

Directions: Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

For questions 1-8:

“A Daily Record”

A diary is a daily personal record. In it the writer is free to record anything at all. This may include events, comments, ideas, reading notes, or any subject on one’s mind. Diaries may be kept for various purposes – to record the experiences of one’s life so as not to forget them, to record ideas that might prove useful, or simply to express oneself through the medium of the printed word. In past centuries people in public life often kept diaries. These have become valuable sources of fact and interpretation for later historians. The private candid observations set down in these personal journals often provide truer pictures of an age than do records or other books, which may have been censored during that time. For the most part, these diaries were never intended to be read by others. The entries were made simply as aids to memory or as a form of relaxation.

In modern times, however, politicians and other people realize that their diaries will likely be read by historians or, in published form, by the public. Thus, they may make entries with these readers in mind. As a result, their diaries may lose the confidential, intimate nature of the older ones. On the other hand, their entries may tend to be more complete and self-explanatory. The most famous diary ever written in English was that kept by Samuel Pepys. A civilian official of the British army, Pepys made regular entries between 1660 and 1669. His diary starts at the beginning of the Restoration period in English history and describes many of the court intrigues and scandals of his day. The diary reveals Pepys as a man with many human weaknesses but one who was honest with himself. He wrote his entries in a combined code and shorthand that was not solved until more than 100 years after his death. The most famous diary of the 20th century was published with the simple title *Diary of a Young Girl*. It was more commonly known as *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Anne was a young Jewish girl whose diary records the two years her family spent in hiding, mostly in the Netherlands, trying to escape the Nazi persecutors of the Jews. She and her family were finally caught in August 1944. She was imprisoned and died at a concentration camp in Germany in March 1945.

1. A diary is

A. a report on world events



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B. a daily personal record

C. a documentary

2. The most famous diary ever written in English was kept by

A. Samuel Johnson

B. Samuel Pepys

C. Anne Frank

3. *Diary of a Young Girl* was written

A. during the civil war

B. in the 1940s

C. during the 19th century

4. Anne Frank's diary describes

A. the years her family spent hiding from the Nazis

B. a German concentration camp

C. the life of an average young girl

5. Diaries of the past may give a truer picture of an age than published books because

A. diaries are uncensored

B. published books give only one point of view

C. amateur writers were more thorough than professional writers

6. Today's diarists may not be as confidential as those in the past because

A. they expect that their diaries will be read by others



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- B. they have more secrets to hide
- C. people today are harsher critics

7. You may conclude from the article that Samuel Pepys wrote his diary in code and shorthand because

- A. he was fond of mysteries
- B. he did not want his diary to be read by the wrong people
- C. he could not write in proper English

8. It is probable that most people keep diaries in order to

- A. become famous
- B. keep personal records
- C. practice their writing skills

For questions 9-12:

Between us there was, as I have already said somewhere, the bond of the sea. Besides holding our hearts together through long periods of separation, it had the effect of making us tolerant of each other's yarns-and even convictions. The Lawyer-the best of old fellows-had, because of his many years and many virtues, the only cushion on deck, and was lying on the only rug. The Accountant had brought out already a box of dominoes and was toying architecturally with the bones. Marlow sat cross-legged right aft, leaning against the mizzenmast. He had sunken cheeks, a yellow complexion, a straight back, an ascetic aspect, and, with his arms dropped, the palms of hands outwards, resembled an idol. The Director, satisfied the anchor had good hold, made his way aft and sat down amongst us. We exchanged a few words lazily. Afterwards there was silence on board the yacht. For some reason or other we did not begin that game of dominoes. We felt meditative and fit for nothing but placid staring. The day was ending in a serenity of still and exquisite brilliance. The water shone pacifically; the sky, without a speck, was a benign immensity of unstained light; the very mist on the Essex marshes was like a gauzy and radiant fabric, hung

from the wooded rises inland, and draping the low shores in diaphanous folds. Only the gloom to the west, brooding over the upper reaches, became more sombre every minute, as if angered by the approach of the sun. And at last, in its curved and imperceptible fall, the sun sank low, and from glowing white changed to a dull red without rays and without heat, as if about to go out suddenly, stricken to death by the touch of that gloom brooding over a crowd of men. From 'The Heart of Darkness', by Joseph Conrad

9. The narrator of this passage is telling his story from:

- A. a wharf.
- B. the deck of a yacht.
- C. a high vantage point.
- D. the edge of the Essex marshes.
- E. None of the above.

10. The mood of the men in this passage is best described as:

- A. surly.
- B. resigned.
- C. contemplative.
- D. restless.
- E. ecstatic.

11. From the passage, it is clear that the men:

- A. do not get along.
- B. show a quiet understanding.
- C. cannot be bothered with one another.
- D. have just had a quarrel.
- E. are worn out.

12. The word 'diaphanous', used to describe the mist, means:
- A. almost transparent.
 - B. fragile.
 - C. suffocating.
 - D. silent
 - E. none of the above.

For questions 13-15:

Of all the farm animals a person might own, the goat is the best personal pet. For one thing, you can keep it for a longer time than other farm animals. Even after a doe is fully-grown and you are milking her, she will remain your pet. She will not lose her love of adventure or her "sense of humor". Goats nose over everything they see, and they eat so many different things that people long ago thought that goats ate tin cans. A doe, often called a nanny goat, usually has a single birth. Sometimes, however, twins or even triplets are born. By the time a young kid is five months old; it may be taken from its mother and kept as a pet.

13. The writer implies that most farm animals
- A. are hard to train
 - B. enjoy being with people
 - C. become independent as they grow older
 - D. like to live with other animals
14. The above paragraph suggests that goats are
- A. stubborn



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- B. patient
- C. curious
- D. intelligent

15. According to the paragraph, the idea that goats can eat tin cans

- A. is based on a fact
- B. was argued many years ago
- C. is untrue
- D. is certainly possible

For questions 16-20:

Mount Vesuvius, a volcano located between the ancient Italian cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, has received much attention because of its frequent and destructive eruptions. The most famous of these eruptions occurred in A. D. 79. The volcano had been inactive for centuries. There was little warning of the coming eruption, although one account unearthed by archaeologists says that a hard rain and a strong wind had disturbed the celestial calm during the preceding night. Early the next morning, the volcano poured a huge river of molten rock down upon Herculaneum, completely burying the city and filling in the harbor with coagulated lava. Meanwhile, on the other side of the mountain, cinders, stone and ash rained down on Pompeii. Sparks from the burning ash ignited the combustible rooftops quickly. Large portions of the city were destroyed in the conflagration. Fire, however, was not the only cause of destruction. Poisonous sulphuric gases saturated the air. These heavy gases were not buoyant in the atmosphere and therefore sank toward the earth and suffocated people. Over the years, excavations of Pompeii and Herculaneum have revealed a great deal about the behavior of the volcano. By analyzing data, much as a zoologist dissects a specimen animal, scientist have concluded that the eruption changed large portions of the area's geography. For instance, it turned the Sarno River from its course and raised the level of the beach along the Bay of Naples. Meteorologists studying these events have also concluded that Vesuvius caused a huge tidal wave that affected the world's climate. In addition to making these investigations, archaeologists



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have been able to study the skeletons of victims by using distilled water to wash away the volcanic ash. By strengthening the brittle bones with acrylic paint, scientists have been able to examine the skeletons and draw conclusions about the diet and habits of the residents. Finally, the excavations at both Pompeii and Herculaneum have yielded many examples of classical art, such as jewelry made of bronze, which is an alloy of copper and tin. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius and its tragic consequences have provided us with a wealth of data about the effects that volcanoes can have on the surrounding area. Today volcanologists can locate and predict eruptions, saving lives and preventing the destruction of cities and cultures.

16. Herculaneum and its harbor were buried under ____ lava.

- A. liquid
- B. solid
- C. flowing
- D. gas
- E. answer not available

17. The poisonous gases were not ____ in the air.

- A. able to float
- B. visible
- C. able to evaporate
- D. invisible
- E. able to condense

18. Scientists analyzed data about Vesuvius in the same way that a zoologist ____ a specimen.

- A. describes in detail
- B. studies by cutting apart
- C. photographs



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D. chart

E. answer not available

19. ____ have concluded that the volcanic eruption caused a tidal wave.

A. Scientist who studies oceans

B. Scientist who studies atmospheric conditions

C. Scientist who studies ash

D. Scientist who studies animal behavior

E. Answer not available in article

20. Scientist have used ____water to wash away volcanic ash from the skeletons of victims.

A. bottled

B. volcanic

C. purified

D. sea E. fountain



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