HUNTER HIGH SCHOOL EXAM PRACTICE QUESTIONS

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Critical Reading

Each of the following passages is followed by questions based on its content. Choose the letter of the answer that best reflects what is stated or implied in the passage.

Reading Passage A

No one intended to leave Martha alone that afternoon, but it happened that everyone was called away, for one reason or another. Quite alone in the house, the little girl read a few pages in her new book, sewed a few stitches in her embroidery and started to play with her four favorite dolls. Then she remembered that in the attic was a doll's playhouse that hadn't been used for months, so she decided she would dust it and put it in order.

Filled with this idea, the girl climbed the winding stairs to the big room under the roof. It was well lighted by three dormer windows and was warm and pleasant. Around the walls were rows of boxes and trunks, piles of old carpeting, pieces of damaged furniture, bundles of discarded clothing and other odds and ends of more or less value. The doll's house had been moved, but after a search Martha found it away over in a corner near the big chimney.

She drew it out and noticed that behind it was a black wooden chest which Uncle Walter had sent over from Italy years and years ago—before Martha was born, in fact. Mamma had told her about it one day; how there was no key to it, because Uncle Walter wished it to remain unopened until he returned home; and how this wandering uncle, who was a mighty hunter, had gone into Africa to hunt elephants and had never been heard from afterwards.

The little girl looked at the chest curiously, now that it had by accident attracted her attention. It was quite big—bigger even than mamma's traveling trunk—and was studded all over with tarnished brass-headed nails. It was heavy, too, for when Martha tried to lift one end of it she found she could not stir it a bit. But there was a place in the side of the cover for a key. She stooped to examine the lock, and saw that it would take a rather big key to open it. Then, as you may suspect, the little girl longed to open Uncle Walter's big box and see what was in it. For we are all curious, and little girls are just as curious as the rest of us.

"I don't believe Uncle Walter will ever come back," she thought. "Papa said once that some elephant must have killed him. If I only had a key—" She stopped and clapped her little hands together as she remembered a big basket of keys on the shelf in the linen closet. They were of all sorts and sizes; perhaps one of them would unlock the mysterious chest!

She flew down the stairs, found the basket and returned with it to the attic. Then she sat down before the brass-studded box and began trying one key after another in the curious old lock. Some were too large, but most were too small. One would go into the lock but would not turn; another stuck so fast that she feared for a time that she would never get it out again. But at last, when the basket was almost empty, an oddly-shaped, ancient brass key slipped easily into

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the lock. With a cry of joy Martha turned the key with both hands; then she heard a sharp "click," and the next moment the heavy lid flew up of its own accord! The little girl leaned over the edge of the chest an instant, and the sight that met her eyes caused her to start back in amazement.

6. Martha went up to the attic because
   a. she wanted to see what was inside her uncle's trunk
   b. she was scared to be downstairs alone
   c. she was looking for a dollhouse
   d. she wanted to explore and find out what was up there
   e. that's where her favorite dolls were stored

7. Which of these statements about Uncle Walter is a fact rather than an opinion expressed by a character in the passage?
   a. Uncle Walter is never coming back.
   b. Uncle Walter was killed by an elephant.
   c. Uncle Walter's trunk could not be opened.
   d. Uncle Walter sent the trunk over from Italy.
   e. Uncle Walter never left Africa.

8. As used in line 28, "curious" means
   a. inquisitive
   b. unusual
   c. naive
   d. ordinary
   e. smart

9. In lines 20-22, the narrator speaks directly to the audience in order to
   a. give information to the audience that only the narrator knows
   b. create distance from Martha
   c. give an aside unrelated to the plot
   d. explain what Martha would find in the trunk
   e. help the audience relate to Martha

10. The "accident" mentioned in line 16 was
   a. Martha being left home alone
   b. Uncle Walter leaving his trunk at Martha's house
   c. Martha finding the trunk
   d. Martha finding the right key to open the trunk
   e. Uncle Walter being killed by an elephant

11. Martha can best be described as
   a. helpless
   b. inquisitive
   c. timid
   d. unhappy
   e. frail

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Reading Passage D

A Thunderstorm

The day was hot and the day was dumb,
Save for cricket's chirp or the bee's low hum,
Not a bird was seen or a butterfly,
And ever till noon was over, the sun
Glared down with a yellow and terrible eye;

Glared down in the woods, where the breathless boughs
Hung heavy and faint in a languid drowse,
And the ferns were curling with thirst and heat;
Glared down on the fields where the sleepy cows
Stood munching the grasses, dry and sweet.

Then a single cloud rose up in the west,
With a base of gray and a white, white crest;
It rose and it spread a mighty wing.
And swooped at the sun, though he did his best
And struggled and fought like a wounded thing.

And the woods awoke, and the sleepers heard,
Each heavily hanging leaflet stirred
With a little expectant quiver and thrill,
As the cloud bent over and uttered a word,—
One volleying, rolling syllable.

And once and again came the deep, low tone
Which only to thunder's lips is known,
And the earth held up her fearless face
And listened as if to a signal blown,—
A trumpet in some heavenly place.

The trumpet of God, obeyed on high,
His signal to open the granary
And send forth his heavily loaded wains
Rambling and roaring down the sky
And scattering the blessed, long-harvested rains.

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12. In the first two stanza's the author describes the weather as
   a. sunny and pleasant
   b. dreary and rainy
   c. painfully hot
   d. dry and cool
   e. thundering and wet

13. The author uses the word "thrill" (line 18) to suggest that
   a. she finds thunderstorms exciting to watch
   b. the coming rain is much-needed
   c. the woods were a scary place
   d. the storm had not been predicted
   e. thunderstorms are very rare in this region

14. As used in line 7, "languid" means
   a. green
   b. wet
   c. weak
   d. shivering
   e. new

15. As used in line 2, "save" means
   a. preserve
   b. hoard
   c. rescue
   d. except
   e. maintain

16. In stanza 3, the cloud
   a. was entirely dark
   b. moved surprisingly fast
   c. began to rain
   d. covered the sun
   e. was low and wispy

17. In lines 13-15, the author compares the cloud to a
   a. sword
   b. bird
   c. sea
   d. trumpet
   e. sheep

18. The author compares the thunder to "a trumpet in some heavenly place" (line 25) in order to
   a. show how loud the thunder was
   b. describe the literal sound of the thunder
   c. imply that the earth was glad to receive the storm
   d. demonstrate the severity of the thunderstorm
   e. portray the storm as intimidating

19. The author calls the rain "blessed" (line 30) because
   a. a drought was causing people to suffer
   b. she believes the rain was actually sent from God
   c. people had been praying for rain
   d. the land had been so dry
   e. the rain further help the already flourishing land

20. As used in line 18, "expectant" means
   a. confident
   b. eager
   c. worried
   d. fearful
   e. relieved

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MATHEMATICS

21. Evaluate the following: 6.8829 + 13.2669

(A) 19.1598 (B) 20.2499 (C) 20.1498 (D) 21.2399 (E) 20.2239

22. If half the positive difference between 4.81 and 2.25 is multiplied by 0.32, the result is:

(A) 2.23 (B) 0.23 (C) 1.82 (D) 0.82 (E) 0.83

23. What is the value of $\left(\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{2}{3}\right) \times \frac{1}{2}$?

(A) 2 (B) 1 (C) $\frac{1}{2}$ (D) $\frac{3}{2}$ (E) $\frac{3}{8}$

24. In lowest terms the product of $\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{5}$, and $\frac{5}{6}$ is:

(A) $\frac{1}{2}$ (B) $\frac{1}{9}$ (C) $\frac{2}{13}$ (D) $\frac{2}{9}$ (E) $\frac{1}{3}$

25. What is the value of the following expression?

$$\frac{\frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{2}}$$

(A) $\frac{2}{3}$ (B) $\frac{20}{41}$ (C) $\frac{2}{37}$ (D) $\frac{20}{39}$ (E) $\frac{12}{27}$

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26. What is the 100^{th} digit in the repeating decimal 0.738401738401…

(A) 4 (B) 7 (C) 3 (D) 8 (E) 0

27. The crafts store charges 49 cents for each of the first five yards of fabric and 30 cents for each additional yard. If you have $10.50, what is the greatest number of yards you could purchase?

(A) 31 (B) 38 (C) 29 (D) 30 (E) 32

28. The oldest three Smith children took reading exams and scored 91%, 89%, and 97% respectively. If the four Smith children had a test average of 92%, what did the youngest child score on the exam?

(A) 90 (B) 91 (C) 92 (D) 93 (E) 94

29. Nick and Tom are racing home. Nick starts on 78^{th} street and runs uptown at a rate of 2 blocks per minute, and Tom runs downtown from 168^{th} street at 3 blocks per minute. On what street will they meet?

(A) 121 (B) 126 (C) 108 (D) 118 (E) 114

30. Marcus is faster than Gabe, but slower than Kate. Gabe is slower than Bethany, who is slower than Josh. Which of the following statements is true?

(A) The fastest person must be Marcus.
(B) The fastest person must be Josh.
(C) The fastest person must be Kate.
(D) Either Kate or Bethany must be the fastest person.
(E) Either Kate or Josh must be the fastest person.

31. The rectangular patio below has a perimeter of 40 feet. The parallelogram is 7 feet tall and half as wide as the patio. What percent of the total area does the parallelogram cover?

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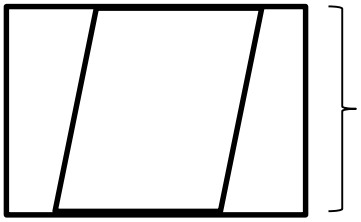

(A) 50% (B) 48% (C) 52% (D) 43% (E) 41%

32. When half the positive difference between the 13th and 23rd natural numbers is added to the 34th even natural number, what is the result? (The natural numbers are 1, 2, 3, 4, …)

(A) 63 (B) 68 (C) 73 (D) 74 (E) 78

33. What is the smallest even natural number that can be written as the sum of three different prime numbers? (A prime number is a number that has only two factors, 1 and itself; 1 is not a prime number.)

(A) 6 (B) 8 (C) 10 (D) 12 (E) 14

34. If Greg has 6 pairs of pants, 5 shirts, and 2 hats, how many complete outfits can he wear? (A complete outfit includes pants, a shirt, and a hat.)

(A) 60 (B) 65 (C) 13 (D) 15 (E) 62

35. In this grid, the dots are spaced one unit apart, horizontally and vertically, creating triangular units. What is the number of triangular units enclosed by the shape?

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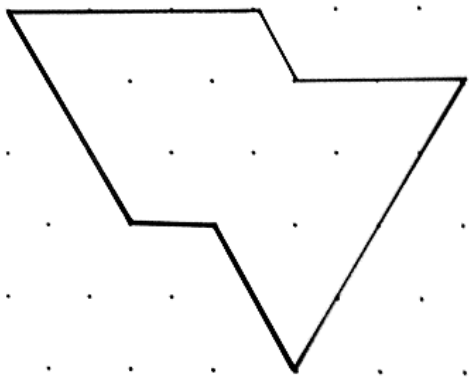

(A) 23 (B) 24 (C) 25 (D) 26 (E) 27

ANSWER KEY

6.	**C**	**28.**	**B**
7.	**D**	**29.**	**E**
8.	**B**	**30.**	**E**
9.	**E**	**31.**	**A**
10.	**C**	**32.**	**C**
11.	**B**	**33.**	**C**
12.	**C**	**34.**	**A**
13.	**B**	**35.**	**D**
14.	**C**		
15.	**D**		
16.	**D**		
17.	**B**		
18.	**C**		
19.	**B**		
20.	**B**		
21.	**C**		
22.	**D**		
23.	**E**		
24.	**B**		
25.	**D**		
26.	**A**		
27.	**A**		