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## ENGLISH TEST

45 Minutes—75 Questions

**DIRECTIONS:** In the passages that follow, some words and phrases are underlined and numbered. In the answer column, you will find alternatives for the words and phrases that are underlined. Choose the alternative that you think is best, and fill in the corresponding bubble on your answer sheet. If you think that the original version is best, choose “NO CHANGE,” which will always be either answer choice A or F. You will also find questions about a particular section of the

passage, or about the entire passage. These questions will be identified either by an underlined portion or by a number in a box. Look for the answer that clearly expresses the idea, is consistent with the style and tone of the passage, and makes the correct use of standard written English. Read the passage through once before answering the questions. For some questions, you should read beyond the indicated portion before you answer.

## PASSAGE I

## Hair-raising Problems

Why is it that we are so completely obsessive<sup>1</sup> with the hair on our heads? Millions of dollars are spent each year on cutting hair, lengthening hair, bleaching hair, straightening hair, curling hair, highlighting hair, and even growing hair; whatever you can do to hair, someone is willing to pay the money<sup>2</sup> to do it. Natural redheads long for to be<sup>3</sup> brunettes and dishwater blondes dream of shiny golden tresses. Both men and women cringe at the sight of each gray hair, so<sup>4</sup> teenagers enjoy weekly experiments with magenta dyes, spikes, and tangerine streaks.

All of these thoughts cross my mind as I examine the result of<sup>5</sup> my most recent hair adventure. As a mature

1. A. NO CHANGE  
B. obsessed  
C. obsessing  
D. obsessed
2. F. NO CHANGE  
G. pay  
H. paying money  
J. have paid
3. A. NO CHANGE  
B. to have  
C. to be  
D. becoming for
4. F. NO CHANGE  
G. however  
H. yet  
J. and
5. A. NO CHANGE  
B. result for  
C. result with  
D. result by

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

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woman watching the gray hairs mixing in rapidly with my

6

natural brunette tones, I decided over a year ago, to

7

seen many of my peers go this route, I figured that

highlighting was for to be the answer to my reluctance to

8

[1] The monthly highlighting went well: excepting for

9

“She’ll get it right the next time.” [3] For the most part,

10

bravely approached Donna, my stylist, two months ago

and proclaimed that I was done with wimpy highlighting

and ready to go blonde. [4] The result was not quite what

I expected, but I resolved to live with it! [11] [5] Donna was

surprised at my suggestion, but quickly began sharing my

unbridled enthusiasm as she gathers the appropriate

12

Three months later, I find myself seesawing between

tears and laughter as I attempt to cover up a patch of

13

has long been fanatical about the appearance of her hair,

this absence of hair has proven to be quite a challenge to

my ego and self-confidence. I’ve always enjoyed styling

my hair, and suddenly, I have nothing to style.

6. F. NO CHANGE  
G. rapidly mixing  
H. mixed rapidly in  
J. rapidly mix in to

7. A. NO CHANGE  
B. ago to  
C. ago: to  
D. ago to,

8. F. NO CHANGE  
G. was being  
H. could of been  
J. was

9. A. NO CHANGE  
B. well, except  
C. well except  
D. well. Except

10. F. NO CHANGE  
G. Also  
H. Instead  
J. In light of this

11. For the sake of logic and coherence, Sentence 5 should be placed:  
A. where it is now.  
B. before Sentence 1.  
C. after Sentence 2.  
D. before Sentence 4.

12. F. NO CHANGE  
G. she was gathering  
H. she had been gathering  
J. she gathered

13. A. NO CHANGE  
B. along with  
C. or  
D. as well as

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Each time I begin to experience a new pang of disgust and despair over this new hair anomaly, I once again ask myself why we are so obsessed with the hair on our heads. The answer always comes to me in a flash, in a simple two-word phrase: pure vanity. Soon after this realization, I cease my crying. [14]

14. The writer is considering deleting the preceding sentence. If the sentence was deleted, the essay would primarily lose:
- F. a summary of the essay.
  - G. the narrator's ability to put her situation into perspective.
  - H. a stylistic link to the essay's introduction.
  - J. an understanding of the author's purpose in writing the essay.

Question 15 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

15. Suppose the writer had chosen to write a how-to article for people wanting to change their hair color. Would this essay fulfill the writer's goal?
- A. Yes, because the author's approach to changing her own hair color would ease the anxiety of others wishing to do the same.
  - B. Yes, because this essay emphasizes the universality of people changing their hairstyles and hair color.
  - C. No, because this article only deals with the narrator's own experimentation with her hair and does not provide steps for others to do the same.
  - D. No, because the essay discourages people from changing their hair color.

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**PASSAGE II**

**A Modern Blacksmith**

You will probably never find his name in a history book, but to this day, Walker Lee continues to contribute to

America heritage. Walker Lee is an old-fashioned, modern-

16

day blacksmith who still practices the fine art of

manipulating metal over a hot fire. In his words,

"Blacksmithing is no dying art!"

16. F. NO CHANGE  
G. American heritage.  
H. Americas heritage.  
J. American's heritage.

17. A. NO CHANGE  
B. who still continues to practice  
C. who continues to still practice  
D. who practices still

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**