

新东方 GRE 官方真题 250 解析版

Official Guide Sample Questions (5)

1. It is refreshing to read a book about our planet by an author who *does not allow* facts to be (i) \_\_\_\_\_ by politics: well aware of the political disputes about the effects of human activities on climate and biodiversity, this author *does not permit* them to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ his comprehensive description of what we know about biosphere. He emphasizes the enormous gaps in our knowledge, the sparseness of our observations, and the (iii) \_\_\_\_\_, calling attention to the many aspects of planetary evolution that must be better understood before we can accurately diagnose the condition of our planet.

(A) overshadowed	(D) enhance	(G) plausibility of our hypotheses
(B) invalidated	(E) obscure	(H) certainty of our entitlement
(C) illuminated	(F) underscore	(I) superficiality of our theories

2. Vain and prone to violence, Caravaggio could not handle success: the more his (i) \_\_\_\_\_ as an artist increased, the more (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ his life became.

(A) temperance	(D) tumultuous
(B) notoriety	(E) providential
(C) eminence	(F) dispassionate

3. In parts of the Arctic, the land grades into the landfast ice *so* \_\_\_\_\_ that you can walk off the coast and not know you are over the hidden sea.

(A) permanently	(D) precariously
(B) imperceptibly	(E) relentlessly
(C) irregularly	

4. Although it does contain some pioneering ideas, *one would hardly* characterize the work as \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) orthodox	(D) trifling
(B) eccentric	(E) conventional
(C) original	(F) innovative

5. It was her view that the country's problems had been \_\_\_\_\_ by foreign technocrats, *so that to ask for such assistance again would be counterproductive*.

(A) ameliorated	(D) exacerbated
(B) ascertained	(E) overlooked
(C) diagnosed	(F) worsened

Official Guide Discrete Questions: Easy (8)

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1. Dominant interests often benefit most  
*from* \_\_\_\_\_ of governmental interference in business,  
*since* they are able to take care of themselves if left alone.

(A) intensification	(D) improvisation
(B) authorization	(E) <b>elimination</b>
(C) centralization	

2. Kagan maintains that  
 an infant's reactions to its first stressful experiences  
 are part of a natural process of development,  
*not* harbingers of childhood unhappiness  
*or* \_\_\_\_\_ signs of adolescent anxiety.

(A) <b>prophetic</b>	(D) virtual
(B) normal	(E) typical
(C) monotonous	

3. An investigation that is \_\_\_\_\_  
*can occasionally* yield new facts, *even* notable ones,  
*but typically* the appearance of such facts is  
the result of a search in a definite direction.

(A) timely	(D) uncomplicated
(B) <b>unguided</b>	(E) subjective
(C) consistent	

4. It is (i) \_\_\_\_\_ that  
 so many portrait paintings hang in art museums,  
*since* the subject matter seems to dictate a status  
closer to pictures in the family photograph album than to high art.  
*But* perhaps it is the artistic skill with which the portraits are painted  
 that (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ their presence in art museums.

(A) <b>surprising</b>	(D) challenges
(B) understandable	(E) <b>justifies</b>
(C) irrelevant	(F) changes

5. *In stark contrast to his later* (i) \_\_\_\_\_,  
 Simpson was largely (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ politics *during his college years*,  
*despite* the fact that the campus he attended was rife with political activity.

(A) <b>activism</b>	(D) devoted to
(B) apathy	(E) <b>indifferent to</b>
(C) affability	(F) shaped by

6. *As* my eyesight began to \_\_\_\_\_,  
 I spent a lot of time writing about it -- both poems and "eye journals"--  
 describing what I saw *as* I looked out through damaged eyes.

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Ⓐ deteriorate	Ⓓ decline
Ⓑ sharpen	Ⓔ recover
Ⓒ improve	Ⓕ adjust

7. The judge's standing in the legal community, *though shaken by phony allegations of wrongdoing*, emerged, *at long last*, \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ unqualified	Ⓓ undamaged
Ⓑ undiminished	Ⓔ unresolved
Ⓒ undecided	Ⓕ unprincipled

8. Modern agricultural practices have been extremely successful in increasing the productivity of major food crops, *yet despite heavy use of pesticides*, \_\_\_\_\_ losses to diseases and insect pests are sustained each year.

Ⓐ incongruous	Ⓓ considerable
Ⓑ reasonable	Ⓔ equitable
Ⓒ significant	Ⓕ fortuitous

Official Guide Discrete Questions: Medium (8)

1. It comes as *no surprise* that *societies have codes of behavior*; the character of the codes, *on the other hand*, can often be \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ predictable	Ⓓ explicit
Ⓑ unexpected	Ⓔ confusing
Ⓒ admirable	

2. Like Béla Bartók, Ruth Crawford *not only brought a composer's acumen to the notation of folk music*, she *also* had a marked (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the task. This was clear in her agonizing over how far *to try to represent the minute details of a performance in a written text*, and this (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ makes her work a landmark in ethnomusicology.

Ⓐ reverence for	Ⓓ fastidiousness
Ⓑ detachment from	Ⓔ didacticism
Ⓒ curiosity about	Ⓕ iconoclasm

3. Political advertising may well be the most (i) \_\_\_\_\_ kind of advertising: political candidates are *usually* quite (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, *yet their campaign advertisements often hide important differences* behind smoke screens of smiles and empty slogans.

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Ⓐ polemical	Ⓓ interchangeable
Ⓑ effective	Ⓔ dissimilar
Ⓒ deceptive	Ⓕ vocal

4. Richard M. Russell said 52% of the nation's growth since the Second World War had (i) \_\_\_\_\_ invention. He said, (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ research, [the government's greatest role in assuring continuing innovation is promoting a strong, modern patent office.](#) "Unless we can (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ original ideas, [we will not have invention.](#)" Mr. Russell said. Speculating on the state of innovation over the next century, several inventors agreed that the future lay in giving children the tools to think creatively and the motivation to invent.

Ⓐ been at the expense of	Ⓓ in addition to restricting	Ⓖ evaluate
Ⓑ no bearing on	Ⓔ aside from supporting	Ⓗ protect
Ⓒ come through	Ⓕ far from exaggerating	Ⓘ disseminate

5. Statements [presented as fact](#) in a patent application are (i) \_\_\_\_\_ [unless a good reason for doubt is found.](#) The invention has only to be deemed "more likely than not" to work in order to receive initial approval. And, [although thousands of patents are challenged in court for other reasons,](#) [no incentive exists](#) for anyone to expend effort (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ [the science of an erroneous patent.](#) [For this reason](#) the endless stream of (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ devices will continue to yield occasional patents.

Ⓐ presumed verifiable	Ⓓ corroborating	Ⓖ novel
Ⓑ carefully scrutinized	Ⓔ advancing	Ⓗ bogus
Ⓒ considered capricious	Ⓕ debunking	Ⓘ obsolete

6. [Ever a demanding reader of the fiction of others,](#) the novelist Chase was [likewise](#) often the object of \_\_\_\_\_ analyses by his contemporaries.

Ⓐ exacting	Ⓓ acerbic
Ⓑ copious	Ⓔ scathing
Ⓒ respectful	Ⓕ meticulous

7. Her \_\_\_\_\_ [should not be confused with miserliness;](#) as long as I have known her, she has always been willing to assist those who are in need.

Ⓐ stinginess	Ⓓ illiberality
Ⓑ diffidence	Ⓔ intolerance
Ⓒ frugality	Ⓕ thrift

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8. A misconception frequently held by novice writers is that sentence structure mirrors thought: the more convoluted the structure, the more \_\_\_\_\_ the ideas.

(A) complicated	(D) fanciful
(B) engaged	(E) inconsequential
(C) essential	(F) involved

Official Guide Discrete Questions: Hard (9)

1. For some time now, \_\_\_\_\_ has been *presumed not to exist*: the cynical conviction that everybody has an angle is considered wisdom.

(A) rationality	(D) disinterestedness
(B) flexibility	(E) insincerity
(C) diffidence	

2. Human nature and long distances

have made exceeding the speed limit a (i) \_\_\_\_\_ in the state, *so the legislators surprised no one* when, acceding to public demand, they (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ increased penalties for speeding.

(A) controversial habit	(D) endorsed
(B) cherished tradition	(E) considered
(C) disquieting ritual	(F) rejected

3. Serling's account of his employer's reckless decision making

(i) \_\_\_\_\_ that company's image as (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ bureaucracy full of wary managers.

(A) belies	(D) an injudicious
(B) exposes	(E) a disorganized
(C) overshadows	(F) a cautious

4. *No other* contemporary poet's work

has such a well-earned reputation for (i) \_\_\_\_\_,

and there are *few* whose moral vision is so imperiously unsparing.

*Of late, however,*

the almost belligerent demands of his severe and densely forbidding poetry *have taken an improbable turn*.

This new collection is the poet's fourth book in six years

-- an ample output even for poets of sunny disposition,

*let alone* for one of such (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ over *the previous 50 years*.

*Yet* for all his *newfound* (iii) \_\_\_\_\_, his poetry is as thorny as ever.

(A) patent accessibility	(D) penitential austerity	(G) taciturnity
(B) intrinsic frivolity	(E) intractable prolixity	(H) volubility
(C) near impenetrability	(F) impetuous prodigality	(I) pellucidity

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5. Managers who think that strong environmental performance will (i)\_\_\_\_\_ their company's financial performance often (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ claims that systems designed to help them manage environmental concerns are valuable tools.

*By contrast*, managers who perceive environmental performance to be (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ to financial success may view an environmental management system as extraneous.

In either situation, and *whatever* their perceptions, it is a manager's commitment to achieving environmental improvement *rather than* the mere presence of a system that determines environmental performance.

(A) eclipse	(D) uncritically accept	(G) complement
(B) bolster	(E) appropriately acknowledge	(H) intrinsic
(C) degrade	(F) hotly dispute	(I) peripheral

6. Philosophy, *unlike* most other subjects, *does not* try to extend our knowledge by discovering new information about the world.

*Instead* it tries to deepen our understanding *through*

(i)\_\_\_\_\_ what is already closest to us

-- the experiences, thoughts, concepts, and activities that make up our lives

*but that* ordinarily escape our notice precisely because they are so familiar.

Philosophy begins by finding (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ the things that are (iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

(A) attainment of	(D) essentially irrelevant	(G) most prosaic
(B) rumination on	(E) utterly mysterious	(H) somewhat hackneyed
(C) detachment from	(F) thoroughly commonplace	(I) refreshingly novel

7. The government's implementation of a new code of ethics appeared intended to shore up the ruling party's standing

with an increasingly \_\_\_\_\_ electorate

at a time when the party is besieged by charges

that it trades favors for campaign money.

(A) aloof	(D) skittish
(B) placid	(E) tranquil
(C) restive	(F) vociferous

8. Overlarge, uneven, and ultimately disappointing,

the retrospective exhibition seems too much like special pleading

for a forgotten painter of *real but* \_\_\_\_\_ talents.

(A) limited	(D) circumscribed
(B) partial	(E) prosaic
(C) undiscovered	(F) hidden

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9. Newspapers report that the former executive *has been* trying to keep a low profile *since* his \_\_\_\_\_ exit from the company.

(A) celebrated	(D) fortuitous
(B) mysterious	(E) indecorous
(C) long-awaited	(F) unseemly

Official Guide Practice Test 1 Verbal Section 1 (13)

5. In her later years, Bertha Pappenheim was an apostle of noble *but already* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ notions, always respected for her integrity, her energy, and her resolve *but increasingly* out of step *and ultimately* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ *even* her own organization.

(A) anachronistic	(D) emulated by
(B) accepted	(E) appreciated by
(C) exotic	(F) alienated from

6. The reception given to Kimura's radical theory of molecular evolution shows that when \_\_\_\_\_ fights orthodoxy to a draw, *then* novelty has seized a good chunk of space from convention.

(A) imitation	(D) invention
(B) reaction	(E) caution
(C) dogmatism	

7. The (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of Vladimir Nabokov as one of North America's literary giants has thrown the spotlight on his peripheral activities and has *thus* served to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ his efforts as an amateur entomologist.

(A) stigmatization	(D) foreground
(B) lionization	(E) transcend
(C) marginalization	(F) obscure

8. Mathematicians have a distinctive sense of beauty: they strive to present their ideas and results in a clear and compelling fashion, dictated by \_\_\_\_\_ *as well as* by logic.

(A) caprice	(D) methodologies
(B) aesthetics	(E) intellect
(C) obligation	

14. Unenlightened authoritarian managers *rarely* recognize a crucial reason *for* the low levels of serious conflict among members of democratically run work groups: a modicum of tolerance for dissent often *prevents* \_\_\_\_\_.

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(A) demur	(D) compliance
(B) schism	(E) shortsightedness
(C) cooperation	

15. The novelist devotes *so much time* to avid descriptions of his characters' clothes *that* the reader soon feels that *such* \_\_\_\_\_ concerns, *although* worthy of attention, have superseded any more directly literary aims.

(A) didactic	(D) sartorial
(B) syntactical	(E) frivolous
(C) irrelevant	

16. Belanger dances with an (i) \_\_\_\_\_ that draws one's attention as if by seeking to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ it; *through* finesse and understatement, he manages to seem at once intensely present and curiously detached.

(A) undemonstrative panache	(D) focus
(B) unrestrained enthusiasm	(E) overwhelm
(C) unattractive gawkiness	(F) deflect

17. The most striking thing about the politician is how often his politics have been (i) \_\_\_\_\_ *rather than* ideological, as he adapts his political positions at any particular moment to the political realities that constrain him. He *does not, however*, piously (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ political principles only to betray them in practice. *Rather*, he attempts in subtle ways to balance his political self-interest with a (iii) \_\_\_\_\_, viewing himself as an instrument of some unchanging higher purpose.

(A) quixotic	(D) brandish	(G) profound cynicism
(B) self-righteous	(E) flout	(H) deeply felt moral code
(C) strategic	(F) follow	(I) thoroughgoing pragmatism

21. The plan, which the engineers said would save the aquifer by reducing pumping to \_\_\_\_\_ levels, has passed a governmental environmental review *but* faces opposition from outdoor and environmental groups.

(A) innocuous	(D) minimal
(B) feasible	(E) remedial
(C) practicable	(F) benign

22. *Though* feminist in its implications, Yvonne Rainer's 1974 film \_\_\_\_\_ the filmmaker's active involvement in feminist politics.



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Ⓐ antedated	Ⓓ preceded
Ⓑ cloaked	Ⓔ renewed
Ⓒ portrayed	Ⓕ represented

23. Congress is *having great difficulty* developing a consensus on energy policy, *primarily because* the policy objectives of various members of Congress rest on such \_\_\_\_\_ assumptions.

Ⓐ commonplace	Ⓓ fundamental
Ⓑ disparate	Ⓔ trite
Ⓒ divergent	Ⓕ trivial

24. During the opera's most famous aria, the tempo chosen by the orchestra's conductor seemed \_\_\_\_\_, without necessary relation to what had gone before.

Ⓐ arbitrary	Ⓓ compelling
Ⓑ capricious	Ⓔ exacting
Ⓒ cautious	Ⓕ meticulous

25. *Because* they had expected the spacecraft Voyager 2 to be able to gather data only about the planets Jupiter and Saturn, scientists were \_\_\_\_\_ the wealth of information it sent back from Neptune twelve years after leaving Earth.

Ⓐ anxious for	Ⓓ keen on
Ⓑ confident in	Ⓔ elated by
Ⓒ thrilled about	Ⓕ eager for

Official Guide Practice Test 1 Verbal Section 2 (12)

1. *Only by ignoring* decades of mismanagement and inefficiency could investors conclude that a fresh infusion of cash would provide *anything other than* a \_\_\_\_\_ solution to the company's financial woes.

Ⓐ complete	Ⓓ premature
Ⓑ fleeting	Ⓔ trivial
Ⓒ momentary	Ⓕ total

2. Some scientists argue that carbon compounds play such a central role in life on Earth *because of* the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_ *resulting from* the carbon atom's ability to form an unending series of different molecules.

Ⓐ diversity	Ⓓ reproduction
Ⓑ deviation	Ⓔ stability
Ⓒ variety	Ⓕ invigoration

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3. *Given* the flood of information presented by the mass media, the only way for someone to keep abreast of the news is to rely on \_\_\_\_\_ accounts.

(A) synoptic	(D) copious
(B) abridged	(E) lurid
(C) sensational	(F) understated

4. *Always* circumspect, she was reluctant to make judgments, *but once* arriving at a conclusion, she was \_\_\_\_\_ in its defense.

(A) deferential	(D) negligent
(B) intransigent	(E) obsequious
(C) lax	(F) resolute

10. *Ironically*, the writer *so wary of* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ was (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ with ink and paper, his novel running to 2,500 shagreen-bound folio pages -- a fortune in stationery at the time.

(A) probity	(D) acquisitive
(B) extravagance	(E) illiberal
(C) disapprobation	(F) profligate

11. What readers most commonly remember about John Stuart Mill's classic exploration of the liberty of thought and discussion concerns the danger of (i) \_\_\_\_\_:

*in the absence of* challenge, one's opinions, even when they are correct, grow weak and flabby.

*Yet* Mill had another reason

for encouraging the liberty of thought and discussion:

the danger of partiality and incompleteness.

*Since* one's opinions, *even* under the best circumstances, tend to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_,

and *because* opinions *opposed* to one's own

*rarely* turn out to be completely (iii) \_\_\_\_\_,

it is crucial to supplement one's opinions with alternative points of view.

(A) tendency	(D) embrace only a portion of the truth	(G) erroneous
(B) complacency	(E) change over time	(H) antithetical
(C) fractiousness	(F) focus on matters close at hand	(I) immutable

12. *Just as* the authors' book on eels is often a key text for courses in marine vertebrate zoology, their ideas on animal development and phylogeny \_\_\_\_\_ teaching in this area.

(A) prevent	(D) inform
(B) defy	(E) use
(C) replicate	

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13. Mechanisms develop whereby every successful species can \_\_\_\_\_ its innate capacity for population growth with the constraints that arise through its interactions with the natural environment.

(A) enhance	(D) surpass
(B) replace	(E) reconcile
(C) produce	

17. In the midst of so many evasive comments, this forthright statement, whatever its intrinsic merit, plainly stands out as \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) a paradigm	(D) an inaccuracy
(B) a misnomer	(E) an anomaly
(C) a profundity	

18. The activists' energetic work in the service of both woman suffrage and the temperance movement in the late 19th century (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the assertion that the two movements were (ii) \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) undermines	(D) diffuse
(B) supports	(E) inimical
(C) underscores	(F) predominant

19. There is nothing quite like this movie, and *indeed* I am *not* altogether sure there is much more to it than its lovely (i) \_\_\_\_\_. At a moment when so many films strive to be as (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ as possible, it is gratifying to find one that is so subtle and puzzling.

(A) peculiarity	(D) indirect
(B) pellucidity	(E) assertive
(C) conventionality	(F) enigmatic

20. Wills argues that certain malarial parasites are especially (i) \_\_\_\_\_ *because* they have more recently entered humans than other species and *therefore* have had (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ time to evolve toward (iii) \_\_\_\_\_. *Yet there is no reliable evidence* that the most harmful *Plasmodium* species has been in humans for a shorter time than less harmful species.

(A) populous	(D) ample	(G) virulence
(B) malignant	(E) insufficient	(H) benignity
(C) threatened	(F) adequate	(I) variability

Official Guide Practice Test 2 Verbal Section 1 (13)

1. *Although* plant and animal species that become established in ecosystems where they did *not* originate are sometimes referred to by the alarming term "invasive species", many such species are \_\_\_\_\_ in their new environments.

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Ⓐ innocuous	Ⓓ menacing
Ⓑ conspicuous	Ⓔ distinctive
Ⓒ robust	

2. *Far from* being \_\_\_\_\_ the corporate world *because of* cutbacks, serious researchers are playing a growing role in innovation at many firms.

Ⓐ lured to	Ⓓ protected by
Ⓑ enchanted with	Ⓔ immured in
Ⓒ banished from	

3. The brief survey, published under the title *The Work of Nature: How the Diversity of Life Sustains Us*, is *surprisingly* (i) \_\_\_\_\_. *Indeed* it makes several longer treatments of the effects of lost biodiversity seem (ii) \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ distorted	Ⓓ redundant
Ⓑ objective	Ⓔ pithy
Ⓒ comprehensive	Ⓕ premature

4. The government has no choice *but* to (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the incessant demands for land reform, and *yet* any governmental action that initiated land reform *without* requisite attention to agrarian reform would (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the overall goal of economic modernization.

Ⓐ anticipate	Ⓓ delineate
Ⓑ heed	Ⓔ condone
Ⓒ silence	Ⓕ compromise

5. Certain music lovers yearn for (i) \_\_\_\_\_, *but when it is achieved, there is something missing*; *perhaps* they feel uncomfortable in a world where *nothing* discernible is (ii) \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ novelty	Ⓓ wrong
Ⓑ beauty	Ⓔ visionary
Ⓒ flawlessness	Ⓕ changed

6. Putting a cash value on the ecological services provided by nature -- such as the water filtration "service" provided by a forested watershed -- has, historically, been a (i) \_\_\_\_\_ process. Early attempts at such valuation *resulted in* impressive *but* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ figures that were seized on by environmental advocates, *and then*, when these figures were *later* (iii) \_\_\_\_\_, they were used by opponents to tar the whole idea.

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(A) dispassionate	(D) redundant	(G) ignored
(B) problematic	(E) unsound	(H) discredited
(C) straightforward	(F) understated	(I) confirmed

7. *Only with the discovery of an ozone hole over Antarctica in 1985* did chemical companies *finally relinquish* their opposition to a ban on chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which destroy ozone. The discovery suggested that strong political action to *halt* production of CFCs might be (i) \_\_\_\_\_, and fortunately, [the chemical industry no longer felt compelled to oppose such action](#): *although* companies had *recently* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ their research into CFC substitutes, studies they had initiated *years earlier* had produced (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ results.

(A) imminent	(D) corroborated	(G) encouraging
(B) imprudent	(E) publicized	(H) inconclusive
(C) premature	(F) curtailed	(I) unsurprising

8. The incipient (i) \_\_\_\_\_ regarding taxes could affect trade between the two countries *much more than* the (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ banana imports, which has been going on for years. Unfortunately, [the trade regulators seem to be ignoring both disagreements](#).

(A) row	(D) profitable dealing in
(B) accord	(E) predicament regarding
(C) investigation	(F) festering dispute over

15. In American Indian art, [the supposed distinction](#) between modern and traditional was fabricated by critics, and when artists have control over interpretation of their own work, the distinction appears, happily, to have been \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) eliminated	(D) intensified
(B) reinforced	(E) recognized
(C) put to rest	(F) established

16. *Notwithstanding* their \_\_\_\_\_ regarding other issues, township residents [have consistently passed the board of education's annual budget](#).

(A) accord	(D) disagreement
(B) indecision	(E) divergence
(C) consensus	(F) enthusiasm

17. Some of the company's supporters charged that the negative report had been motivated by a broader political assault on the company [that was designed to help market rivals](#) who would like to see the company \_\_\_\_\_.

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(A) reined in	(D) propped up
(B) bolstered	(E) manacled
(C) indemnified	(F) lionized

18. Skeptics contend that any scheme for charging visitors to Web sites that rewards the vendor adequately would require steep prices, \_\_\_\_\_ the kind of frequent, casual use of Web sites that surfers now take for granted.

(A) bridling	(D) inhibiting
(B) exciting	(E) provoking
(C) forbidding	(F) reversing

19. It seems obvious that Miles Davis' \_\_\_\_\_ the Juilliard School, which resulted in his decision to drop out, was based on the school's training of musicians for a kind of music that he did *not* want to play.

(A) disaffection with	(D) subversion of
(B) dislocation of	(E) displacement of
(C) disentanglement from	(F) estrangement from

Official Guide Practice Test 2 Verbal Section 2 (12)

1. The unexplained digressions into the finer points of quantum electrodynamics are *so* \_\_\_\_\_ *that even* readers with a physics degree would be wise to keep a textbook handy to make sense of them.

(A) uninteresting	(D) frustrating
(B) controversial	(E) humorless
(C) unsophisticated	

2. The belief that politicians might become \_\_\_\_\_ *after* their election to office led to the appointment of ethics officers at various levels of government.

(A) scrupulous	(D) puzzled
(B) entrenched	(E) artificial
(C) venal	

3. *Even* the charisma and technical prowess of two fine actors are *not* \_\_\_\_\_ the task of fully invigorating a gray domestic drama with a tired tale to tell.

(A) required for	(D) adequate to
(B) interested in	(E) inferior to
(C) preferred for	

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4. There may be a threshold below which blood pressure reductions *become* \_\_\_\_\_ *given* that a long-running study showed no decreased heart risk for drops in blood pressure below a certain point.

(A) worthwhile	(D) significant
(B) indiscernible	(E) superfluous
(C) arduous	

5. *Unlike* the problems in recent financial scandals, issues raised by the regulators in this case *appear largely to pertain to* unwieldy accounting rules that are open to widely divergent interpretations -- *not to* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ transactions designed to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ corporate malfeasance.

(A) sham	(D) cloak
(B) unpremeditated	(E) ameliorate
(C) justifiable	(F) illuminate

6. Everyone has routines that govern their work. The myth is that artists are somehow *different*, that they *reject* (i) \_\_\_\_\_, *but* of course that's *not* true: most artists work as the rest of us do, (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, day by day, according to their own customs.

(A) latitude	(D) impetuously
(B) habit	(E) ploddingly
(C) materialism	(F) sporadically

7. Repression of painful memories is sometimes called "willed forgetting". *Yet* true forgetting is (i) \_\_\_\_\_ than the phenomenon of repressed memory. *In spite of* the effort that it (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, repressing unwanted memories is *less* (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ than truly forgetting them, *for* repressed memories are prone to come back.

(A) less controlled	(D) eases	(G) permanent
(B) different in its effect	(E) conveys	(H) arduous
(C) far more common	(F) entails	(I) immediate

8. *Rather than* viewing the Massachusetts Bay Colony's antinomian controversy as the inevitable (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of the intransigent opposing forces of radical and (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ beliefs, male and female piety, (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ and secular power, and the like, as other critics have, Winship argues that the crisis was *not* "fixed and structural".

(A) dissolution	(D) revolutionary	(G) clerical
(B) melding	(E) orthodox	(H) civil
(C) collision	(F) questionable	(I) cerebral

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15. *It would have been disingenuous* of the candidate to appear \_\_\_\_\_ when her opponent won the election, *but she congratulated the victor nonetheless.*

(A) gracious	(D) indifferent
(B) ecstatic	(E) euphoric
(C) crestfallen	(F) disgruntled

16. As market forces penetrate firms and bid up the value of attributes of labor *that are more measurable than is the knowledge born of experience*, it can be expected that trends in wages will *not* \_\_\_\_\_ those whose main value lies in such experiential knowledge.

(A) favor	(D) forsake
(B) aid	(E) betray
(C) affect	(F) differentiate

17. The point we might still take from the First World War is the old one that wars are always, as one historian aptly put it, \_\_\_\_\_: *they produce unforeseeable results.*

(A) unsurprising	(D) ruinous
(B) astounding	(E) stunning
(C) conventional	(F) devastating

18. This is the kind of movie -- stuffed with intimations of faraway strife and people in suits talking frantically on cell phones and walkie-talkies -- *that is conventionally described as a political thriller*, *but* the film is as apolitical as it is \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) intense	(D) humdrum
(B) unprecedented	(E) refined
(C) subtle	(F) dull

Power Preparation II Practice Test 1 Verbal Section 1 (10) Medium

1. Dramatic literature often \_\_\_\_\_ the history of a culture *in that it takes as its subject matter the important events that have shaped and guided the culture.*

(A) confounds	(D) anticipates
(B) repudiates	(E) polarizes
(C) recapitulates	

2. *Since she believed him to be both candid and trustworthy*, she *refused* to consider the possibility that his statement had been \_\_\_\_\_.



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(A) irrelevant	(D) critical
(B) facetious	(E) <b>insincere</b>
(C) mistaken	

3. *Given* how (i)\_\_\_\_\_ the *shortcomings* of the standard economic model are in its portrayal of human behavior, the failure of many economists to respond to them is astonishing.

They *continue* to fill the journals with *yet more* proofs of *yet more* (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ theorems. *Others, by contrast, accept the criticisms as a challenge,* seeking to expand the basic models to embrace a wider range of things people do.

(A) overlooked	(D) comprehensive
(B) occasional	(E) <b>improbable</b>
(C) <b>patent</b>	(F) pervasive

4. There has been much hand-wringing about how unprepared American students are for college.

Graff *reverses* this perspective, suggesting that colleges are unprepared for students.

In his analysis, the university culture is largely (i)\_\_\_\_\_ entering students *because academic culture fails to make connections* to the kinds of arguments and cultural references that students grasp. Understandably, many students view academic life as (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ ritual.

(A) primed for	(D) <b>an arcane</b>
(B) <b>opaque to</b>	(E) a laudable
(C) essential for	(F) a painstaking

5. The narratives that vanquished peoples have created of their defeat have, according to Schivel Busch, fallen into several identifiable types.

In one of these, the vanquished manage to (i)\_\_\_\_\_ the victor's triumph *as the result of* some spurious advantage, the victors being truly inferior where it counts.

Often the winners (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ this interpretation, worrying about the cultural or moral costs of their triumph and so giving some credence to the losers' story.

(A) <b>construe</b>	(D) take issue with
(B) anoint	(E) disregard
(C) acknowledge	(F) <b>collude in</b>

6. The question of (i)\_\_\_\_\_ in photography has *lately become nontrivial.*

Prices for vintage prints (those made by a photographer soon after he or she made the negative) *so* drastically (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ in the 1990s *that* one of these photographs

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might fetch a hundred times as much as a nonvintage print of the same image.

It was perhaps only a matter of time before someone took advantage of the (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ to peddle newly created “vintage” prints for profit.

(A) forgery	(D) ballooned	(G) discrepancy
(B) influence	(E) weakened	(H) ambiguity
(C) style	(F) varied	(I) duplicity

12. Early critics of Emily Dickson’s poetry mistook for simple mindedness the surface of artlessness that *in fact* she constructed with such \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) astonishment	(D) innocence
(B) craft	(E) naivete
(C) cunning	(F) vexation

13. The macro-molecule RNA is common to all living beings, and DNA, which is found in all organisms *except* some bacteria, is *almost* as \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) comprehensive	(D) universal
(B) fundamental	(E) significant
(C) inclusive	(F) ubiquitous

14. *While* in many ways their personalities could *not* have been more different -- she was ebullient where he was glum, relaxed where he was awkward, garrulous where he was \_\_\_\_\_ -- they were *surprisingly* well suited.

(A) solicitous	(D) laconic
(B) munificent	(E) fastidious
(C) irresolute	(F) taciturn

15. *Even* in this business, where \_\_\_\_\_ is part of everyday life, a talent for laying is *not* something usually found on one’s resume.

(A) aspiration	(D) insensitivity
(B) mendacity	(E) baseness
(C) prevarication	(F) avarice

Power Preparation II Practice Test 1 Verbal Section 2 (26)

1. (Easy) In the 1950s, the country’s inhabitants were \_\_\_\_\_: most of them knew very little about foreign countries.

(A) partisan	(D) cosmopolitan
(B) erudite	(E) imperturbable
(C) insular	

1. (Medium) It is his dubious distinction to have proved *what nobody would think of denying*, that Romeo at the age of sixty-four writes with all the characteristics of \_\_\_\_\_.

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<input checked="" type="radio"/> maturity	<input type="radio"/> art
<input type="radio"/> fiction	<input type="radio"/> brilliance
<input type="radio"/> inventiveness	

1. (Hard) *Far from* viewing Jefferson as a skeptical but enlightened intellectual, historians of the 1960s have portrayed him as \_\_\_\_\_ thinker, eager to fill the young with his political orthodoxy *while censoring ideas he did not like*.

<input type="radio"/> an adventurous	<input type="radio"/> a judicious
<input checked="" type="radio"/> a doctrinaire	<input type="radio"/> a cynical
<input type="radio"/> an eclectic	

2. (Easy) With the 1985 discovery of an ozone hole over Antarctica, an international ban on the production of chlorofluorocarbons -- implicated in causing the ozone hole -- began to appear \_\_\_\_\_, *especially since* chemical companies' opposition to such a ban had weakened.

<input type="radio"/> imprudent	<input checked="" type="radio"/> imminent
<input type="radio"/> fortuitous	<input type="radio"/> unlikely
<input type="radio"/> premature	

2. (Hard) Stories are a haunted genre; *hardly* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ kind of story, the ghost story is almost the paradigm of the form, and (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ was undoubtedly one effect that Poe had in mind when he wrote about how stories work.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> a debased	<input type="radio"/> pessimism
<input type="radio"/> a normative	<input checked="" type="radio"/> goosebumps
<input type="radio"/> a meticulous	<input type="radio"/> curiosity

3. (Easy) The (i) \_\_\_\_\_ nature of classical tragedy in Athens *believes* the modern image of tragedy: in the modern view tragedy is austere and stripped down, its representations of ideological and emotional conflicts *so superbly compressed that* there's *nothing* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ for time to erode.

<input type="radio"/> unadorned	<input type="radio"/> inalienable
<input type="radio"/> harmonious	<input type="radio"/> exigent
<input checked="" type="radio"/> multifaceted	<input checked="" type="radio"/> extraneous

3. (Medium) Of course anyone who has ever perused an unmodernized text of Captain Clark's journals knows that the Captain was one of the most (i) \_\_\_\_\_ spellers ever to write in English, *but despite* this (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ orthographical rules, Clark is never unclear.

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(A) indefatigable	(D) disregard for
(B) fastidious	(E) partiality toward
(C) defiant	(F) unpretentiousness about

3. (Hard) The play-wright's approach is (i) \_\_\_\_\_  
*in that* her works (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the theatrical devices  
normally used to create drama on the stage.

(A) pedestrian	(D) jettison
(B) startling	(E) experiment with
(C) celebrated	(F) distill

4. (Easy) That the President manages the economy  
 is an *assumption* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the prevailing wisdom  
 that dominates electoral politics in the United States.  
*As a result*, presidential elections have become referenda on the business cycle,  
 whose fortuitous turnings are (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the President.  
 Presidents are properly accountable for  
 their executive and legislative performance,  
 and certainly their actions may have profound effects on the economy.  
*But* these effects are (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Unfortunately, modern political campaigns  
 are fought *on the untenable premise*  
that Presidents can deliberately produce precise economic results.

(A) peripheral to	(D) justifiably personified in	(G) usually long-lasting
(B) central to	(E) erroneously attributed to	(H) regrettably unnoticeable
(C) at odds with	(F) occasionally associated with	(I) largely unpredictable

4. (Hard) I've long anticipated this retrospective of the artist's work,  
*hoping* that it would make (i) \_\_\_\_\_ judgments about him possible,  
*but greater familiarity with his paintings* highlights their *inherent* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
 and *actually* makes one's assessment (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) modish	(D) gloom	(G) similarly equivocal
(B) settled	(E) ambiguity	(H) less sanguine
(C) detached	(F) delicacy	(I) more cynical

5. (Medium) The traditional gap between theorists and experimentalists  
 is (i) \_\_\_\_\_ as one of haughty high priests *versus* pugnacious pragmatists.  
*But the reality is more often that*  
one researcher does not understand another's jargon,  
or is afraid to ask stupid questions, or is hesitant about  
giving up vital and hard-won information to a distant colleague.

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These were the kinds of (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ that Dr. Sonnenwald was able to (iii) \_\_\_\_\_, *leading to greater cooperation between theorists and experimentalists.*

<b>A</b> often caricatured	D deceptions	G propagate
B most accurately described	E collusions	<b>H</b> dismantle
C unnecessarily lamented	<b>F</b> barriers	I identify

5. (Hard) Higher energy prices would have many (i) \_\_\_\_\_ effects on society as a whole. *Besides* encouraging consumers to be more (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in their use of gasoline, they would encourage the development of *renewable alternative energy sources* that are *not* (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ *at current prices.*

A pernicious	D aggressive	G unstable
B counter-intuitive	E predictable	H adaptable
<b>C</b> salubrious	<b>F</b> sparing	<b>I</b> viable

6. (Easy) To the untutored eye *the tightly forested Ardennes hills around Sedan* look quite (i) \_\_\_\_\_, (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ place *through which to advance a modern army;* *even* with *today's more numerous and better roads and bridges,* the woods and the river Meuse form a significant (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>A</b> impenetrable	D a makeshift	G resource
B inconsiderable	<b>E</b> an unpropitious	<b>H</b> impediment
C uncultivated	F an unremarkable	I passage

6. (Medium) Room acoustics design criteria *are determined according to the room's intended use.* Music, for example, is best (i) \_\_\_\_\_ in space that are reverberant, a condition that *generally* makes speech *less* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_. *Acoustics suitable for both speech and music* can *sometimes* be created *in the same space,* *although the result is never perfect,* each having to be (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ to some extent.

A controlled	D abrasive	<b>G</b> compromised
<b>B</b> appreciated	<b>E</b> intelligible	H eliminated
C employed	F ubiquitous	I considered

6. (Hard) *But* they pay *little* attention to the opposite and more treacherous failing: false certainty, *refusing to confess their mistakes* and implicitly claiming (i) \_\_\_\_\_, *thereby* embarrassing the nation and undermining the Constitution, *which established various mechanisms of self-correction on the premise* that *even* the wisest men are sometimes wrong and need, precisely when they find it most (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, the benefit of (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ process.

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Ⓐ infallibility	Ⓓ discomfiting	Ⓔ an adaptable
Ⓑ immunity	Ⓔ expedient	Ⓕ a remedial
Ⓒ impartiality	Ⓕ imminent	Ⓖ an injudicious

12. (Easy) *Despite the pride* that the play's characters take in their worldly-wise *absence* of illusions, they are *not above* a degree of unjustified \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ prevarication	Ⓓ affectation
Ⓑ satisfaction	Ⓔ narcissism
Ⓒ self-flattery	Ⓕ indolence

12. (Medium) The vegetation at Stone Mountain, the best known of the large rock masses known as monad nocks, is *far from* \_\_\_\_\_, *having been decimated by the hiking traffic*.

Ⓐ blighted	Ⓓ pristine
Ⓑ endangered	Ⓔ undisturbed
Ⓒ picturesque	Ⓕ vulnerable

12. (Hard) *Once* White stepped down from a political platform, where his daring, \_\_\_\_\_ speeches provoked baying applause from audiences, he was courteous and considerate *even* to politicians *he had just slandered in the speech*.

Ⓐ florid	Ⓓ inveigling
Ⓑ defamatory	Ⓔ timorous
Ⓒ calumnious	Ⓕ diffident

13. (Easy) The ex-minister's real crime, in the eyes of his \_\_\_\_\_ political friends *who subsequently abandoned him*, was *not so much* that he was wrong *as that* he raised questions that *must not* be raised.

Ⓐ erstwhile	Ⓓ self-styled
Ⓑ proxy	Ⓔ onetime
Ⓒ false	Ⓕ surrogate

13. (Medium) *At no point* in her investigation does Tate allow \_\_\_\_\_ commentary *from present-day partisans to skew her reckoning with past realities*.

Ⓐ apposite	Ⓓ disinterested
Ⓑ ahistorical	Ⓔ objective
Ⓒ anachronistic	Ⓕ germane

13. (Hard) Clearly the government faced a *dilemma*: it could *hardly* \_\_\_\_\_ trials, *especially in the absence of irrefutable evidence*,

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*but it also would not welcome*, in the midst of war,  
the scandal that would arise if trials were *avoided*.

Ⓐ be keen on	Ⓓ dispense with
Ⓑ be inclined to	Ⓔ turn its back on
Ⓒ arrange	Ⓕ credit

14. (Easy) Dreams are \_\_\_\_\_ in and of themselves,  
*but*, when combined with other data, [they can tell us much about the dreamer](#).

Ⓐ astonishing	Ⓓ inscrutable
Ⓑ disordered	Ⓔ revealing
Ⓒ harmless	Ⓕ uninformative

14. (Medium) *Since* becoming commissioner,  
Mr. Vincente has challenged the dominant firms in European industry  
*more* \_\_\_\_\_ than [his smoother predecessors](#)  
and has *consequently* acquired many more enemies.

Ⓐ sporadically	Ⓓ pugnaciously
Ⓑ irascibly	Ⓔ fitfully
Ⓒ persistently	Ⓕ judiciously

14. (Hard) [The hodgepodge nature of local and federal law enforcement](#)  
and the changing *but often still inadequate regulations*  
governing the credit industry make identity theft a particularly \_\_\_\_\_ crime.

Ⓐ unobjectionable	Ⓓ innocuous
Ⓑ viable	Ⓔ uncontrollable
Ⓒ dubious	Ⓕ intractable

15. (Easy) International financial issues  
are typically \_\_\_\_\_ by the United States media  
*because* [they are too technical to make snappy headlines](#)  
[and too inaccessible to people who lack a background in economics](#).

Ⓐ neglected	Ⓓ hidden
Ⓑ slighted	Ⓔ criticized
Ⓒ overrated	Ⓕ repudiated

15. (Hard) Economic competition among nations  
may *lead to* new forms of economic protectionism  
[that harken back to the mercantilism of an earlier age](#):  
there are signs today that such protectionism is *indeed* \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ evanescent	Ⓓ transitory
Ⓑ resurgent	Ⓔ controversial
Ⓒ recrudescent	Ⓕ inimical

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1. James Boswell's *Life of Samuel Johnson* *is generally thought* to have established Boswell *as the first great modern biographer*; *yet* the claim of \_\_\_\_\_ could be made for Johnson himself as author of *A Life of Richard Savage*.

(A) partisanship	(D) opportunism
(B) omniscience	(E) perseverance
(C) precedence	

2. Most spacecraft are *still at little risk of collision* with space debris during their operational lifetimes, *but given* the numbers of new satellites launched each year, the orbital environment in the future is likely to be *less* \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) crowded	(D) polluted
(B) invulnerable	(E) benign
(C) protected	

3. *The unironic representation of objects from everyday life* is (i) \_\_\_\_\_ serious American art of the twentieth century: "high" artists *ceded the straightforward depiction of* the (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ to illustrators, advertisers, and packaging designers.

(A) missing from	(D) beautiful
(B) valued in	(E) commonplace
(C) crucial to	(F) complex

4. Television promotes (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of emotion in viewers *through an unnatural evocation*, every five minutes, of different and (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ feelings.

(A) a withdrawal	(D) incompatible
(B) an obscuring	(E) sympathetic
(C) a discontinuity	(F) interminable

5. *While* the cerulean warbler's status maybe particularly (i) \_\_\_\_\_, *it is just one of the many species of migrant birds* whose numbers have been (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ for years. *Increasingly*, biologists investigating the causes of these (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ *are focusing on habitat loss in the Tropics*, where the birds spend the winter.

(A) precarious	(D) under-reported	(G) pairings
(B) secure	(E) falling	(H) migrations
(C) representative	(F) copious	(I) declines

6. The recent publication of the painter Robert Motherwell's substantial body of writing, as well as writings by fellow Expressionist Barnett Newman,



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(i) \_\_\_\_\_ Ann Gibson's assertion that the Abstract Expressionists were *reluctant to* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ issues of artistic meaning in their work and suggests that *this supposed reticence* was *perhaps more* artistic (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ than historical fact.

(A) substantiates	(D) forgo	(G) conscience
(B) undermines	(E) articulate	(H) focus
(C) overlooks	(F) conceal	(I) posturing

13. The spy's repeated bungling was, above all else, \_\_\_\_\_ those who wished to thwart her efforts, *since it was so unpredictable as to obscure any pattern* that might otherwise *lead to* her capture.

(A) an obstacle to	(D) an indication for
(B) a signal to	(E) a snare for
(C) a hindrance to	(F) a boon to

14. Female video artists' rise to prominence over the past 30 years has \_\_\_\_\_ the ascent of video as an art form: *it is only within the past three decades* that video art has attained its current, respected status.

(A) matched	(D) obviated
(B) politicized	(E) accelerated
(C) paralleled	(F) forestalled

15. *Although* the film is rightly judged imperfect by most of today's critics, the films being created today are \_\_\_\_\_ it, *since* its release in 1940 provoked sufficient critical discussion *to enhance the intellectual respectability of cinema considerably*.

(A) beholden to	(D) based on
(B) indebted to	(E) distinguishable from
(C) derivative of	(F) biased against

16. The detective's conviction that *there were few inept crimes in her district* *led her to impute* some degree of \_\_\_\_\_ to every suspect she studied.

(A) deceit	(D) shrewdness
(B) acumen	(E) evasiveness
(C) duplicity	(F) equivocation

Power Preparation II Practice Test 2 Verbal Section 2 (30)

1. (Easy) The epidemiologist was worried: *despite* \_\_\_\_\_ signs of danger, *few countries or companies had taken the possibility of a pandemic seriously*, and there was *little* interest in developing a vaccine.

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Ⓐ erroneous	Ⓓ inconclusive
Ⓑ mounting	Ⓔ residual
Ⓒ token	

1. (Medium) The book's *seemingly casually written, conversational style masks* \_\_\_\_\_ structure.

Ⓐ a loosely organized	Ⓓ a shrewdly crafted
Ⓑ a somewhat rambling	Ⓔ an unconventionally informal
Ⓒ an overly diffuse	

1. (Hard) Burke is *often on slippery ground* when it comes to her primary sources; *especially* \_\_\_\_\_ is the mode by which she gathered her oral evidence.

Ⓐ crucial	Ⓓ laudable
Ⓑ passable	Ⓔ ingenious
Ⓒ dubious	

2. (Easy) The author presents the life of Zane Grey with \_\_\_\_\_ *unusual* in a biographer: *he is not even convinced that Grey was a good writer.*

Ⓐ a zeal	Ⓓ an eloquence
Ⓑ a deftness	Ⓔ an imaginativeness
Ⓒ a detachment	

2. (Medium) This filmmaker is *not outspoken on political matters*: her films are known for their aesthetic qualities *rather than* for their \_\_\_\_\_ ones.

Ⓐ polemical	Ⓓ commercial
Ⓑ cinematic	Ⓔ dramatic
Ⓒ narrative	

2. (Hard) *Although* grandiose urban railroad stations are often *viewed as glorious monuments to their cities*, they *in fact* \_\_\_\_\_ the cities by enabling the migration of city dwellers to the suburbs.

Ⓐ invigorate	Ⓓ delineate
Ⓑ enlarge	Ⓔ overshadow
Ⓒ enfeeble	

3. (Easy) The *current* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of format in electronic scholarly publication *will not last beyond the point when amateur burnout occurs* and amateurs are replaced by traditional publishing companies: *in an effort to reduce costs through economies of scale*, publishing firms tend toward (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in the format of their electronic publication projects.

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Ⓐ diversity	Ⓓ homogeneity
Ⓑ monotony	Ⓔ sophistication
Ⓒ refinement	Ⓕ extremes

3. (Medium) *Though* somewhat *less* (i)\_\_\_\_\_ than previous chapters and suffering from a minor rash of academic jargon, the final chapter of the book is *nonetheless* (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ laypeople.

Ⓐ arcane	Ⓓ largely ignored by
Ⓑ coherent	Ⓔ accessible to
Ⓒ subjective	Ⓕ impenetrable to

3. (Hard) The Parisian Ecole des Beaux-Arts (School of Fine Arts) was (i) \_\_\_\_\_ many nineteenth- and twentieth-century artists, *so that* by 1930 the associated term “academic art” *had become* a (ii)\_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ influential among	Ⓓ pejorative
Ⓑ ridiculed by	Ⓔ conundrum
Ⓒ attended by	Ⓕ misnomer

4. (Easy) *Because* we *assume* the (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of natural design, nature can often (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ us: as the Wright brothers noted, the birds initially misled them in almost every particular, *but* their Flyer *eventually* succeeded by being the least avian of the early flying machines.

Ⓐ quirkiness	Ⓓ galvanize
Ⓑ preeminence	Ⓔ befriend
Ⓒ maladroitness	Ⓕ beguile

4. (Medium) *Although* he has long had a reputation for (i)\_\_\_\_\_, his behavior toward his coworkers has always been (ii)\_\_\_\_\_, suggesting he *may not* be as insolent as people generally think.

Ⓐ inscrutability	Ⓓ brazen
Ⓑ venality	Ⓔ courteous
Ⓒ impudence	Ⓕ predictable

4. (Hard) Moore was (i)\_\_\_\_\_ ill *at ease*. His (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ had always been a distinguishing feature. It was what made him a good con artist and a good informant. He was one of those men who accepted dares with an easygoing smile and did outrageous things with (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ that made him successful in the dangerous world in which he operated. *But just now* he was not feeling very sure of himself.

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Ⓐ uncharacteristically	Ⓓ disquietude	Ⓔ an obvious clumsiness
Ⓑ predictably	Ⓔ magnanimity	Ⓕ a sophisticated fearlessness
Ⓒ naturally	Ⓕ aplomb	Ⓖ a wary vigilance

5. (Easy) If one could don magic spectacles -- with lenses that make the murky depths of the ocean become transparent -- and look back several centuries to an age before widespread abuse of the oceans began, *even* the most (i) \_\_\_\_\_ observer would quickly discover that fish were formerly much more abundant. *Likewise*, many *now-depleted* species of marine mammals would appear (ii)\_\_\_\_\_. *But without* such special glasses, the differences between past and present oceans are *indeed hard* to (iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ casual	Ⓓ threatened	Ⓔ ignore
Ⓑ prescient	Ⓕ plentiful	Ⓖ discern
Ⓒ clearheaded	Ⓖ unfamiliar	Ⓗ dismiss

5. (Medium) There is *nothing* that (i)\_\_\_\_\_ scientists *more than having an old problem in their field solved by someone from outside*. If you doubt this (ii)\_\_\_\_\_, just think about the (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ reaction of paleontologists to the hypothesis of Luis Alvarez -- a physicist -- and Walter Alvarez -- a geologist -- that the extinction of the dinosaurs was caused by the impact of a large meteor on the surface of the planet.

Ⓐ amazes	Ⓓ exposition	Ⓔ contemptuous
Ⓑ pleases	Ⓔ objurgation	Ⓖ indifferent
Ⓒ nettles	Ⓕ observation	Ⓗ insincere

5. (Hard) The journalism professor's first lecture tackled (i)\_\_\_\_\_ itself, *challenging* the journalistic trope that an article has to represent all sides -- no matter how marginal -- equally. *Instead*, the professor argued that this impulse to (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ *even* obviously (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ views *in order to* furnish opposing perspectives is harmful to basic accuracy.

Ⓐ marketability	Ⓓ approve	Ⓔ controversial
Ⓑ objectivity	Ⓔ present	Ⓖ fringe
Ⓒ partisanship	Ⓕ denigrate	Ⓗ straightforward

6. (Easy) This book's strengths are the author's breadth of knowledge and the blending of ideas and findings from many disciplines, including history, the arts and the sciences.

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Ideas from diverse perspectives are (i)\_\_\_\_\_ [to provide a historical and cross-cultural understanding.](#)

*But* a weakness of the book is its (ii)\_\_\_\_\_: [sometimes there are leaps from one domain to another](#) that (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ the reader's ability to synthesize [a coherent view of our current understanding of this subject.](#)

(A) hyperbolized	(D) organization	(G) exaggerate
(B) interwoven	(E) intensity	(H) oversimplify
(C) reversed	(F) uniformity	(I) undercut

6. (Medium) Historical research makes two somewhat *antithetical* truths that *sounded* (i)\_\_\_\_\_ [come to seem profound](#): knowledge of the past comes entirely from written documents, giving written words great (ii)\_\_\_\_\_, and [the more material you uncover](#), the more (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ your subject becomes.

(A) deep	(D) consequence	(G) elusive
(B) portentous	(E) antiquity	(H) contemporary
(C) banal	(F) simultaneity	(I) circumstantial

6. (Hard) [An esteemed literary critic](#), Mr. Wood has put together a (i)\_\_\_\_\_ volume about literary technique, his playful exuberance (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ [the dry, jargon-strewn tradition of academic criticism.](#)

Mr. Wood *can't* claim to be (iii)\_\_\_\_\_; [he has restricted himself to citations available in his personal library.](#)

*Nor* does he attempt to be methodical, as chapters proceed in higgledy-piggledy fashion.

*But few* books about novel writing provide such insights into the craft.

(A) deft	(D) wonderfully at odds with	(G) entertaining
(B) pretentious	(E) heavily influenced by	(H) accessible
(C) comprehensive	(F) largely superseded by	(I) thorough

12. (Easy) Alkan steadfastly *refused* to \_\_\_ her responsibilities as an author: [for her an author had to be fearless and committed, and she was always both.](#)

(A) undertake	(D) reveal
(B) shirk	(E) rationalize
(C) disclose	(F) neglect

12. (Medium) The slower-learning monkeys searched \_\_\_ *but* unintelligently: [although they worked closely together](#), they checked only the most obvious hiding places.

(A) competitively	(D) deviously
(B) impulsively	(E) craftily
(C) cooperatively	(F) harmoniously

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12. (Hard) That the book's argument was \_\_\_\_\_ became clear as soon as reviews appeared: there were holes, and reviewers delighted in pointing them out.

(A) wanting	(D) penetrating
(B) convoluted	(E) flawed
(C) unintelligible	(F) complex

13. (Easy) If emissions of heat-trapping gases continue to accumulate in the atmosphere at the current rate, Earth could experience global transformations, and *while some* of these changes might be \_\_\_\_\_ many could be downright disruptive.

(A) catastrophic	(D) irremediable
(B) calamitous	(E) modest
(C) intolerable	(F) unremarkable

13. (Medium) The report's most significant weakness is its *assumption* that the phenomenon under study is \_\_\_\_\_, when *in reality it is limited to a specific geographic area*.

(A) unusual	(D) absolute
(B) exceptional	(E) universal
(C) ubiquitous	(F) restricted

13. (Hard) Some researchers worry that if there is a causal relationship between warming tropical sea surface temperatures and the marked increase in Atlantic hurricane activity since the early 1990s, this connection could \_\_\_\_\_ larger changes.

(A) presage	(D) avert
(B) exacerbate	(E) portend
(C) obscure	(F) forestall

14. (Easy) It may be that most of this film footage was shown somewhere, *but* the documentary is designed to make audiences feel that this footage has never been seen, *or that*, having been seen, it was deliberately \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) censored	(D) underscored
(B) imitated	(E) counterfeited
(C) suppressed	(F) misrepresented

14. (Medium) By about age eight, children's phonetic capacities are fully developed but still \_\_\_\_\_; *thus* children at that age can learn to speak a new language with a native speaker's accent.

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Ⓐ plastic	Ⓓ unformed
Ⓑ vestigial	Ⓔ nascent
Ⓒ inarticulate	Ⓕ malleable

14. (Hard) The dog's appearance of \_\_\_\_\_ became increasingly irritating; his whines became more wheedling, his manner more imploring.

Ⓐ supplication	Ⓓ entreaty
Ⓑ gratification	Ⓔ willfulness
Ⓒ insolence	Ⓕ contentment

15. (Easy) Philby secretly loathed the host of the party that he was attending, but it seemed \_\_\_\_\_ to say *so publicly*.

Ⓐ recondite	Ⓓ malign
Ⓑ tactless	Ⓔ deft
Ⓒ clever	Ⓕ impolitic

15. (Medium) Each member of the journalistic pair served as \_\_\_\_\_ the other: each refrained from publishing a given piece if the other doubted that it was ready to be printed.

Ⓐ a check on	Ⓓ a brake on
Ⓑ an advocate for	Ⓔ an apologist for
Ⓒ an impediment to	Ⓕ an intermediary for

15. (Hard) The demands of \_\_\_\_\_ *notwithstanding*, a page or two in Dahl's recent book on democracy that considered what public-choice economics has to say about "democratic failure" -- or at least a clear signpost to that literature -- would have been very well spent.

Ⓐ clarity	Ⓓ economy
Ⓑ brevity	Ⓔ cogency
Ⓒ comprehensiveness	Ⓕ thoroughness

+150 Text Completion Practice Set 1: Easy (9)

1. This composer has never courted popularity: her rugged modernism seems to defy rather than to \_\_\_\_\_ the audience.

Ⓐ ignore	Ⓓ teach
Ⓑ discount	Ⓔ cow
Ⓒ woo	

2. The sight of a single actor portraying several characters in the same scene is *no longer* a shock to the average moviegoer, such special-effects trickery *having become* so \_\_\_\_\_.

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Ⓐ expensive	Ⓓ commonplace
Ⓑ specialized	Ⓔ unreliable
Ⓒ sinister	

3. *Early studies often* concluded that the public was \_\_\_\_\_ the propagandistic influence of mass communications, *but one recent study* indicates that, *on the contrary*, mass communications seldom produce marked changes in social attitudes or actions.

Ⓐ unaware of	Ⓓ unimpressed by
Ⓑ scornful of	Ⓔ coping with
Ⓒ susceptible to	

4. The figure-skating pair's convincing victory last week was particularly (i) \_\_\_\_\_ to their rivals who were in peak form and complained privately about the judging. That the pair won when their rivals were (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ *too* is also impressive.

Ⓐ unsurprising	Ⓓ terrific
Ⓑ irksome	Ⓔ nervous
Ⓒ gratifying	Ⓕ inconsistent

5. In his initial works, the playwright made physical disease (i) \_\_\_\_\_ factor in the action; *from this*, his early critics inferred that he had a predilection for focusing on (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ subject matter.

Ⓐ a pivotal	Ⓓ recondite
Ⓑ a nonexistent	Ⓔ uncomplicated
Ⓒ an obscure	Ⓕ morbid

6. We have *yet* to (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the assessment of Canada's biodiversity. Most of the vertebrates have been assessed, *but our challenge will be the assessment of invertebrates and plants.* This task is (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ *not only because of* the high number of species, *but also because of* the diversity, each species requiring a different approach.

Ⓐ initiate	Ⓓ repetitious
Ⓑ complete	Ⓔ trivial
Ⓒ limit	Ⓕ daunting

7. The company's efforts to improve safety were apparently (i) \_\_\_\_\_, at least according to the company's own data, which showed that the (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ incidents with the potential to cause a serious accident declined significantly. *Nevertheless*, independent analysts argue that those statistics are (iii) \_\_\_\_\_. These analysts maintain that the company has consistently underestimated both the probability and the likely effects of accidents



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in the sensitive and poorly understood environment  
in which the company is operating.

Ⓐ innovative	Ⓓ frequency of	Ⓔ deceptive
Ⓑ successful	Ⓔ impediments of	Ⓕ testable
Ⓒ frustrated	Ⓕ attention to	Ⓖ consistent

### 8. Researchers' trying to make it possible

to trace counterfeit documents to the printer that produced them  
are (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the fact that  
the rotating drums and mirrors inside laser printers are imperfect devices  
that leave unique patterns of banding in their output.

*Although* these patterns are (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ to the naked eye,  
they can be (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ and analyzed by computer programs  
that the researchers have spent the past year devising.

Ⓐ exploiting	Ⓓ invisible	Ⓔ detected
Ⓑ facing	Ⓔ obvious	Ⓕ implemented
Ⓒ manipulating	Ⓕ unappealing	Ⓖ generated

### 9. In her startlingly original writing, she went *further than*

any other twentieth-century author in English (perhaps in any language)  
in (i) \_\_\_\_\_ literary language and form, (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ stylistic conventions,  
and (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ a rich and diverse structure of meaning.

Ⓐ reinventing	Ⓓ undoing	Ⓔ replicating
Ⓑ canonizing	Ⓔ overpraising	Ⓕ borrowing
Ⓒ stabilizing	Ⓕ misunderstanding	Ⓖ introducing

## +150 Text Completion Practice Set 2: Medium (8)

1. The media *once* portrayed the governor as *anything but ineffective*;  
*they now, however,* make her out to be the epitome of \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ fecklessness	Ⓓ egoism
Ⓑ brilliance	Ⓔ punctiliousness
Ⓒ dynamism	

2. For most of the first half of the nineteenth century,  
science at the university was in \_\_\_\_\_ state,  
*despite the presence of numerous luminaries.*

Ⓐ a scintillating	Ⓓ an incendiary
Ⓑ a pathetic	Ⓔ a veracious
Ⓒ a controversial	

3. In a recent history of the Renaissance,  
by showing how the artistic efflorescence of that era  
was (i) \_\_\_\_\_ linked to its commercial vitality,

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Jardine demonstrated that the spirit of acquisitiveness may be (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ that of cultural creativity.

(A) questionably	(D) threatened by
(B) intimately	(E) inseparable from
(C) skeptically	(F) comparable to

4. The setting in which the concert took place (i) \_\_\_\_\_ : the group's performance was elegant and polished, *but* the sound, which seeped across the cold, unresonant high school auditorium, was *oddly* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, *given* the energy the players seemed to be putting into it.

(A) exacted a toll	(D) clangorous
(B) encouraged nervousness	(E) tepid
(C) solved a dilemma	(F) inviting

5. The governor has long been obsessed with excising the media from the politician-public relationship. That's been the unifying aim of all her seemingly disconnected ventures since entering public life: a determination to (i) \_\_\_\_\_, *and eventually* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, the media's hold on political communication.

(A) conceal	(D) augment
(B) erode	(E) consolidate
(C) rejuvenate	(F) end

6. Female labor was essential to the growth of eighteenth-century European textile industries, *yet it remains difficult to* (i) \_\_\_\_\_. *Despite* significant (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in research about women, the role of female labor remains the single most glaring omission in most economic analyses of the history of European industrialization. Women far outnumbered men as workers in the textile industries, *yet* wage indices and discussions of growth, cost of living, and the like (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ about the male labor force.

(A) track	(D) advances	(G) incorporate data only
(B) overestimate	(E) gaps	(H) suppress most information
(C) ignore	(F) disinterest	(I) too rarely talk

7. It is a sad but just indictment of some high school history textbooks that they frequently report as (i) \_\_\_\_\_ claims that historians hotly debate or that are *even* completely (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ by (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ primary sources.

(A) factual	(D) resolved	(G) dubious
(B) controversial	(E) corroborated	(H) incomplete
(C) sensational	(F) contradicted	(I) reliable

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8. The reason minimum temperatures are going up more rapidly than maximums may involve cloud cover and evaporative cooling.

Clouds tend to keep the days cooler by reflecting sunlight, and the nights warmer by (i)\_\_\_\_\_ loss of heat from Earth's surface. Greater amounts of moisture in the soil from additional precipitation and cloudiness (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ the daytime temperature increases *because* part of the solar energy is (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ the evaporation of that moisture.

(A) inhibiting	(D) augment	(G) intensified by
(B) exacerbating	(E) mask	(H) unrelated to
(C) replicating	(F) restrain	(I) used up in

+150 Text Completion Practice Set 3: Hard (8)

1. In searching for norms in the sense of authoritative standards of what ought to be, *rather than* in the sense of what is average and *thus* can be considered normal, normative ethics aims to \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) predict	(D) dictate
(B) mitigate	(E) personalize
(C) question	

2. When she *first* came to France from Bulgaria, she was *hardly* the \_\_\_\_\_ student she *later* made herself out to be, since she had access to considerable family wealth.

(A) naivete	(D) ambitious
(B) precocious	(E) assiduous
(C) impecunious	

3. Researchers have observed chimpanzees feigning injury in order to influence other members of the group, *thus* showing that the capacity to \_\_\_\_\_ is *not* uniquely human.

(A) cooperate	(D) dissemble
(B) instruct	(E) dominate
(C) conspire	

4. Instant celebrity is often (i)\_\_\_\_\_ asset *because* if there is *no* (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ to interest the public -- *no* stage or screen triumphs, *no* interesting books, *no* heroic exploits -- people quickly become bored.

(A) a fleeting	(D) competing attraction
(B) an incomparable	(E) continuity of exposure
(C) an untapped	(F) real achievement

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5. At their best, (i)\_\_\_\_\_ book reviews are written in defense of value and in the tacit hope that the author, having had his or her (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ pointed out, might secretly agree that the book could be improved.

(A) abstruse	(D) strengths
(B) adverse	(E) transgressions
(C) hortatory	(F) assumptions

6. The gaps in existing accounts of the playwright's life are *not* (i)\_\_\_\_\_, *since* much of the documentary evidence on which historians have relied is (ii)\_\_\_\_\_.

(A) trifling	(D) credible
(B) obvious	(E) extant
(C) implicit	(F) incomplete

7. That *today's* students of American culture tend to (i) \_\_\_\_ classical music is understandable. *In our own time*, America's musical high culture has degenerated into a formulaic entertainment divorced from the contemporary moment. *Thus*, to miss out on what our orchestras are up to *is not* to (ii) \_\_\_\_ much. *In the late Gilded Age, however,* music was widely esteemed as the "queen of the arts". Classical music was in its American heyday, (iii) \_\_\_\_ the culture at large.

(A) promote	(D) sacrifice	(G) antagonistic toward
(B) reinterpret	(E) appreciate	(H) generally rejected by
(C) ignore	(F) malign	(I) centrally embedded in

8. The serious study of popular culture by intellectuals is regularly credited with having rendered obsolete a once-dominant view that popular culture is inherently inferior to high art. *Yet this alteration* of attitudes may be somewhat (i)\_\_\_\_\_. *Although it is now academically respectable to analyze popular culture,* the fact that many intellectuals feel compelled to rationalize their own (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ action movies or mass-market fiction reveals, perhaps unwittingly, their *continued* (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ the old hierarchy of high and low culture.

(A) counterproductive	(D) penchant for	(G) aversion to
(B) under-appreciated	(E) distaste for	(H) investment in
(C) overstated	(F) indifference to	(I) misunderstanding of

+150 Sentence Equivalence Practice Set 1: Easy (5)

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1. Retrofitted with stabilizing devices, some of which \_\_\_\_\_ its aesthetics, the bridge has been reopened, *no longer* prone to excessive swaying *but not quite the breathtaking structure it originally was*.

<input type="radio"/> A impair	<input type="radio"/> D enhance
<input type="radio"/> B resist	<input type="radio"/> E restore
<input type="radio"/> C improve	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F compromise

2. *Although* cosmic objects have struck Earth since the planet's very formation, *humanity has only recently become aware of these events: two centuries ago* the idea that objects orbiting the Sun could collide with Earth was widely \_\_\_\_\_.

<input type="radio"/> A ridiculed	<input type="radio"/> D promulgated
<input checked="" type="radio"/> B doubted	<input type="radio"/> E marginalized
<input type="radio"/> C disseminated	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F disbelieved

3. That people \_\_\_\_\_ the musical features of birdsongs suggests that *despite* the vast evolutionary gulf between birds and mammals, *songbirds and humans share some common auditory perceptual abilities*.

<input type="radio"/> A mimic	<input type="radio"/> D are confounded by
<input checked="" type="radio"/> B recognize	<input checked="" type="radio"/> E can make out
<input type="radio"/> C relish	<input type="radio"/> F are puzzled by

4. Torpey's study has *turned* a seemingly \_\_\_\_\_ topic, the passport, *into a fascinating one* by making an original contribution to the sociology of the state.

<input type="radio"/> A ironic	<input type="radio"/> D witty
<input checked="" type="radio"/> B banal	<input checked="" type="radio"/> E insipid
<input type="radio"/> C provocative	<input type="radio"/> F stimulating

5. Britain is attractive to worldwide advertisers *because* it is \_\_\_\_\_ market, *so there is no need to tailor advertisements for different parts of the country*.

<input type="radio"/> A a global	<input checked="" type="radio"/> D a homogeneous
<input type="radio"/> B an uncomplicated	<input checked="" type="radio"/> E a uniform
<input type="radio"/> C a vast	<input type="radio"/> F an immense

### +150 Sentence Equivalence Practice Set 2: Medium (8)

1. The band's long-standing strategy of laying leisurely explorations atop a steady funk beat has proven to be *surprisingly* \_\_\_\_\_: a concert in Cologne from 1972 *sounds as if it could have taken place today*.

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(A) fortuitous	(D) popular
(B) foresighted	(E) serendipitous
(C) prescient	(F) lucrative

2. Factory production made an *absence of imperfections* so blandly commonplace *that* the \_\_\_\_\_ of hand-produced goods were *now* cherished where they *once might have been shunned*.

(A) advantages	(D) pretensions
(B) revivals	(E) blemishes
(C) benefits	(F) defects

3. Through its state associations, the American Medical Association controlled who could become a physician and dominated \_\_\_\_\_ professions like nursing and occupational therapy.

(A) commensurate	(D) affiliated
(B) proportionate	(E) imperative
(C) kindred	(F) voluntary

4. In a strong indication of the way the entire party is \_\_\_\_\_ the candidate with moderate credentials, the outspokenly conservative former mayor of a major city has promised to raise a substantial amount of money for the candidate's campaign.

(A) rallying behind	(D) mortified over
(B) incensed over	(E) embarrassed about
(C) undecided about	(F) coalescing around

5. Mr. Hirsch says he will aim to preserve the foundation's support of \_\_\_\_\_ thinkers, individuals who are going *against* the trends in a field or an acknowledged set of opinions.

(A) iconoclastic	(D) heterodox
(B) integrative	(E) dogmatic
(C) doctrinaire	(F) synthesizing

6. In France cultural subsidies are \_\_\_\_\_: producers of just about any film can get an advance from the government *against* box-office receipts, *even though* most such loans are *never* fully repaid.

(A) ubiquitous	(D) scanty
(B) invaluable	(E) questionable
(C) sporadic	(F) omnipresent

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7. The problem of *avoiding* duplicate names -- such as for Internet domain names or for e-mail accounts -- is particularly \_\_\_\_\_ when the name has to fit into a format [that allows only a finite number of possibilities.](#)

(A) meager	(D) severe
(B) acute	(E) beneficial
(C) agreeable	(F) productive

8. At nearly 450 pages, the novel is \_\_\_\_\_: the author *does not often resist* the temptation to finish off a chapter, section, or *even* paragraph [with some unnecessary flourish.](#)

(A) instructive	(D) educational
(B) complex	(E) long-winded
(C) prolix	(F) explicit

+150 Sentence Equivalence Practice Set 3: Hard (7)

1. If researchers can determine exactly what is wrong with people who suffer from this condition, they may be able to [suggest drug therapies or other treatments](#) that could \_\_\_\_\_ the effects of the damage.

(A) mitigate	(D) identify
(B) exacerbate	(E) ameliorate
(C) specify	(F) stabilize

2. Some analysts worry about consumers' perception that [the electronics industry is always on the verge of major breakthroughs](#); that perception could hurt the industry by making consumers *reluctant* to buy products they believe will soon be \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) incompatible	(D) ubiquitous
(B) devalued	(E) everywhere
(C) obsolete	(F) outmoded

3. *After* people began to make the transition from gathering food to producing food, human societies *followed* markedly \_\_\_\_\_ courses; [some adopted herding, others took to tillage, and still others stuck to foraging.](#)

(A) divergent	(D) unfamiliar
(B) rural	(E) disparate
(C) novel	(F) quotidian

4. In *The Simple Soybean*,

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the author is *much less restrained* in his enthusiasm for the bean's medical efficacy than he is in his technical writings, *but* he *still cautions against* treating soy as a \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ staple	Ⓓ panacea
Ⓑ supplement	Ⓔ cure-all
Ⓒ herald	Ⓕ harbinger

5. Parkin's characterization of the movement as neo-scholastic is *too* \_\_\_\_\_ *to be accepted without further investigation*.

Ⓐ cursory	Ⓓ biased
Ⓑ detailed	Ⓔ self-evident
Ⓒ perfunctory	Ⓕ complete

6. A recent study suggests that *vitamin E* supplements, *despite* widespread belief in their \_\_\_\_\_, are *no better* than sugar pills *for delaying the onset of the degenerative disease*.

Ⓐ potential	Ⓓ efficacy
Ⓑ misuse	Ⓔ prevalence
Ⓒ popularity	Ⓕ usefulness

7. *Despite* her relaxed and flexible style, Ms. de la Fressange is \_\_\_\_\_ businesswoman *who knows to market her brand: herself*.

Ⓐ a ruthless	Ⓓ an industrious
Ⓑ a creative	Ⓔ a shrewd
Ⓒ a canny	Ⓕ an effective

+150 Mixed Practice Set 1 (13)

1. The name of the Sloane Matthew Library has long been \_\_\_\_\_ ; *even* *longtime city residents assume it is a run-of-the-mill library*, *never* suspecting what art treasures it contains.

Ⓐ revered	Ⓓ elevated
Ⓑ proposed	Ⓔ intriguing
Ⓒ misleading	

2. *Although* economic growth has *conventionally been viewed* as the \_\_\_\_\_ for poverty in underdeveloped regions, *this prescription's negative environmental side effects* are *becoming a concern*

Ⓐ culprit	Ⓓ explanation
Ⓑ recipe	Ⓔ refuge
Ⓒ panacea	



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3. *Even as the economy struggled*, the secretary stood by his \_\_\_\_\_ long-term outlook, saying that technology was allowing businesses *to make deep-rooted improvements in their productivity*, the best indicator of an economy's ability to grow.

(A) arcane	(D) ambivalent
(B) sanguine	(E) irresolute
(C) equivocal	

4. *The villas and compounds* that proliferated during the building boom of the 1990s were (i) \_\_\_\_\_, *far too* (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ for people of *average means*.

(A) opulent	(D) bucolic
(B) eclectic	(E) expensive
(C) enigmatic	(F) mundane

5. *The governor has considerable political talents*, *but* as a speaker he is *far less* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ than his opponent, whose oratorical skills are (ii) \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) adroit	(D) unpretentious
(B) unconvincing	(E) spurious
(C) prolix	(F) breathtaking

6. *There is no point* in *combing through the director's work for hints of ideological significance*. *It is unnecessary*: his ideology -- Marxist, anti-imperialist, aligned with the perceived interests of the powerless and the marginal -- is the (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of his films. *The clarity and force of that ideology are considerable*, *but* its (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ sometimes bothers critics, who often scold the director for *lacking* (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) hidden focus	(D) bluntness	(G) lucidity
(B) chief impetus	(E) obscurity	(H) subtlety
(C) murky lesson	(F) feebleness	(I) courage

7. As the finances of the energy-trading firm *began unraveling*, what eventually became (i) \_\_\_\_\_ was that *the company had been concocting "value" out of thin air*, thanks *not to* the trading strategies it promoted as visionary *but to* financial (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ that *turned a once-solid entity into* the most notorious (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ in an era of corporate scandals.

(A) vindicated	(D) redemption	(G) omission
(B) unmistakable	(E) responsibilities	(H) boon
(C) unverifiable	(F) games	(I) debacle

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8. Kept (i)\_\_\_\_\_ by cloying commercial radio and clueless record executives, the American popular music scene has frequently depended on cities at the edges of the cultural map to provide a much-needed shot of (ii)\_\_\_\_\_. The momentary (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ what the next big thing is seems to come out of nowhere -- as if someone blows a whistle only those in the know can hear, and suddenly record executives and journalists are crawling all over what had previously been an obscure locale.

(A) hidebound	(D) originality	(G) consensus about
(B) liberated	(E) truth	(H) indifference to
(C) obligated	(F) orthodoxy	(I) guarantee of

15. Family photos of the author suggest that she was \_\_\_\_\_ child: she seemed to wear a permanent frown.

(A) a sullen	(D) a beautiful
(B) an amiable	(E) a prudent
(C) a surly	(F) a stunning

16. Biologists agree that snakes descended from lizards, *but* exactly where this first happened has been a matter of debate since the 1800s, when two \_\_\_\_\_ theories emerged.

(A) complex	(D) conclusive
(B) competing	(E) contending
(C) dubious	(F) irrefutable

17. A particular bacterium that has *never* encountered a particular virus will usually succumb to it, a \_\_\_\_\_ that may, *surprisingly*, be beneficial to the colony in which the bacterium lives.

(A) susceptibility	(D) juxtaposition
(B) theory	(E) collision
(C) characteristic	(F) hypothesis

18. The *remarkable thing* about the mayoral race, *in retrospect*, is that so many people wanted the job of managing a municipality so obviously about to \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) materialize	(D) prosper
(B) disintegrate	(E) flourish
(C) crumble	(F) scuffle

19. It is a testimony to Roth's \_\_\_\_\_ that he could *not* quite bring himself to write a book as dull and flat as his original conception for his novel *Everyman* *seemed to demand*.

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Ⓐ persistence	Ⓓ ambition
Ⓑ deterioration	Ⓔ decline
Ⓒ talent	Ⓕ genius

+150 Mixed Practice Set 2 (12)

1. By recognizing commonalities among all the major political parties and by promoting a collaborative decision-making process, the prime minister has made good on his promise to cultivate a leadership style that emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ growth	Ⓓ cooperation
Ⓑ politics	Ⓔ differentiation
Ⓒ ideology	

2. In his unexpurgated autobiography, Mark Twain commented freely on the flaws and foibles of his country, making some observations *so* \_\_\_\_\_ *that* his heirs and editors feared they would damage Twain's reputation if not withheld.

Ⓐ buoyant	Ⓓ laudatory
Ⓑ acerbic	Ⓔ temperate
Ⓒ premonitory	

3. That the artist chose to remain in his hometown *does not mean* that he remained (i) \_\_\_\_\_; *on the contrary*, he (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the international artistic movements of his day.

Ⓐ provincial	Ⓓ knew nothing about
Ⓑ capricious	Ⓔ made light of
Ⓒ obstinate	Ⓕ kept abreast of

4. An innovation of the eighteenth-century cookbook writer Mary Cole was that in her work she (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the earlier books from which her recipes were drawn.

*Even* in those numerous instances in which she had collated into a single version, which she could have called her own, the recipes of several earlier writers, she (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ them.

Ⓐ preserved	Ⓓ took pains to cite
Ⓑ enhanced	Ⓔ sought to imitate
Ⓒ acknowledged	Ⓕ could not surpass

5. The lizards snapped up insects that are *so* (i) that other potential predators avoid them. Among the lizards' prey were some beetles that they initially (ii) *because* the insects were spraying their hot, irritant defense chemical at the time.

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*Yet even* these produced *no* [apparent ill effects](#),  
*since* the lizards, having eaten, proceeded on their way (iii) enough.

Ⓐ rare	Ⓓ sought	Ⓔ erratically
Ⓑ nutritious	Ⓔ <b>rejected</b>	Ⓕ laboriously
Ⓒ <b>noxious</b>	Ⓕ resembled	Ⓖ <b>nonchalantly</b>

6. When the *normally* (i) \_\_\_\_\_ film director was interviewed,  
it was only the topic of her next movie that (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ her flow of words.  
Her (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ on that subject [suggested that it was an unwelcome one](#).

Ⓐ assiduous	Ⓓ diverted	Ⓔ <b>taciturnity</b>
Ⓑ <b>loquacious</b>	Ⓔ <b>stanchd</b>	Ⓕ alacrity
Ⓒ diffident	Ⓕ accentuated	Ⓖ rhapsody

7. Bureaucrats tend to (i) \_\_\_\_\_.

*So it is surprising* that the European Commission is proposing to  
[hand back some of its antitrust powers to national governments](#).

Such a willingness to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ power is quite (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.

*Perhaps* the commission,

so often a byword for meddling, bungling, and *even* corruption,

[is starting to put its house in order](#)

*following* the forced resignation of the previous lot of commissioners last year.

Ⓐ value complex procedures	Ⓓ <b>devolve</b>	Ⓔ troubling
Ⓑ <b>guard their authority jealously</b>	Ⓔ misuse	Ⓕ <b>encouraging</b>
Ⓒ shirk many of their responsibilities	Ⓕ appropriate	Ⓖ predictable

14. In film studies -- [a visually oriented discipline](#)

that is \_\_\_\_\_ backlit close-ups, eye line matches, and voyeuristic gazes --  
scholars have often been tone-deaf to the sounds of music.

Ⓐ <b>fixated on</b>	Ⓓ amused by
Ⓑ <b>obsessed with</b>	Ⓔ bothered by
Ⓒ unconcerned with	Ⓕ indifferent to

15. Consumers may think that

[genetic engineering of foods is something new](#),

*but* humans have been modifying plants for ages;

the \_\_\_\_\_ is *not* that new genes are introduced

*but* that genes can now be moved from one species to another.

Ⓐ <b>novelty</b>	Ⓓ <b>innovation</b>
Ⓑ quandary	Ⓔ discrepancy
Ⓒ advantage	Ⓕ predicament

16. *Although* the compound is abundant in the environment at large,  
its presence in the air is *not* \_\_\_\_\_ ;

*only* in the form of underwater sediment [does it cause damage](#).

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(A) trivial	(D) substantive
(B) detectable	(E) detrimental
(C) deleterious	(F) inconsequential

17. Deacon attempts what seems impossible:  
a book rich in scientific insights, in a demanding discipline,  
 that *nevertheless* is accessible to \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) skeptics	(D) zealots
(B) experts	(E) authorities
(C) nonspecialists	(F) laypersons

18. *Despite* relying on the well-to-do for commissions  
 the portrait painter was *no* \_\_\_\_\_;  
 he depicted the character of those he painted as he perceived it.

(A) hypocrite	(D) adulator
(B) egotist	(E) braggart
(C) sycophant	(F) coward

+150 Mixed Practice Set 3 (12)

1. *While not* \_\_\_\_\_ the arguments  
*in favor of* the proposal for new highway construction,  
 the governor *nevertheless* decided to veto the proposal.

(A) optimistic about	(D) sanguine about
(B) convinced by	(E) unsympathetic to
(C) happy with	

2. The children's \_\_\_\_\_ natures were *in sharp contrast to*  
the even-tempered dispositions of their parents.

(A) mercurial	(D) apathetic
(B) blithe	(E) cunning
(C) phlegmatic	

3. The first major exhibits of modern art left the public (i) \_\_\_\_\_,  
 its (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ *intensified* by the response of art critics,  
who stooped to vituperation to express their disgust with the new art.

(A) aghast	(D) shock
(B) bemused	(E) apathy
(C) unsurprised	(F) empathy

4. *While many outside the company*  
 attributed the company's success to its president's (i) \_\_\_\_\_,  
*insiders* realized that this success owed more to the president's inflexibility  
 than to any (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ that the president *might be supposed to* have displayed.

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Ⓐ perseverance	Ⓓ obduracy
Ⓑ popularity	Ⓔ caprice
Ⓒ <b>prescience</b>	Ⓕ <b>foresight</b>

5. With the rate of technological (i)\_\_\_\_ accelerating -- many people now consider a personal computer (ii)\_\_\_\_ after three years -- the question of how to properly dispose of old equipment is *no small matter*.

Ⓐ affordability	Ⓓ <b>outdated</b>
Ⓑ complexity	Ⓔ familiar
Ⓒ <b>obsolescence</b>	Ⓕ inestimable

6. In the nineteenth century the (i)\_\_\_\_\_ advanced mechanical printing techniques made it possible for newspaper owners to print newspapers cheaply and in mass quantities, *but unlike* many other mechanized industries, where machines (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ workers, the new printing machines required trained compositors to run them, *thereby* (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ the demand for skilled printing labor.

Ⓐ <b>wide application of</b>	Ⓓ <b>marginalized</b>	Ⓖ ignoring
Ⓑ extensive resistance to	Ⓔ intrigued	Ⓗ anticipating
Ⓒ great expense of	Ⓕ isolated	Ⓘ <b>increasing</b>

7. It may be that a kind of pendulum is built into United States politics: if a particular interest group scores a major victory, its supporters (i)\_\_\_\_\_ and its adversaries (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ their efforts, *so that* the victory is *soon* (iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ consider new possibilities	Ⓓ abandon	Ⓖ <b>reversed</b>
Ⓑ <b>grow complacent</b>	Ⓔ <b>redouble</b>	Ⓗ augmented
Ⓒ become even more focused	Ⓕ defend	Ⓘ institutionalized

15. If big sums are to be spent on cleaning up environmental disasters, it is better to spend them on unglamorous *but* \_\_\_\_\_ problems such as unsanitary water in Third World countries.

Ⓐ futile	Ⓓ controversial
Ⓑ ephemeral	Ⓔ transitory
Ⓒ <b>pressing</b>	Ⓕ <b>critical</b>

16. The process of establishing a literary canon is seen by some as, in part, an attempt by certain scholars to make their own labors central and to relegate the work of others to \_\_\_\_\_ status.

Ⓐ orthodox	Ⓓ definitive
Ⓑ <b>marginal</b>	Ⓔ conditional
Ⓒ mainstream	Ⓕ <b>peripheral</b>

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17. The mayor is more ideologically consistent than is widely believed:  
her long-term commitment to tax reform,  
for example, is *not* indicative of \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) perspicacity	(D) fickleness
(B) capriciousness	(E) clearheadedness
(C) callousness	(F) insensitivity

18. *At first glance* Watkins Park,  
with its meandering stream and its thicket of greenery, seems \_\_\_\_\_;  
*however, upon closer inspection* one is quickly reminded that  
the park is in the middle of a major city.

(A) bucolic	(D) noteworthy
(B) remarkable	(E) pastoral
(C) urban	(F) spurious

19. *Although* relying on much of the recent scholarship on the bison,  
Lott's book is a distinctly \_\_\_\_\_  
and *even idiosyncratic contribution* to the field.

(A) derivative	(D) imitative
(B) original	(E) insightful
(C) innovative	(F) surprising

Other Sources (10)

1. From the outset,  
the concept of freedom of the seas from the proprietary claims of nations  
was challenged by a *contrary* notion --  
that of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the oceans *for reasons of* national security and profit.

(A) promotion	(D) conservation
(B) exploration	(E) appropriation
(C) surveying	

2. Many find it *strange* that her writing is thought to be tortuous;  
her recent essays, *although* longer than most of her earlier essays,  
are extremely \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) painstaking	(D) sophisticated
(B) tedious	(E) clear
(C) insightful	

3. A newly published, laudatory biography  
of George Bernard Shaw *fails*, like others before it,  
to capture the essence of his personality:  
the more he is (i) \_\_\_\_\_, the more his true self seems to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_.

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Ⓐ discussed	Ⓓ disappear
Ⓑ disparaged	Ⓔ emerge
Ⓒ disregarded	Ⓕ coalesce

4. The author's (i)\_\_\_\_\_ style renders a fascinating subject, the role played by luck in everyday life, *extraordinarily* (ii)\_\_\_\_\_.

Ⓐ soporific	Ⓓ pedantic
Ⓑ lucid	Ⓔ tedious
Ⓒ colloquial	Ⓕ opaque

5. Critics *charge* that the regulatory agency, having never defined what constitutes an untenable risk, has grown (i) \_\_\_\_\_ outside influences on that issue: several experts have (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ it recently for allowing one power plant to delay an inspection for more than six weeks *despite* compelling safety concerns.

Ⓐ susceptible to	Ⓓ complimented
Ⓑ unaware of	Ⓔ panned
Ⓒ irritated at	Ⓕ overlooked

6. Colleagues describe Padgett as *both* forthright and reticent, humble and (i)\_\_\_\_\_, good-natured and (ii)\_\_\_\_\_. And in her behavior as a businesswoman, Padgett herself does *little* to (iii)\_\_\_\_\_ *these contradictions*. She says she is pro-employee *but* is avowedly anti-union. She calls herself pro-customer *but* acknowledges that she runs a store with higher profit margins and prices than almost any other grocer.

Ⓐ diffident	Ⓓ prickly	Ⓖ dispel
Ⓑ eccentric	Ⓔ solicitous	Ⓗ fulfill
Ⓒ arrogant	Ⓕ phlegmatic	Ⓘ accentuate

7. The corporation expects only \_\_\_\_\_ increases in sales next year *despite* a year long effort to revive its retailing business.

Ⓐ dynamic	Ⓓ modest
Ⓑ predictable	Ⓔ slight
Ⓒ expanding	Ⓕ volatile

8. Cynics believe that people who \_\_\_\_\_ compliments do so *in order to* be praised twice.

Ⓐ conjure up	Ⓓ grasp
Ⓑ covet	Ⓔ shrug off
Ⓒ deflect	Ⓕ understand



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9. In medieval philosophy every physical phenomenon is *presumed to have some determinate cause*, leaving *no* place for \_\_\_\_\_ in the explanation of particular events.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> (A) happenstance	<input type="radio"/> (D) experience
<input checked="" type="radio"/> (B) chance	<input type="radio"/> (E) context
<input type="radio"/> (C) error	<input type="radio"/> (F) miscalculation

10. In ancient Graeco-Roman philosophy, there is no necessary intrinsic connection between a word and the thing it refers to; the relationship is *purely* \_\_\_\_\_.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> (A) conventional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> (D) customary
<input type="radio"/> (B) negligible	<input type="radio"/> (E) illustrative
<input type="radio"/> (C) demonstrative	<input type="radio"/> (F) nonexistent