

## Text Completion

**Direction:** Text Completion questions include a passage composed of one to five sentences with one to three blanks. There are three answer choices per blank, or five answer choices if there is a single blank. There is a single correct answer, consisting of one choice for each blank. You receive no credit for partially correct answers.

1. Scrooge, in the famous novel by Dickens, was a \_\_\_\_ ; he hated the rest of mankind.
- A. misanthrope
  - B. hypochondriac
  - C. philanthropist
  - D. hedonist
  - E. sybarite

2. A businessman must (i)\_\_\_\_ his horizons; a (ii)\_\_\_\_ attitude will get you nowhere in this age of global communications.

**Blank 1**

- A. limit
- B. foresee
- C. widen

**Blank 2**

- D. parochial
- E. moderate
- F. comprehensive

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3. Our bookshelves at home display a range of books on wide-ranging subjects and in many languages, reflecting the \_\_\_\_ tastes of our family members.
- A. anomalous
  - B. limited
  - C. arcane
  - D. furtive
  - E. eclectic

4. We humans are selfish creatures, continuing to (i)\_\_\_\_\_ the use of plastic bags, those (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ symbols of consumer society. Wherever you travel you see them clogging drains, polluting beaches and generally threatening the well-being of the biosphere.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| A. condone   | D. ubiquitous |
| B. attenuate | E. fleeting   |
| C. abrogate  | F. covert     |

5. The preliminary review concludes that Dr. Stuart needs to (i)\_\_\_\_\_ his argument with more experimental data. In its current avatar his thesis is so (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ that it must be deemed (iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

**Blank 3**

- |              |              |               |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| A. define    | D. exigent   | G. succinct   |
| B. bolster   | E. monumetal | H. profound   |
| C. culminate | F. slight    | I. inadequate |

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6. After an initially warm reception by most reviewers and continued \_\_\_\_\_ by conservative thinkers, Bloom's work came under heavy fire.

- A. criticism
- B. endorsement
- C. denigration
- D. counterattack
- E. refutation

7. Through the 19th Century, the classics of Western Civilization were considered the (i)\_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom and culture, and an (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ person – by definition – knew them well.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| A. repository   | D. educated       |
| B. obituary     | E. ecclesiastical |
| C. frontispiece | F. obtuse         |

8. In this biography we are given a glimpse of the young man (i)\_\_\_\_\_ pursuing the path of the poet despite (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ and rejection slips.

**Blank 1**

- A. unsuccessfully
- B. sporadically
- C. doggedly

**Blank 2**

- D. acclaim
- E. disappointment
- F. encouragement

9. While unwilling to forgo the benefits of standardized testing, many European countries are seeking to (i)\_\_\_\_\_ individual (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ which state examinations with their (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ growth have bought in their train.

**Blank 1**

- A. increase control over
- B. diminish the check on
- C. increase awareness of

**Blank 2**

- D. spontaneity
- E. limitations
- F. persecution

**Blank 3**

- G. randomizing effects
- H. tyrannous growth
- I. empowering actions

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10. In keeping with his own (i)\_\_\_\_\_ in international diplomacy, Churchill proposed a personal meeting of heads of government, but the effort was (ii)\_\_\_\_\_, as the temper of the times was (iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Blank 1**

- A. peccadilloes
- B. aversions
- C. predilections

**Blank 2**

- D. doomed to failure
- E. instantly accepted
- F. considered worthwhile

**Blank 3**

- G. amicable
- H. auspicious
- I. inimical

11. Stephen was always (i)\_\_\_\_\_ ; in fact, his own father described him as having a(n) (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ vacillation.

**Blank 1**

- A. indecisive
- B. earnest
- C. volatile

**Blank 2**

- D. concern for
- E. propensity for
- F. aversion to

12. The cricket match seemed \_\_\_\_ to our guests; they were used to watching sports in which the action is over in a couple of hours at the most.
- A. unintelligible
  - B. inconsequential
  - C. interminable
  - D. implausible
  - E. evanescent

13. Our present accountant is most (i)\_\_\_\_ ; unlike the previous (ii)\_\_\_\_ incumbent, he has never made a mistake in all the years that he has worked for the firm.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. pusillanimous</li> <li>B. punctilious</li> <li>C. asinine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D. craven</li> <li>E. unreliable</li> <li>F. mercenary</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

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14. The refugee's poor grasp of English is hardly an \_\_\_\_\_ problem; she can attend classes and improve within a matter of months.
- A. implausible
  - B. insuperable
  - C. inconsequential
  - D. evocative
  - E. injudicious

15. The (i)\_\_\_\_ shades of meaning, and still subtler echoes of association, make language an instrument which scarcely anything short of genius can wield with (ii)\_\_\_\_ and (iii)\_\_\_\_ .

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

**Blank 3**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. eloquent</li> <li>B. nuanced</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D. sincerity</li> <li>E. certainty</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G. alacrity</li> <li>H. precision</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|



- A. contends
- B. fears
- C. demurs
- D. predisposed
- E. taught
- F. encouraged

20. The pond was a place of reek and corruption, of \_\_\_\_ smells and of oxygen-starved fish breathing through laboring gills.
- A. fragrant
  - B. evocative
  - C. dolorous
  - D. resonant
  - E. fetid

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21. The crew of the air balloon \_\_\_\_ the sand bags to help the balloon rise over the hill.
- A. capsized
  - B. jettisoned
  - C. salvaged
  - D. augmented
  - E. enumerated

22. We were not fooled by his (i) \_\_\_\_ arguments; his plan was (ii) \_\_\_\_ . That even he was (iii) \_\_\_\_ by his own reasoning was apparent from his unenthusiastic demeanor.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

**Blank 3**

- |                 |                        |                |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| A. specious     | D. obviously untenable | G. duped       |
| B. cogent       | E. clearly brilliant   | H. persuaded   |
| C. labyrinthine | F. cunningly contrived | I. unconvinced |

23. Hawkins is \_\_\_\_ in his field; no other contemporary scientist commands the same respect.
- A. disparaged

- B. ignominious
- C. obsolete
- D. anachronistic
- E. preeminent

24. The model paraded in front of the celebrities with (i)\_\_\_\_ ; it was impossible to tell that this was her (ii)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. trepidation</li> <li>B. consternation</li> <li>C. panache</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D. first assignment</li> <li>E. normal gait</li> <li>F. real persona</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

25. English words and expressions have come into being (i)\_\_\_\_, and some common expressions are decidedly illogical. The term lead pencil, for example, is a (ii)\_\_\_\_ ; pencils are filled with graphite not lead.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. haphazardly</li> <li>B. rationally</li> <li>C. ab initio</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D. misdemeanor</li> <li>E. misnomer</li> <li>F. euphemism</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

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26. When the (i)\_\_\_\_ weather forced us to stay indoors, we resorted to (ii)\_\_\_\_ board games to pass the time. Anything, however (iii)\_\_\_\_, was better in our present troubled state of mind than sitting in silence.

**Blank 1**

**Blank 2**

**Blank 3**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. congenial</li> <li>B. restorative</li> <li>C. inclement</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D. inane</li> <li>E. exhilarating</li> <li>F. challenging</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G. time consuming</li> <li>H. vacuous</li> <li>I. versatile</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|

27. It will be hard to (i)\_\_\_\_ Leonid now that you have so (ii)\_\_\_\_ him.

**Blank 1**

- A. indict
- B. mollify
- C. lampoon

**Blank 2**

- D. subjugated
- E. incensed
- F. bemused

28. Edward was understandably upset that he had lost the position, but he was (i)\_\_\_\_\_ by the conviction that he had done nothing to (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ the dismissal.

**Blank 1**

- A. saddened
- B. miffed
- C. consoled

**Blank 2**

- D. merit
- E. mar
- F. delay

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29. She was roundly condemned for her \_\_\_\_\_; she betrayed the woman to whom she owed her success.

- A. truculence
- B. perfidy
- C. serendipity
- D. Pragmatism
- E. discernment

30. Our grandfather was an entertaining (i)\_\_\_\_\_; he used to (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ us with marvelous anecdotes that we, in our childlike simplicity, (iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Blank 1**

- A. raconteur
- B. rascal
- C. curmudgeon

**Blank 2**

- D. intimidate
- E. regale
- F. bore

**Blank 3**

- G. accepted unquestioningly
- H. debated ferociously
- I. debunked readily



## END OF TEST

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