion mark on July 19, 1999, at about 12:24:02 a.m. GMT (July 18 at 8:24:02 p.m. EST). Every minute there are an estimated 250 births and 103 deaths in the world, which equals an increase of 147 people every sixty seconds.



**The main idea contained in this text deals with** \_\_\_\_\_

The key differences in methodology used by the United Nations Population Fund versus the US Census Bureau.

The rate at which the population grew between 19 July and 12 October 1999

The assessment of the net rate of global population increase, which is currently 250 people per minute.

The estimated points in time at which the world's population reached a given figure.

3.

Excise taxes are governmental levies on specific good produced and consumed inside a country. They differ from tariffs, which usually apply only to foreign-made goods, and from sales taxes, which typically apply to all commodities other than those specifically exempted. In their modern form, excise taxes were first developed by Holland in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and established by law in England in 1643. Introduced into the Dutch colonies in America, the system spread to other colonies. Such taxes were first used by the federal government (1802) in Thomas Jefferson's administration. During the War of 1812 comprehensive excise taxes were levied again but were repealed in 1817.

**According to this text, how do excise taxed usually differ from tariffs?**

Excise taxed are levied on all products, while tariffs apply to government-made goods.

Excise taxed are levied on specifically identified commodities while tariffs apply to all goods.

Excise taxes are levied on goods produced and consumed in one country, while tariffs apply to imports.

Excise taxed are levied on goods to which sales tax does not apply, while tariffs only apply to good with tax imposed.

4.

Angkor was the site of several capital pf the Khmer Empire, north of Tönlê Sap lake, in northwest Cambodia. For about five and half centuries (9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>), it was the heart of the empire. Extending over an area of 120 sq mi (323 sq km), the ruins contains some of the most imposing monuments in the world, including about a thousand temples, mainly Hindu and some Buddhist, the ancient city, however, had an extent perhaps nearly 10 times that size (according to satellite photographs published in 2007), and was home to perhaps 750,000 people.

**The ancient city of Angkor \_\_\_\_\_**

was similar in size to the Tönlê Sap lake

covered an area of approximately 750,000 square metres

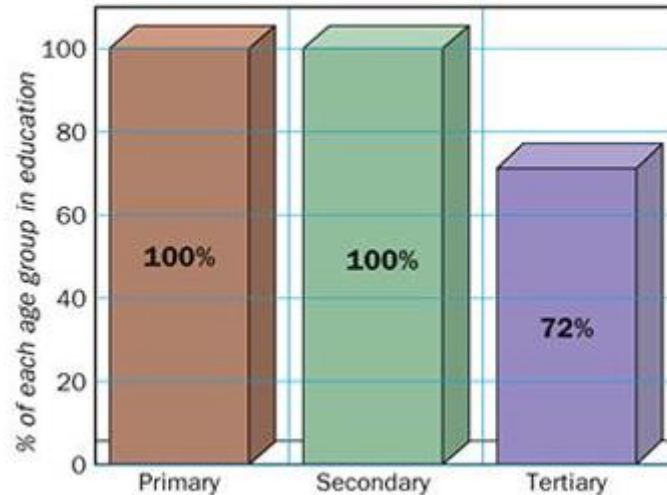
was built on the ruins of thousands temples

was significantly larger than the site today

5.

Education in Australia is a state responsibility, except in Canberra where it is funded by the federal government. State education departments run the government schools and set the policies for educational practice and standards for all schools.

Non-government schools, run by religious and other groups, exist in all states. Special provision is made for inaccessible outback areas, with modern technologies bringing teaching to the bush. Schooling is compulsory from age 5-6 to age 15-16 in all states. After their final year at school, students sit for the Higher School Certificate (HSC). Universities and independent of state control are funded by the federal government.



**The overall purpose of the passage is to \_\_\_\_\_**

- compare the key similarities and differences between government and non-government schools in Australia
- provide a brief introduction to the main aspects of the Australian education system.
- advise on the ages of compulsory education in Australia
- explain the technologies and policies in place to assist those students living in remote areas of Australia

6.

It's only a little over 200 years since Tasmania was completely wild – wild from a European's perspective, at least. By the time the first British settlers arrived, Aboriginal people had occupied Tasmania for more than 30,000 years. Their feasting sites were marked by hills of shells on the island's coastlines, and their use of fire as a land-management tool had left an enduring mark on its botanical communities. But the land bore few others signs of their presence. Until the early 1800s, Tasmania remained free of roads and towns, its forests had never seen an axe or saw, and its rivers flowed freely to the sea. It must have been one of the Earth's most beautiful places.

**According to the passage, a significant human impact on the Tasmanian environment first began \_\_\_\_\_**

- a little over 200 years ago and was caused by Aboriginal people
- some 30,000 years ago with the arrival of Aboriginal people
- a little over 200 years ago with the arrival of British settlers
- some 30,000 years ago with the arrival of British settlers

7.

Other criminologists, political scientists, and similarly learned forecasters laid out the same horrible future, as did President Clinton. "We know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around," Clinton said, "or our country is going to be living with chaos." ...The smart money was plainly on the criminals. And then, instead of going up and up and up, crime began to fall. And fall and fall and fall some more. The crime drop was starting in several respects. It was ubiquitous, with every category of crime falling in every part of the country. It was persistent, with incremental decreases year after year. And it was entirely unanticipated – especially by the very experts who had been predicting the opposite.

***Why was the fall in the crime rate particularly surprising?***

It was interspersed with six years of steeply rising rates of crime.

It occurred despite fewer people expressing an interest in crime and justice policies.

It had been predicted by the then US President, Bill Clinton.

It occurred in all criminal categories and persisted for a number of years.

## Practice Test Plus

(Kate Chandler, 2013)

1. Huge reserves of energy have been found in rocks far below the surface of the ground in Britain. It is estimated that the north and southwest regions could hold enough energy in the form of heat to provide power for millions of homes. In fact, up to a fifth of Britain's energy could be provided by this geothermal source. Extracting the heat and converting it into electricity is difficult and expensive. Thousands of bore holes would be needed; but once they were in place, the heat would keep regenerating indefinitely.

***What is the writer's main purpose in this paragraph?***

- A to show how common the use of geothermal power is in Britain
  - B to describe the problems related to using geothermal power in Britain
  - C to highlight the potential benefits of geothermal power for Britain
  - D to give a detailed description of how geothermal energy is produced in Britain
2. People tend to think that any new technology or device is an act of genius; something that has required vision and insight to create and then develop into a marketable product. The fact is that innovations were often already 'out there' in the public domain in some form or another. They tend to evolve from notions that have been around for years but that had not, until that point, been suitably adapted. One expert calls this the 'long nose' approach to innovation, whereby new concepts come into the world slowly, gradually revealing all they have to offer.

***What is the writer's main point about innovation?***

- A Many new products fail to interest consumers.

- B New products are not always based on new ideas.
- C Creators of new products require a unique set of skills.
- D New products are easy to distinguish from old ones.

3. Submarine operators have been alerted to the dangers of sea snails in a recent study. An international research team says the hardy deep-sea animals latch on to the submarines used by scientists, potentially spreading disease in pristine ecosystems.

The limpet is a sea snail that lives 2.000 metres underwater but can also survive in air when a submarine emerges from the water. If it goes unnoticed, the limpet can find itself in another habitat the next time the submarine is used. As 90 per cent of limpets are infected by parasites, this poses a threat to the ecosystem; but thoroughly cleaning the submarines will solve the problem.

***What problem does the article mention in relation to sea snails?***

- A Research into sea snails has been harming the animals themselves.
- B Sea snails are being carried by submarines to places where they harm other species.
- C Sea snails are spreading diseases to the research scientists on submarines.
- D Dirty submarines are endangering the well-being of the sea snails that attach themselves.

4. The Graphic Design degree provides students with a nurturing environment for learning, developing aesthetic appreciation and design skills with an emphasis on media and marketing. Students have the chance to develop their personal style, while broadening their technical repertoire as designers.

The academic staff are former working artists, theorists and designers who have been successful in achieving major awards, commissions and research grants. The facilities for the graphic design program include spacious design studios, colour and monochrome darkrooms and photography studios. Students will develop skills at a professional working standard in all computer-based programs that the design industry requires.

***What does the Graphic Design degree offer students?***

- A experience working on new magazines
- B the opportunity to apply for funds to help with their study
- C teachers who have practical experience in a creative field
- D the use of state-of-the-art cameras

5. Governments, business and many types of institutions collect, organise and record statistics. Statistics capture vital information about such things as the economy, population and the environment and therefore allow meaningful comparisons to be made. This can then inform

decisions and plans made about such issues which in turn become public policies. While it may be the issues behind the statistics, rather than the statistics as such that command the public's attention, it must be recognised that it is the figures that inform these issues.

***The author considers statistics to be important because***

- A they are recorded by official organisations.
- B the general public have an interest in them.
- C they are affected by plans and policies.
- D they assist in driving public issues.

6. There are innumerable different species on the planet. Nobody really knows how many species there are, although many scientists have tried to estimate it. However, the complexity of trying to do this makes it impossible to establish a definitive number with any confidence. This is probably due to the fact that new species are continually appearing, while at the same time existing species evolve and some become extinct. In the past, the number of new species appearing exceeded the number of those dying out. Nowadays, however, due to human activity, this trend has reversed and as a result we are in danger of seriously disturbing our ecosystem.

***Why is it difficult to establish the number of species globally?***

- A There are too many species to count them all.
- B The number of species is constantly changing.
- C Currently, more species are appearing than are becoming extinct.
- D Human action has upset the balance of the natural environment.

7. It is a curious tradition that the clock on the tower of Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford is always five minutes later than standard British time. The explanation for this lies in the conservative nature of the Cathedral's clergy. It was only when the railways arrived in the middle of the nineteenth century that it became important for clocks throughout the country to be synchronised, however difficult this might be. When the Cathedral was asked to come into line, the clergy discussed the request but decided that this was an idea that needed to prove its worth before being adopted.

***Why does Christ Church Cathedral clock give a different time from other British churches?***

- A Oxford likes to be different from other places.
- B It was initially a protest against the coming of the railway.
- C Cathedral staff were reluctant to act too quickly.
- D It was very difficult to alter the time on the clock.



8. Zebras are members of the horse family. However, these 'stripey horses' are not used for riding. Keen riders have occasionally attempted to try. Although zebras have at times let someone sit on their back, the rider soon discovered that a zebra's neck is stiffer than a horse's, lacking the suppleness that enables riders to control the horse. The structure of a zebra's back also makes it less suitable for riding. It would undoubtedly be possible to breed zebras that would ride well, but with the arrival of the internal combustion engine there has not been much incentive to do so.

***What is the writer's conclusion about zebras?***

- A Zebras are not as similar to horses as they initially appear.
- B People have little motivation to develop a zebra that could be ridden.
- C It is unlikely that people could develop a zebra that would be good to ride.
- D Motorised vehicles are gradually reducing the numbers of zebras that are being bred.

## Test Builder

(Taylor, 2012)

1.

"Rightly is they called pigs," said Rowley, a farm labourer looking at the wallowing animals before passing on to the cow sheds, in Aldous Huxley's novel *Chrome Yellow*. Those who heard his words commented on his wisdom.

This raises all sorts of questions about language and how we perceive the world, questions that range from the philosophical to the politically correct (PC) use of language and the question of causing offence - for example, calling someone a pig.

Those who believed in being PC tried to adjust language to take into account people's sensitivities in the areas of race, sexuality and disability, and a theologian has recently written that we should do the same for the animal kingdom. To call them "wild" or "beasts" is, he says, "derogatory and offensive". I'm all in favor of animal welfare, but, in arguing his case, he says that language is the means by which we understand and conceptualize the world around us.

But is it? Isn't it the other way round? To put it another, very simple, way: do you believe that the language you use has made you think of the world in a certain way, or that you have an idea of the world as it is and your place in it, and you use language to understand and describe it?

Is Rowley's wisdom based on his many years working with farm animals, and what he has seen is just pigs being pigs and there's nothing more to be said? Or has he decided that the name "pig" suits these creatures because they behave piggishly? If we cleaned them up, taught them table manners and made them wear a tie, would we have to call them something else?

***What is the main reason for the writer mentioning Rowley?***



- 1 Because he is a farm laborer.
- 2 To illustrate his view about the use of language.
- 3 To support the idea that we should be politically correct when talking about animals.
- 4 To bring some humor into his text.

2.

These days you can fit hundreds of books into one e-book reader or smartphone, and this has led publishers, writers and readers alike to ask whether this means the death of the printed book and a drastic change in how we read. Or, as some hope and believe, will the electronic book format simply complement traditional book publishing?

The fact that a book can be downloaded from almost anywhere in the world has blurred the lines between author, reader, format and distribution, and this has caused some head-scratching at some of the world's biggest publishing companies. Such companies must adapt, and quickly, to the new market; but many are nervous of the risks and often shareholders are not willing to break new ground.

For many writers, however, e-publishing provides new freedoms and opportunities. Many e-books are published by writers who do not have a readership through mainstream publishers, and this allows them to deal with material that mainstream publishers would consider too controversial or otherwise unmarketable.

The market is very much driven by the consumer, and publishing companies are going to have to deal with this new situation sooner or later. It is quite a complicated situation, but it doesn't have to be either/or. The book as we know it has been around for about 500 years and, once things settle down, there is no reason why the e-book and the traditional printed book should not exist happily side by side.

***Which of the following statements is true according to the text?***

- 1 E-publishing has created new possibilities for writers.
- 2 Publishing companies have been unable to adapt to the new market.
- 3 E-books will radically alter our reading habits.
- 4 Most e-books are not by conventionally-published writers.
- 5 Sales of e-books are likely to overtake sales of traditional books.

3.

So far, we have been looking at the work of humanist historians in the Renaissance and the new way in which they approached their subject. Not only did they use close reading of ancient texts, as you would expect, but they also did a lot of research in the archives. That is, they didn't just read the historians that came before them, they looked for real documents. For example, they studied the

records of cases that went to court, official letters that had survived, and so on to get a fuller picture of how people really lived and went about their business.

These same techniques of historical research were used in what we can call "legal humanism". The idea here was to get as accurate a picture as possible of the law and its practice in ancient, especially Roman, times. Legal historians did this with a view to refining the laws and applying them to the present historical situation. Legal scholarship's original desire to recover and purify the heritage of the ancient world later came to be distorted by political views, but even here, in the 16th century, such intense study could lead to unexpected conclusions. For example, in France, inquiries meant to uncover and apply the legal wisdom of the Romans ended by uncovering a Roman law so pure that it was totally alien. This law, in fact, belonged to the past and to a different society, and was therefore unusable.

***What was the ultimate aim of legal scholarship?***

- 1 To purify the ancient legal system.
- 2 To promote humanism in general.
- 3 To apply Roman law to their own society.
- 4 To perfect techniques of historical research.

4.

When it comes to an organ of such complexity as the eye, it is not difficult to understand why some people cannot accept that such perfection was arrived at by the trial and error, or gradual development, of natural selection. Yet people thought the Earth stood still until Copernicus told them otherwise. In the same way, it shouldn't be hard to believe that a complex eye could be formed by natural selection if it can be shown that there were numerous stages from a simple and imperfect eye to a complex and perfect one, with each development being useful to its possessor and the variations being inherited.

However, the search for the stages through which an organ in any one species has come to perfection, which ideally would mean looking exclusively at its past generations, is rarely possible. Therefore, researchers are forced to examine species and genera of the same group to discover what stages or gradual developments are possible. Even the state of development of the same organ in a different class of creature may throw light on the steps taken towards perfection.

Some people object that in order for the eye to modify and still remain a useful instrument to its owner, many changes would have had to take place simultaneously. However, it is not necessary to suppose this if the modifications were extremely slight and gradual.

***Why are researchers forced to look outside a specific species for clues to gradual development?***

- 1 Because the eye is so complex and perfect already.
- 2 Because evidence of its ancestors is almost impossible to find.
- 3 Because the eye cannot change without losing its usefulness.
- 4 Because other species have more complex eyes.

5.

By the 15th century, the various Zulu chiefdoms had reached the south-eastern part of Southern Africa. They were largely cattle farmers and cultivators who lived in scattered villages across the land. Like other African peoples at this time, they lived within a system of clans and tribes under independent chiefs until, in the latter part of the 18th century, the system changed, possibly due to land shortage, and a number of larger political groupings were formed. The most powerful among these were the Mthethwa under the leadership of Dingiswayo, who radically changed some aspects of traditional life during his reign.

Formerly, military activity was based on local recruitment; men from a district would fight together under their chief. So, in order to create a large unified fighting force and control the fierce rivalry between supporters of different groups, Dingiswayo reorganized his army along the lines of age rather than old local allegiances. Thus, men of a particular age group, regardless of clan or residence, formed a regiment whose loyalty was to the king alone. Fathers and sons fought in different regiments and men from the same district found themselves in completely different groups, and as a result local rivalry was prevented.

This was the basic military system that Shaka, the most famous Zulu chief, inherited and built on.

***Which of the following is mentioned as one of the changes made to the Zulus' traditional life?***

- 1 They no longer farmed or cultivated the land.
- 2 Fathers and sons fought against each other.
- 3 The army was arranged in a new way.
- 4 Rivalry between villages was encouraged.

6.

The Second World War brought a period of austerity and tough rationing in Britain, especially for food: before the war Britain had imported about 55 million tons of food, but, only a month after the war began, this had dropped to 12 million. Strangely enough, this period also saw a general improvement in health standards across the country. Rationing began at the beginning of 1940 and lasted until July 1954 when the last restrictions on meat were lifted.

Everyone was issued with an identity card and each household had a ration book. Then they had to register with a local supplier of food whose name was stamped in the ration book so that you could only buy your ration from that supplier, and only the amount you were allowed. The books contained coupons which the shopkeepers cut out every time you made a purchase, and the amount you were allowed depended, to a certain extent, on the color of your ration book. The majority of adults had a buff or brownish book. Then there was the green book for pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under five, and this allowed them first choice of fruit, a daily pint of milk and a double supply of eggs. Children between the ages of 5 and 16 had a blue book, which allowed them fruit, a full meat ration and half a pint of milk a day.

The idea was to make as sure as possible that everybody got a fair share of the food available, the worry being that as food and other consumer goods became scarcer, prices would rise and the less

well-off might not be able to pay. However, some thought it unfair, as people living in rural areas could get hold of eggs, butter and milk fairly easily without coupons.

**According to the text, which of the following statements is true?**

- 1 Teenagers were allotted more milk than other age groups.
- 2 People who lived in the country didn't have to pay for eggs and butter.
- 3 People had a healthier diet under rationing.
- 4 Pregnant women were allowed twice as many eggs as other adults.

7.

On meeting a person for the first time, our first question is often "What do you do?" That is, we ask what they do for a living, what their job is, because we feel this will help us place them. It helps us to define their status. We can judge where they stand socially, we can make a guess at how much they earn, and through that what kind of a standard of living they can afford. In addition, it can give us a fairly good idea of their educational background.

The problem is that people often choose a career for the wrong reasons. For instance, some people follow in the footsteps of a parent, either entering the same trade or profession, or inheriting the family business. Others make exactly the opposite decision, either out of a fierce desire for independence, or to spite a parent, or simply to get away from family. They decide that whatever else they might do, they will certainly not do what their mother or father did.

People may also persuade themselves to pursue a career for which they are unsuited out of hero-worship, or as a result of meeting people they admire. It is a pity that we have to make such an important decision about our future career at a stage in our lives when we are so easily influenced by factors which have little or nothing to do with the central issue, namely, that we should do those things for which we have a natural talent.

**Which of the following is not given as an example of a wrong reason for choosing a career?**

- 1 Doing the same job as one's parents.
- 2 Doing a job that suits your abilities.
- 3 Deliberately not joining the family business.
- 4 Following the career path of someone you admire.

8.

Politically, the Roman Empire laid the foundations on which modern Europe was built. Culturally, partly through native genius and partly through absorbing the achievements of the older and richer culture of Greece, its literature became the basis of European values, in particular those values that arise out of the individual's relationship to their society. Rome began to produce literature between 300 and 100 BC at about the same time as it was conquering the rich Greek colonies in the south of Italy.

Roman writers and orators began to expand their imaginative and intellectual horizons and refine the Latin language through the study of Greek literature. Early Roman literature had been basically of two kinds: the recording and examination of public life and behavior through life stories of famous men, and the particularly Roman art of satirical comedy and drama.

There were those, however, who objected to the Greek influence, most notably Cato the Censor, who did his best to uphold the virtues of no-nonsense Latin prose against Greek luxury. More typical, and in the end more successful, was the poet Ennius, who managed to keep a balance between Greek and Latin values by writing a Homeric epic poem in Latin idiom, but using Greek poetic metre.

**According to the text, which of the following statements is true of ancient Roman literature?**

- 1 It was mainly the biographies of famous men.
- 2 It was deeply influenced by Greek writing.
- 3 It was mostly satirical.
- 4 It was subject to heavy censorship.

## References

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