Texas Christian University
2016 TCU APSI for English

The AP Literature MC Test

Parts of a Multiple-choice Question

Who sent the first internet email using the "@" symbol?

a. Al Gore
b. Douglas Engelbart
c. Ray Tomlinson
d. Vint Cerf

Stem

"Distractors"

Answer

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AP Multiple-Choice Test-Taking Strategies

**General Instructions:** The multiple choice section of the recent exams consists of 50-55 questions on four to six passages which have to be answered in one hour. Strategies that help students consist of reading comprehension practices and familiarity with the exam structure.

1. Quickly survey ALL of the reading passages and note the number of questions attached to each one. Start with the passage that you think you might understand the best AND has a significant number of questions attached to it. After you have worked through that passage, attack the passage that is your second favorite, and so on. This means that you might complete the last passage first if you think that is your best passage, while leaving the first passage for last (because you feel it is your weakest).

2. Skim the questions, not the choices or distracters, to identify what the constructors of the test think is important in the passage. As you skim the questions mark them with an "F" for Forest (General, over-all, big picture question) and "T" for Tree (line specific question) [*Courtesy of Beth Priem*]

3. The directions are always the same for each section: "Read the following passage carefully before you choose your answer." *Remember* that the questions that say "Not, Least, and Except are really well crafted true/false or yes/no questions which are time bandits.

4. Aggressively attack the questions. Remember that questions do NOT become more difficult as they progress.

5. Don’t be afraid to use the test as a source of information. Sometimes, another question will help you answer the one you are stuck on.

6. Read the questions CAREFULLY! Many wrong answers stem from misreading the question; know what is being asked.

7. As you read the piece, carefully note the introductory paragraph and the last paragraph and mark the key topic.

8. Mark any rhetorical shifts usually identified with conjunctions such as But, Although, Since, etc.

9. Read the passages actively by circling the items that seem to be addressed in the questions.

10. Read a few lines before and a few lines after a line question (usually a sentence) to make sure your inference is correct.

11. Be deliberate in your reading; words are there for a reason. Do not imagine what isn't there.

12. Read the questions crossing out obvious wrong answers: a question that contradicts the passage, is irrelevant to the passage, or repeats the same information in more than one question. Remember: Read all the choices, but there is only one right answer: mark and move on.

13. All questions follow the order of appearance in the passage; nothing is out of sequence.

14. Make sure ALL parts of your answer are true. Some answers might contain two ideas, one of which is not supported in the passage.

15. Pay attention to punctuation to note how the writer has organized the flow of ideas within paragraphs.

16. Watch your time by avoiding a re-reading the passage. READ CAREFULLY the first time.

17. Do not linger, obsess, or dither over any one question. Do not *perseverate*. You should move at a brisk, but comfortable pace throughout the questions.

18. For antecedent questions, look in the middle of the line numbers suggested: rarely is the answer the nearest or the farthest away from the pronoun in the question.

19. Go over the test when you are finished. When you go over the test, make sure you read the question correctly and that you answered what it asked. Do not change answers unless you are certain that you made a mistake. If you are not absolutely sure the answer you want to change is incorrect, go with your first impression. Almost without fail, first associations are correct.

20. With approximately 90 seconds left to go in this one-hour section, pick a letter and bubble in any remaining answers. You should complete the test as thoughtfully as possible for 58-59 minutes and then fill in any remaining empty bubbles in the last 90 seconds.

Since this is a *skill-based test*: there is little chance that you will have seen the passages before, but the questions the test asks focus on *higher-level reading skills.*

**Helpful Reminder:** Until your brain is warm and focused, you will have a tendency to miss questions. So, be very careful with your first few questions of the test and your first couple of questions on a new passage.

**Reminder Two:** Students tend to lose focus and confidence during this section of the test. As a result, students will miss a series of questions because of lost concentration and internal doubts.
1982 Exam Stems

1. The headings of the stanzas, ________________, indicate which one of the two is being/acting/winning/speaking.
2. In the poem, which of the following best describes the relationship between _____ and _____?
3. Which of the following devices is dominant in the first stanza?
4. The notion of an _____ that can _____ and an _____ that can _____ (lines __) suggests that _____
5. In the context of the first stanza, the lines __ express a longing to be freed/separated/saved/cured/released.
6. Which of the following best sums up what is said in lines ___?
7. What does line ___ suggest about the nature of _____?
8. Which of the following best restates the question posed in lines ___?
9. Lines ___ are best understood to mean that ____________
10. "_________" (line __) refers metaphorically to ____________
11. Which of the following best describes the effect of the metaphor in lines ___?
12. The last four lines, which extend the length of the last stanza, have the effect of ____________
13. Which of the following most fully expresses the cleverness of ____________ in its impingement on the _____
14. The primary distinction made in the first paragraph is one between ____________
15. Which of the following best describes the function of the first sentence in the passage?
16. The phrase "_________" (line __) is best read as a metaphor relating to ____________
17. In context, the clause "_________" (lines __) suggests which of the following?
18. According to the passage, writers who are most aware of ________ would be those who ________
19. In the first paragraph, the author is most concerned with ____________
20. In lines __, the repeated linkage of the words _____ and _____ can be interpreted as an emphasis on the ____________
21. According to lines __, which of the following would be a _____ and _____ attitude for a young writer to hold?
22. The author implies that "_________" (lines __) because following it leads to ____________
23. The "_________" (line __) is best understood as that which ____________
24. In line __, "_________" refers to which of the following?
25. In lines __, the author refers to "_________" as an example/a part/evidence ____________
26. Which of the following is implicit before "_________" (lines __)?
27. The function of the quotation in lines ___ is primarily to ____________
28. The development of the argument can best be described as ____________
29. Taken as a whole, the passage is best described as ____________
30. The speaker assumes that the ________ referred to in lines __ will come proclaiming ____________
31. According to the speaker, the prophet's "_________" (line __) will probably not be heeded because ____________
32. In the phrase, "_________" (line __), the speaker is suggesting that ____________
33. In line __ the speaker is doing which of the following anticipating/desperating/exchanging/heeding/prescribing
34. In lines __, the speaker is asserting that ____________
35. The speaker implies that without "_________" we would ____________
36. The phrase "_________" (line __) implies ____________
37. The "_________" (line __) refers to ____________
38. The phrase "_________" (line __) is best understood as ____________
39. According to the speaker, we use the images of "______" (line __), "______" (line __), and the "______" (line __) literally/as metaphors/as similes/to reinforce/to explain ____________
40. Which of the following best describes an effect of the repetition of the phrase "_________" (line __)
41. Which of the following best paraphrases the meaning of line __
42. Which of the following best describes the poem as a whole?
43. Which of the following best describes the "__________" in the passage?
44. The opening sentence can best be described as
45. In line ___ "which" refers to
46. The speaker contrasts his preferred ______ with which of the following?
47. In lines ______, which of the following does NOT modify "______" (line__)
48. Which of the following is true about the syntax of the clause "_________"(lines __)
49. The phrase "___________" (lines__) modifies
50. In lines__ "__________" means which of the following?
51. The best contrast with the image of "_________" (lines__) is
52. After line __, the author's tone becomes more
53. The most explicit suggestion that_________________ is contained in
54. When the author says, "_________________" (lines__), he is commenting on
55. Which of the following best describes the passage as a whole?

1987 Exam Stems
1. The phrase "___________" (line __) is best interpreted to mean that
2. The phrase "___________________" (lines __) evokes
3. The phrase "___________" (lines __) presents an example of
4. _______ had hated her ____________ primarily for
5. The image of "___________" (line__) is a reference to
6. In context, which of the following depends on "_________________" (line__)
7. in context, the phrase "___________." (line__) is best interpreted to mean
8. The parable of ______(lines __) serves primarily to
9. _____________ believed that the very best characteristic of human nature is
10. In the parable of ________, "______" (line__) most likes represents
11. It can be inferred that each _____ who ____ "__________" (line__) to see _____ was
12. Which of the following best describes__________ at the end of the passage?
13. The tone of the last two paragraphs (lines ____) is best described as
14. Which of the following best describes how ________ felt about the influence of ________ and ________ on her character?
15. All of the following represent figurative language EXCEPT
16. The__________ pictured in lines ___ is best described as which of the following
17. The ___________ described in lines ___ is pictured chiefly in his role as
18. The change referred to in line __ is described as one from "______ to ________"
19. In line__, the phrase "______________" is best taken to mean which of the following
20. The relationship between lines __ and lines __ is best described by which of the following
21. In lines __, the desire to ____ is seen chiefly as
22. In lines__, the speaker regards himself as
23. The main point made about ____ and ____ is lines ___ is that
24. Lines ___ suggest that
25. Beginning in line __, the speaker does which of the following
26. In line the phrase "_______" refers to
27. According to the speaker, "_____________" (line__) lack all of the following vices EXCEPT
28. In lines __, the speaker attempts to do which of the following recapitulate/recount/offer/draw/chastise
29. According to line __, the speaker finds value in which of the following aspects of poetry?
30. According to the speaker, a positive aspect of poetry is its
31. According to the speaker, poets are despicable if they imitate/become/fail/mock/compose
32. This excerpt is written in which of the following?
33. The passage contains all of the following rhetorical devices EXCEPT
34. It can be inferred from the passage that the speaker would agree with which of the following statements about _____?
35. In the passage's second sentence the speaker uses language that might best describe a
36. It is most likely that the_____________ "______________" (line __) in order to study/admit/remind/trick/hide
37. The speaker's_________ is concerned that his ________'s fear make/weaken/subvert/cause/prompt
38. The comparisons in lines __ of _____ with the _____ and "____________ " suggest that _____ is all of the following EXCEPT
39. In lines _____, that speaker suggests that ___________ is motivated by
40. The sentence beginning "_______________" (lines ___) supports the speaker's proposition that ________ is /may/cannot
41. One could at least partially rebut the implication of lines__ by noting that a man who is "_________" might
42. "They" in line__ refers to
43. A more conventional, but still accurate, replacement for "nor" in line __ would be
44. "_______________" (lines __) appears to be a contradictory statement because
45. At the conclusion the speaker finds that he
46. Which of the following seems LEAST compatible with the speaker's ________________?
47. In the first section of the poem (lines_), the speaker seeks to convey a feeling of
48. In context, "_______" (line__) suggests that
49. The speaker gives symbolic significance to which of the following?
50. Lines __ and __ ("____________") are best understood to mean which of the following?
51. In lines __, the ________ is compared to
52. Which of the following occurs directly because the ________ is "____________" (line __).
53. The speaker’s description of the __________ of the ________ emphasizes all of the following EXCEPT its
54. In lines __, "____________" suggests that
55. In line__, "_____" functions as which of the following   an adjective modifying/an adverb modifying
56. in lines __, the speaker compares
57. In the poem, the_________ is, for the speaker, all of the following EXCEPT
58. Lines __ can best be described as a digression/change/counterargument/metaphorical/simile
59. In the last section of the poem, the speaker implies that to try to _______ the "_________" (line __) is
60. It can be inferred that _____’s attitude toward the speaker’s speculations is one of
61. The poem is an example of which of the following verse forms?

1991 Exam Stems
1. The speaker of the passage is most likely a
2. In the first paragraph, the speaker characterizes the ________ primarily by describing their
3. The dominant technique in the first paragraph is the use of
4. Which of the following best describes the order in which objects are presented in paragraph one?
5. In context, "______" (line__) is best interpreted as
6. The words "________" (line __) and "________" (line __) contribute which of the following to the development of the passage?
7. The ______ and ______ are characterized in terms of which of the following aspects of their lives?
8. The characterization of the ______ in lines ___ is marked by
9. In line ___, "they" refers to
10. In the second paragraph, the author develops a contrast between
11. In the second paragraph, the speaker characterizes the ______ primarily by describing their
12. The primary rhetorical purpose of the passage is to
13. Which of the following best describes the organization of the passage?
14. The speaker is best described as
15. In can be inferred that the rhythm and diction of the concluding lines ("_______") are intended to reflect
16. The phrase "__________" emphasizes which of the following?
17. In lines ___, there is an implied comparison between _________ and
18. In lines ___, _________ implies that "___________" are
19. In lines ___, _________ makes use of
20. The two quotations in lines ______ by _________ are seen by _________ as
21. _________'s "______________" (line ___) are not comforting because they
22. In line ___, the "__________" are mentioned as which of the following? subjects/rabble/people/criminals
23. In line ___, "__________" refers to the idea that the
24. When _________ says "___________" (line ___), he means that he
25. In line ___, "___________" is best interpreted as meaning
26. Which of the following best restates the meaning of lines ___?
27. In the passage, ______ uses language primarily to
28. In the passage, ______ reflects on all of the following EXCEPT
29. In the passage, ______ exhibits which of the following?
30. The speaker implies that the _____ is
31. The speaker implies that there is a similarity between the
32. An example of the literary device of apostrophe is found in line
33. In line ___, "___________" refers to the
34. Which of the following is an irony presented in the poem?
35. A major rhetorical shift in the poem occurs in line
36. Which of the following lines is closest in meaning to lines ___ and ___?
37. The final stanza of the poem primarily expresses the speaker's
38. The basic meter of the poem is
39. The speaker characterizes the life of the _________________ as
40. In line ___, "its" refers to
41. In the first sentence (lines _____) of the passage is characterized by which of the following
42. The succession of phrases "___________" in lines _________ emphasizes the
43. The antecedent of the word "them" is
44. The chief effect of the diction in the sentence "___________" (lines ___) is to provide
45. The predominant tone of the speaker toward the _________ is one of
46. The function of the sentence beginning "___________" (lines ___) is to
47. The description "______________" (lines ___) serves to
48. The description in the ___________ sentence (lines ___) is characterized by all of the following EXCEPT
49. Which of the following indicates the major shift in the development of the speaker's exposition?
50. In the passage, the ______ functions as
51. Which of the following is the most logical deduction from the speaker's assertions?
52. Which of the following are the most prominent images in the passage?
53. The central rhetorical strategy of the passage is to

**1994 Exam Stems**

1. The passage is primarily concerned with

2. In lines ____, the words "__________" have which of the following effects?  they retard/they satirize/they highlight/they change/they emphasize

3. Which of the following best describes the effect produced by the repetition of the phrase "__________" in lines __ and ___

4. It can be inferred from the phrase "________________" (line __) that ______

5. In lines ___, the pronoun "it" in the phrase "____________" refers to

6. The depiction of _________'s "____________" and _____________'s "___________" (lines ___) serves what specific function in the narrative progress of the passage?  it diverts/it retards/it provides/it counters/it offers

7. In context, "________" (line __), "________" (line __), and "________" (line___) serve to evoke/situate/highlight/mask/endorse

8. The qualifiers "______" (lines __) and "________" (lines __) suggest that

9. The image of "________________" (line __) suggests all of the following EXCEPT

10. The attention the speaker pays to the details of ________ serves primarily to

11. The style of the passage as a whole is characterized by

12. The irony in the passages as a whole rests chiefly on the conflict between

13. The point of view in the passage is that of

14. Which of the following best describes the effect produced by the repetition of the words "______" and "_______" throughout the passage?

15. The poem dramatizes the moment when the speaker

16. The poem contains which of the following?

17. In the context of the poem, the phrase "__________" (line __) is best paraphrased as

18. Which of the following pairs of words refers to different entities?

19. When the speaker says the _________ will deny ever having seen him (lines___), he means that

20. A principle purpose of the use of "__________" (line__) is to foreshadow/emphasize/serve/compensate/contrast

21. In the context of the poem, the expression "__________" (line__) is best interpreted to mean

22. Lines ____ describe an example of

23. In line __ "___________" is best paraphrased as

24. By the expression "_____________" (line___), the speaker means that he will have

25. Which of the following pairs of phrases most probably refers to the same moment in the sequence of events in the poem?

26. In the final stanza, the speaker anticipates

27. Which of the following is LEAST important to the theme of the poem?

28. The tone throughout the poem is best described as one of

29. Which of the following descriptions is an example of the narrator's irony?

30. Which of the following phrases most pointed refers to _________'s _____________ character?

31. In context, the adjective "________" (line _) is best interpreted as meaning

32. The use of the word "__________" in line __ is an example of which of the following?

33. In the context of the sentence, the phrases "__________" (line__) and "_______" (line__) are used to show __________'s

34. Which of the following terms is (are) meant to be taken ironically?
35. The passage suggests that, as member of ______, _______ was
36. Which of the following statements best defines _______’s relationship with _______?
37. Which of the following best describes the effect of the last paragraph?
38. The narrator attributes _______’s attitude and behavior to which of the following factors?
39. The style of the passage as a whole can be best characterized as
40. The narrator’s attitude toward _______ can best be described as one of
41. In the first stanza, the ____________ is presented chiefly as
42. The ____________ is most probably called a "__________" (line _) because it
43. How many reasons does the speaker give to try to explain why the _______ "__________" (line _)
44. The speaker hypothesizes that _______ might be
45. The diction used to describe _______ in lines _______ suggests that
46. In line ___, "__________" refers to something that
47. The object of "to" in line ___ is
48. For the speaker, the ____________ and ____________ are similar in that they both
49. In line ___, the speaker implies that the _____ had/was/understood/preferred
50. In line ____ the cause of the ________ is described in language most similar to that used by the speaker to describe
51. In the poem as a whole, the speaker views ______ as being essentially
52. The speaker makes a categorical assertion at all of the following places in the poem EXCEPT
53. Which of the following contains an example of personification?
54. Lines ______ have all of the following functions EXCEPT to return/illustrate/link/emphasize/evoke
55. The _________’s words (lines ____) convey a sense of

1999 MC Stems
1. Which of the following is the primary meaning of the word "_______" as it is used in the passage?
2. _______’s first words ("________________") are surprising because ________ prevents/claims/thinks/implies/is not responding
3. From the context, the reader can infer that "__________" (line ____) is
4. _______ probably calls the quotation in lines __ "__________" because he considers/knows/believes/sees
5. _________’s view of _________ might best be described as
6. In lines ___ ("__________"), the speaker makes use of all of the following EXCEPT
7. The primary rhetorical function of the sentence "________________" (lines ____) is to introduce/provide/undermine/distinguish
8. In line __, the "__________" refers to English
9. The second of ________’s two speeches repeats the argument of the first that
10. Which of the following does _________ explicitly endorse?
11. From the passage, we can infer that the art _________ would most value would be characterized by all of the following EXCEPT
12. In the passage, _________ ridicules all of the following commonly accepted ideas about _____ EXCEPT
13. The comedy of the passage derives chiefly from
14. The central opposition of the poem is between
15. The speaker views the ____________, ____________, and the ____________ as
16. The "__________" (line _) most probably refer to
17. In line ___, "_______" most probably refers metaphorically to
18. For the speaker, the _____ and the _____ have which of the following in common?
19. One effect of "_________" (line __) is to emphasize the speaker's feeling of
20. In line ___, "______" is best understood to mean
21. Grammatically, the word "________" (line ___) functions as
22. The speaker perceives the coming of ____________ chiefly in terms of
23. Which of the following is a subject treated in the poem?
24. The most conventional, least idiosyncratic aspect of the poem is its
25. The sentiments expressed in the poem are closest to those expressed in which of the following quotations from other poets?
26. Throughout the passage, ________ is addressing
27. Which of the following adjectives best describes ____________'s speech?
28. In the simile in line __, "____" is used to stand for
29. The phrase "__________________________ " (line __) refers to
30. Lines ____ are based on which of the following?
31. In line ___, "_______" means
32. Which of the following best paraphrases lines _______ ("________________________")?
33. ________'s comment "________________________" (lines ___) does which of the following? asserts/implies/compar es/suggests/contrasts
34. Which of the following is used most extensively in the passage?
35. The poem is best described as
36. Line ___ suggests which of the following
37. Line ___ presents an example of
38. Lines ____ most strongly convey the speaker's
39. What does the speaker convey in lines ____?
40. The _______ quality of the ____________ allows the speaker to experience all of the following in the poem EXCEPT
41. All of the following contrasts are integral to the poem EXCEPT
42. The imagery of the poem is characterized by
43. The title suggests which of the following?
44. The narrator provides the clause "________________________" most probably as
45. In line ___, "________________________" refers to _____________'s belief that
46. Lines ___ chiefly serve to show that ________ was capable of
47. In lines ____, "______________" is best interpreted to mean that
48. The dominant element of ____________ and ____________'s meeting (lines ___) is
49. The images in lines ____ suggest that
50. In line __, "_______" is best interpreted to mean ____________'s
51. The chief effect of the imagery and figures of speech in lines ______ is to
52. By comparing ____________ to "________________________" (line __) the narrator invites further comparison between
53. The excerpt is chiefly concerned with a plan/decision/hope/dispute/problem
54. Which of the following best describes _____________'s speech?
55. At the ____ of the excerpt, ____________ probably believes that ____________ had been

2004 MC stems
1. The narrator's use of the adverbs "____" and "______" as nouns signifying types of _____ helps to emphasize the _____________'s essential/concern/style/indifference/sense
2. The _____ in the passage are characterized chiefly by description of their
3. In context, "________________" (line__) suggests which of the following about the conversation of the _____?
4. The use of the sentence "___________________" in line__ and again in line ___ suggests that the points of view of the __________ and the __________ are equally
5. From line ____ to line __ the passage is best described as an example of
6. What do lines ___ suggest about the relationship portrayed between _________ and __________?
7. The narrator implies that the situation in which the _____ and _________ find themselves is a kind of
8. In line __, the word "____" might be ironic because the
9. Overall, the passage suggests that immortality
10. The last sentence of the passage is characterized by
11. Both the____ and the _____ are portrayed as
12. In lines ___ ("____________"), the narrator does which of the following?
suggests/introduces/emphasizes/supplies
13. The_______ and ______ mentioned in the first paragraph primarily serve to
reveal/show/suggest/present/illustrate
14. In line __, the author uses the word "__________" to form a connection between
15. The effect of quoting ___________'s words in line __ is to
classify/represent/emphasize/suggest/illustrate
16. __________ submits to having her "____________" (line __) primarily because she
chooses/is/wants
17. Which of the following words associated with ________ best conveys how her _________ would like her to be?
18. In line ____, the reference to "_________________" does which of the following? gently mocks/sincerely
endorse/affectionately endorses/scathingly criticizes/ruefully echoes
19. Why is _________'s _________ disturbed by her "____" (line__)
20. ________ could find no comfort in his __________'s developing qualities because
21. Which of the following most aptly describes _________'s interactions with her _________?
22. In this passage, _________ is presented as
23. In context, which phrase most directly indicates a judgment made by the narrator?
24. The passage employs all of the following contrasts EXCEPT one between
25. The poem is best described as a
26. In lines _____, the speaker conveys a sense of
27. The phrase "___________" (line __) refers specifically to
28. The images in lines ___ ("___________") contrast most directly with
29. In line _ ("_______________"), the speaker suggests which of the following?
30. In the context of the poem, the term "___________" (line __) suggests
31. By deciding to "___________________" (line __), the speaker in effect does which of the following?
apologizes/accepts/questions/dramatizes
32. The description of the "______" (line __) most directly suggests that
33. In line __, "__________" probably refers to the _________'s
34. The structure of the poem is determined by the speaker's emotions/movements/ideas/values/history
35. The main purpose of the passage is to urge/explain/unmask/ridicule/condemn
36. In the context of the passage, the first sentence is best viewed as
37. In line __, "______________" is best understood to mean
38. In the second paragraph, the goddess criticism is portrayed as being
39. In line __, "_______" is best understood to mean
40. Which of the following is personified in the passage?
41. In the third paragraph, the speaker primarily portrays the _____ as being
42. In the passage as a whole, the speaker portrays ______ as being especially
43. The speaker characterizes the ______ as being all of the following EXCEPT
44. It can be inferred from the passage that _____ in the speaker's time were most concerned with
45. In the section of the essay that immediately follows this passage, the speaker probably does which of the following? shows/discusses/explains/urges
46. Which of the following best describes the speaker’s present situation?
47. In the context of the entire poem, it is clear that "_______" (line __) expresses the speaker's inability/belief/desire/failure/assumption
48. In line __, "_______" means
49. In the poem, the ______ and ______ are characterized as hostile/indifferent/favorable/exploitable/fickle
50. In context "__________" (line __) refers to
51. Which two lines come closest to stating the same idea?
52. In line __, "________________" refers to the
53. What is the function of the final couplet (lines __)? explains/comments/describes/undercuts/suggests
54. The speaker is best described as displaying which of the following?
55. Taken as a whole, the poem is best described as

2009 MC stems
1. The use of the present tense throughout the poem helps reinforce the speaker's
2. The speaker experiences a tension primarily between
3. The speaker considers her work at the ______ to be
4. Lines ____ seem to suggest the
5. The interjection in line ___ serves primarily to
6. In line __, the description of the ______ helps to do which of the following emphasize/link/convey/cause/show
7. Which of the following lines best conveys the speaker's sense of time which at the ________?
8. Which two lines come closest to contradicting each other?
9. The speaker and the _______ _________ are portrayed through descriptions of their manners/attitudes/clothing/relationships/tastes
10. Which of the following literary devices is most used in the poem?
11. In line __, "_____" refers to
12. The first sentence makes use of which of the following literary techniques?
13. The description of the _____ in lines __ ("________") functions as sustained metaphor that effectively
14. All of the following verbs have the same subject EXCEPT
15. Lines ___ ("____________") are primarily characterized by
16. Which of the following is true of the sentence "________________" (lines __)?
17. Which of the following best describes the author's figurative treatment of "_______" (lines __)?
18. The description of the "_______" as "_______" (line__) suggests which of the following?
19. The passage establishes a mood of
20. The primary purpose of the passage is
21. Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?
22. In line ___ "_______" most directly means
23. In context, "___" (line__) suggests which of the following?
24. The brief sentence in line ___ emphasizes the
25. The "________" (line__) most directly refers to the
26. The central metaphor in the _____ stanza compares the _______ to
27. Which statement best defines the role of the ______stanza? It shifts/amplifies/reveals/re-
creates/anticipates

28. The image of the _____ in lines ____ is that of both a
29. All of the following convey a striking visual effect produced by the _____ EXCEPT lines
30. "___________" (lines ____ ) emphasizes the _______'s
31. The final _____ line ("_____________") suggest that ______ can
32. The last two lines of each stanza comprise
33. The tone of the speaker is best described as
34. In the context of the paragraph in which it appears, "__________" (line__) connotes all of the following EXCEPT
35. The reference to "______" (lines__) serves to introduce/comment/describe/present/establish
36. In lines ____ ("___________"), the narrator is most concerned with providing a sense of the
37. The use of the word "_____" in lines __ and __ serves to disparage/emphasize/convey/point out/suggest
38. Lines ____ imply that "___________" likely experienced feelings of
39. Lines ____ ("__________") serve to emphasize/link/signals/develop/juxtapose
40. The two views described in line ___ can be characterized as
41. In the _______ paragraph, the response of the _____ to the ______ is best described as
42. The phrase "__________" (line ___ ) emphasizes which quality of the ______?
43. Which of the following best describes how ______ regards his own situation?
44. The tone of the last paragraph is best described as
45. Which of the following happens at the end of the passage?
46. The speaker's question in line__ is justified based on the logic of
47. In line ___, the speaker refers to one who
48. In context, "______" (line__) most nearly mean
49. The second stanza (lines ___) suggests the relationship between
50. Which of the following best paraphrases lines ___?
51. The "____________" (line __) refers to the ______'s
52. In lines ______, the speaker explains that he would have
disrespected/disappointed/demeaned/denied/shortchanged
53. In the final stanza (lines _____), the speaker claims that he will support/maintain/win/revel/try
54. In the final stanza (lines _____), the speaker's attitude toward his situation is best described as
55. The poem can best be described as the speaker’s attack/plea/lament/argument/defense

**2012 MC Stems**

1. The poem deals with all of the following EXCEPT the
2. The second stanza (lines ____ ) primarily serves to
3. Which best describes the speaker’s implication in lines ___?
4. In the fourth stanza (lines ____ ), the speaker’s explanation is best described as one of
5. In context, “___________ “(line __) is best understood to express the speaker’s
6. In line ___ “______” most likely refers to a
7. The fifth stanza (lines ______ ) makes use of all of the following EXCEPT
8. In context, “______” (line __) most nearly means
9. The last three stanzas (lines _____) are best understood to suggest that remembering the loved one is
10. Which is the best paraphrase of line ___?
11. The speaker’s “__________” (line ___) is for a
12. The pronoun “it” (line ___) refers to the speaker’s
13. The concept of “__________” (line ___) is most like that of
14. Which of the following best describes a central paradox of the poem?
15. In context, “__________” (lines ___) is best understood to mean the
16. By learning the language of the _____, the speaker gains
17. The statement “__________” (lines ___) contains an example of allegory/personification/simile/onomatopoeia/metaphor
18. All of the following are found in the sentence in lines ____ (“______________”) EXCEPT
19. In line ___, “__________” is best interpreted to mean
20. In the second paragraph, the natural aspects of the _____ are viewed as
21. Which of the following best describes the relationship between the first paragraph and the second?
22. As used in lines ___ and ___, “__________” is best interpreted to mean
23. The passage primarily suggests that
24. _____’s action is best described as
25. In line ___, “__________” is best interpreted to mean
26. According to the passage, why does _____ not enter the _____ by the _____?
27. In which of the following lines does an epic simile begin?
28. Which of the following lines contains a play on words?
29. In line ___, the “__________” is analogous to
30. In line ___, the “__________” is analogous to
31. The subject of “__________” (_____)
32. Which of the following lines most probably contains a commentary on the poet’s own era?
33. The imagery in the passage suggests all of the following about _____ EXCEPT his
34. It can be inferred from lines _____ that
35. “__________” interprets “_______” refusal to allow him to carry her “_______” (line ___) as evidence of her
36. The sentence “__________” (line ___) conveys which of the following?
37. The passage suggests that _____ would like “__________” (lines ___) because
38. _____’s sense of the words “__________” and “__________” (lines ___) stands in ironic contrast to
39. The use of the dash in line ___ indicates that
40. In the sentence “__________” (lines ___), which of _____’s qualities is most apparent?
41. Which of the following has an effect on _____ similar to that of the _____ advertisement in the first paragraph?
42. For which of the following reasons are the words “_______ . . . _________ . . . ________ . . ________” (lines ___)
43. In lines ___, _____’s conjectures about going to the ____ and going to a ____ by ____ serve to indicate
44. Compared with the style of lines ___, the style of lines ___ is best described as
45. The final sentence (lines ______) differs from the rest of the passage in that it
46. Which of the following best describes the way the passage is narrated?
47. Which of the following is true of _____’s attitude toward ______ throughout the passage?
48. In the poem, the _____ is mainly depicted as
49. Lines ___ (“__________”) incorporate all of the following EXCEPT
50. Line _ contains which of the following? Onomatopoeia/Antithesis/Alliteration/A simile/An oxymoron
51. The effect of the allusion in lines ___ is to
52. Lines _____ (“__________.”) suggest that the _____
53. The last four lines (_____ ) suggest that the _____
54. The poem makes use of which of the following?
55. In the poem, the speaker is most concerned with representing the
1982 Exam Poetry and Prose
A Dialogue Between the Soul and Body -- Andrew Marvell (1621-1678) Questions 1 - 13
A selection from Tradition and the Individual Talent -- T.S. Eliot (1888-1965) Questions 14 - 29
Advice to the Prophet - Richard Wilbur (1959) Questions 30 - 42
Walden by Henry David Thoreau -- Chapter 13 - House-Warming(1817-1862) Questions 43 - 55
1987 Exam Poetry and Prose
Their Eyes Were Watching God (selection) - Zora Neale Hurston (1937) Questions 1 - 15
The First Epistle of the Second Book of Horace, imitated (selection) - Alexander Pope (1688 - 1744) Questions 16 - 32
Meditation VI - John Donne (1572 - 1631) Questions 33 - 46
The Eolian Harp - Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834) Questions 47 - 61
1991 Exam Poetry and Prose
White Noise (selection) - Don DeLillo - 1985 -- Questions 1 - 15
Richard II, Act V, scene v - Shakespeare - 1564 -1616 Questions 16 - 29
Lady with A Falcon - May Sarton - 1978 - Questions 30 - 38
Mountain Beauty - John Ruskin - 1819 -1900 - Questions 39 - 53
1994 Exam Poetry and Prose
Go Tell It on the Mountain (selection) - James Baldwin (1924 - 1987) Questions 1 - 14
My Picture - Abraham Cowley - 1656 - Questions 15 - 28
Vanity Fair (selection) - William Makepeace Thackeray - 1811 - 1863 Questions 29 - 40
A Whippoorwill in the Woods - Amy Clampitt - 1990 - Questions 41 - 55
1999 Exam Poetry and Prose
The Decay of Lying - Oscar Wilde - 1891 - Questions 1 - 13
I dreaded that first Robin - Emily Dickinson - 1862 - Question 14 - 25
Volpone - Ben Jonson - 1601 Questions 26 - 34
Facing It - Yusef Komunyakaa - 1988 - Questions 35 - 43
A New England Nun - Mary E. Wilkins - 1891 - Questions 44 - 55
2004 Exam Poetry and Prose
A Brief Version of Time (article) - Alan Lightman - 1993 - Questions 1 - 11
The Mill on the Floss (selection) - George Eliot - 1860 - Questions 12 - 24
The Albuquerque Graveyard - Jay Wright - 1987 - Questions 25 - 34
The Critic (Part 1) (selection) - Samuel Johnson - 1759 - Questions 35 - 45
Sonnet 90 - William Shakespeare - 1609 - Questions 46 - 55
2009 Exam Poetry and Prose
Patty's Charcoal Drive-in - Barbara Crooker - 1992 - Questions 1 - 10
A Tale of Two Cities: Part 1 Chapter 5 (selection) Charles Dickens -1859 - Questions 11 - 21
The Imaginary Iceberg - Elizabeth Bishop - 1979 - Questions 22 - 33
Jude the Obscure (selection) - Thomas Hardy - 1895 - Questions 34 - 45
To an Inconstant One - Sir Robert Aytton - 1570 - 1638 - Questions 46 - 55
2012 Exam Poetry and Prose
Remembrance - Emily Brontë – 1818 – 1848 – Questions 1 – 14
“Two Ways of Seeing a River” – Mark Twain – 1883 – Questions 15 – 23
To The Lighthouse – Virginia Woolf – 1927 – Questions 34 – 47
Multiple Choice Devices and years they appeared on the test 1982-2009
(If a word appears more than once, it appeared on the test(s) more than once.)

a syllogism/1999
abstract idea/1982/1994
abstraction/1982/1994
adjective modifying/1987
adverb modifying/1987
Amassment of imagery to convey a sense of chaos/1991
ambiguity/1987
ambiguity/1987/2009
analogy/1987
analogy/1999
analysis of a process/2004
analysis/1999
anecdote/1987/1999/2004
anecdote/1987/1999/2004
antecedent/1991
anticlimax/2009
antithesis/1999/2009
antithesis/1999/2009
apology/2004
apostrophe/1987/1991
apostrophic speech/1987/1991
appositive/1999
assertion (vocabulary/device)/1982/1991/1999
auditory/1999
Ballad meter/1987
Blank verse1/1987
capitalization/1999
categorical assertion/1994
distinguish cause-and-effect analysis/3004
distinguish character/1987
circular reasoning/1999
classification and comparison/2004
colloquial/1999
comical/2004
compare/1999
complex sentence/1994
complex structure/2004
conclusive logic2004
concrete evidence/1982
connotation/2009
contradiction/2009
contradiction/2009
conventional metrical patterns/1991
counterargument/1987
cynical/1987
Dactylic hexameter/1987
deduction/1991
description/1982/1987
descriptive/1982/1987
diction/1994/1999
diction/1994/1999
dimeter/1991
direct object/1999
discursive memoir/2004
dramatic dialogue/2004
elaborate metaphors/2004
elegiac/2009
elevated romantic atmosphere/1991
ends justifying means/2009
end-stopped lines/1982
entreaty/2004
evaluative argument/2004
exclamatory sentence/1994
extended allegory/1994
extended definition/1982
extended metaphor/1994
figurative language/1987
first-person who speaks of himself in third-person/1994
foreboding/2009
foreshadow/1994/2009
foreshadow/1994/2009
Free verse/1987
hexameter/1991
hyperbole/1991/1999
hyperbole/1991/1999
hypothesis/1982
hypothesizes/1994
hypothetical/2004
iambic pentameter/1982
iambic tetrameter/1987
illustration of an abstract idea by extended definition/1991
image/1982
imply/1999
independent clauses/2009
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pastoral elegy/2004
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pentameter/1991
periodic form and balance/1991
poetic drama/2004
point of view/1994
pronoun antecedent/1994
puns/1991
rationalization/2004
reciprocal action/2009
redundant/2004
reference (vocabulary/device)/1982
reflective narrative/2004
refrain/2009
religious imagery/1991
reminiscence/1999
repetition/1982
reproof/2004
reverse psychology
rhetorical facility/1991
rhetorical innovation/1987
rhetorical purpose/1991
rhetorical question/1982
rhetorical shift/1991
Rhyme royal/1987
rhymes/1999/2009
rhymes/1999/2009
rhythm/2009
romantic diction and imagery/1991
sarcasm /1982 /1987/1999
sarcasm /1982 /1987/1999
sardonic /1982 /1987/1999
sardonic humor/1991/1994
satire/1982/1994
satirize/1982/1994
scenarios/2009
self-parody/1991
series of sentences similar in style/2009
simple declarative sentence/1994
soliloquy/1987
Specific description to a generalization/1991
subject/1999
subtle irony/2004
surrealism/2009
sustained metaphor/2009
synecdoche/2009
tactile/1999
technical discussion/1982
Terza rima/1987
tetrameter/1991
thesis/1987/1999
thesis/1987/1999
third-person narrator aware of one character’s thoughts/1994
third-person narrator providing insight into several characters’ thoughts/1994
topic/2004
trial and error/2009
trimeter/1991
understatement and economy/1991
universal symbol/1999
Use of pronoun "it"/2009
versification/1987
witty repartee/1999
### Multiple Choice Tests Vocabulary (1982-2009).
(Vocabulary that appears in the stems and the answers)

<table>
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<th>a) abject</th>
<th>b) admonition (2)</th>
<th>c) capricious</th>
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Types of Questions
Below are broad categories of AP Literature and Composition multiple-choice questions and question stems. Examine the list. Determine which types of question give you the most difficulty.

**Literary Technique**
Questions about technique ask that students examine devices and style.
- What dominant technique/rhetorical strategy is the speaker using in lines...
- All of the following may be found in the passage EXCEPT
- The rhetorical strategy employed in lines...is best described as....
- The style of the passage is best determined as...

**Main Ideas**
Questions about main ideas often require students to make a generalization about the passage or section of a passage based on key details presented. Examine the first and last sentence of each paragraph and the first and last paragraph. Read around key details mentioned in a passage to put the phrases in context.
- The speaker is concerned with...
- The first seventeen lines deal with...
- The narrator would argue that...
- The first paragraph highlights which of the following concerns of the narrator...
- The point of the speaker’s statement is...
- The speaker’s primary purpose in the passage is...

**Inference**
Inference questions ask students to define words, read for main ideas and understand tone. Words, Phrases, Lines
Remember to read around the line numbers in order to establish context.
- In context line 28 most nearly means...
- In line 22, the word “other” most probably refers to...

**Paragraphs/Sections**
These questions require close reading over the course of a section.
- The metaphor developed in the second paragraph suggests primarily that...
- The speaker emphasizes in lines 20-30 that...

**Tone/Mood/Style**
Examine the first and last sentence of each paragraph and the first and last paragraph.
- The tone of the passage is best described as...
- The atmosphere established in the passage is mainly one of...

**Organization/Grammar**
Questions of this sort examine the patterns, order and grammar in the passage.
- The phrase_______ signals a shift from_______to_______....
- The phrase_______refers to which of the following?
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<th>Multiple Choice %</th>
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<th>Essay 2 Score</th>
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**To Calculate your Score**

Multiple-Choice
Number Correct______________ x 1.2272 = __________ 
(out of 55)  (Do not round)

Question 1 __________ x 3.0556 = __________  
(Do not round)

Question 2 __________ x 3.0556 = __________  
(Do not round)

Question 3 __________ x 3.0556 = __________  
(Do not round)

Sum = __________  
(Do not round)

Composite Score __________ + __________ = __________  
Multiple Choice  Essays  Composite Score

**AP Score Conversion**

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