

## REVIEW Test 5

### Identifying Topics and Main Ideas

- A. Skim each paragraph and circle the topic as it recurs throughout the paragraph. Then identify the idea that correctly states the topic. (Hint: one idea is too general to be the topic; another idea is too specific.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. **The Popularity of Acupuncture**

<sup>1</sup>Acupuncture is one of the oldest, most commonly used medical procedures in the world. <sup>2</sup>Originating in China more than 2,000 years ago, acupuncture began to become better known in the United States in 1971 through the work of *New York Times* reporter James Reston. <sup>3</sup>Reston wrote about how doctors in China used needles to ease his abdominal pain after surgery. <sup>4</sup>Research shows that acupuncture is helpful in treating a variety of health conditions. <sup>5</sup>Over the past two decades, acupuncture has grown in popularity in the United States. <sup>6</sup>A 1998 Harvard University study stated that Americans sought more than five million acupuncture treatments per year.

—Adapted from “Research Report: Acupuncture,” National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Mar. 2002. 25 Oct. 2003  
<<http://nccam.nih.gov/health/acupuncture/#intro>>

- a. acupuncture
- b. the popularity of acupuncture
- c. Americans seek over five million acupuncture treatments per year.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. **A Manager’s Response to Shoplifting**

<sup>1</sup>Good management is the first line of defense against shoplifting. <sup>2</sup>Managers must ensure that stores are properly laid out, have adequate inventory controls, and follow standard security practices. <sup>3</sup>One way to discourage shoplifting is to improve a store’s layout and displays. <sup>4</sup>Store layout and displays must make it easier for staff to exercise effective surveillance. <sup>5</sup>Therefore, managers should take the following precautions. <sup>6</sup>Reduce the number of exits, blind corners, and recesses. <sup>7</sup>Carefully place mirrors and provide good, even lighting. <sup>8</sup>Get rid of clutter and obstructions. <sup>9</sup>Place goods away from entrances and exits. <sup>10</sup>Create clear sight lines in aisles and reduce the height of displays. <sup>11</sup>Reduce crowding near displays of high-risk items. <sup>12</sup>Move hot products into higher-security zones with more

staff surveillance. <sup>13</sup>And speed up checkout to reduce overcrowding and waiting, which provide chances for concealment.

—Clarke, “Shoplifting.” *Problem-Oriented Guides for Police Series*, No. 11, U. S. Department of Justice, 2002. 20 Feb. 2004  
<<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/e10011345.pdf>>

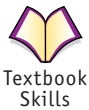
- a. shoplifting
- b. effective surveillance
- c. a manager’s response to shoplifting

### 3. Two Types of Praise

<sup>1</sup>Many parents and teachers mishandle the use of praise by using evaluative praise rather than descriptive praise. <sup>2</sup>Evaluative praise makes a judgment about the child’s behavior, which creates a need for approval and thus leads to dependence on the opinion of others. <sup>3</sup>For example, the evaluative praise statement “You are a marvelous student” focuses on the feelings and opinion of the one giving the praise. <sup>4</sup>In contrast, descriptive praise objectively describes the behavior and its positive effect. <sup>5</sup>This type of praise teaches the child to self evaluate. <sup>6</sup>For example, the descriptive praise statement “You have expert control of grammar rules, and you have a clear thesis that is well supported” allows the child to come to her own conclusions about her strengths as a writer. <sup>7</sup>Descriptive praise may require more effort, but it is much more effective than evaluative praise.

- a. judging a child’s behavior
- b. evaluative and descriptive praise
- c. praising children and students

- B.** Read the following passage from a college history textbook and identify the sentence that states (or sentences that state) the central point.



### “Their Darling” Tobacco

<sup>1</sup>The founders of Virginia tried to produce all sorts of things that were needed in the old country: grapes and silk in particular, indigo, cotton, oranges, olives, sugar, and many other plants. <sup>2</sup>But it was tobacco, unwanted, even strongly opposed at first, that became for farmers on both sides of the Chesapeake Bay, “their darling.”

<sup>3</sup>Tobacco was unknown in Europe until Spanish explorers brought it back from the West Indies. <sup>4</sup>It was not common in England until the time of Sir Walter Raleigh. <sup>5</sup>Then it quickly proved irresistible to thousands of devotees. <sup>6</sup>At first the London Company discouraged its colonists from growing tobacco. <sup>7</sup>Since it clearly contained some habit-forming drug, many people opposed its use. <sup>8</sup>King James I wrote a pamphlet attacking the weed, in which, among other things, he anticipated the findings of modern cancer researchers by saying that smoking was a “vile and stinking” habit “dangerous to the Lungs.” <sup>9</sup>But English smokers and users of snuff ignored their king, and the Virginians ignored their company. <sup>10</sup>By 1617 a pound of tobacco was worth more than 5 shillings in London. <sup>11</sup>Company and Crown then changed their tune, granting the colonists a monopoly and encouraging them in every way.

—Adapted from Garraty and Carnes,  
*The American Nation*, 10th ed., pp. 43–44

4. Thesis statement: \_\_\_\_\_

## REVIEW Test 6

### Topics, Main Ideas, and Supporting Details

- A. Each of the following groups of ideas includes one topic, one main idea, and two supporting details. In each group, first identify the topic. Then identify the stated main idea. (Hint: circle the topic and underline the author’s controlling point in each group.)

#### Group 1

- a. Power walking has emotional and physical benefits.
- b. Power walking burns calories and raises the heart rate without straining joints.
- c. Power walking also helps to release stress and produce a sense of emotional well-being.

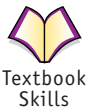
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which of the following best states the topic?  
 a. releasing stress                      c. benefits of power walking  
 b. physical fitness

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which sentence best states the main idea?

## Group 2

- a. The superb talent of individual players, such as Green Bay Packer Bret Favre or Tampa Bay Buccaneer Warren Sapp, creates excitement and fosters fan loyalty.
  - b. Professional football's popularity is built on individual and team achievement.
  - c. Professional football thrives on the ability of highly competitive and successful athletes to put aside their egos and cooperate with one another for the big win.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Which of the following best states the topic?
- a. professional football's popularity
  - b. successful athletes
  - c. fan loyalty
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which sentence states the main idea?

- B. Read the following paragraph from a college communications textbook, and answer the question that follows it.



### Power, Moves, and Countermoves in Conflict

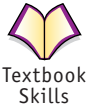
<sup>1</sup>Conflicts emerge as a series of actions and reactions. <sup>2</sup>The “He did X and then she said Y and then he said Z and then . . .” formula is often used to explain a quarrel. <sup>3</sup>When incompatibilities arise people try to cope with them. <sup>4</sup>The way in which their actions mesh plays an important role in the direction the conflict takes. <sup>5</sup>Moves and countermoves depend on participants’ ability and willingness to exert power. <sup>6</sup>**Power** can be defined as the capacity to act effectively. <sup>7</sup>Power sometimes takes the form of outward strength, status, money, or allies, but these are only the most obvious sources of power. <sup>8</sup>There are many other sources like time, attractiveness, and persuasive ability that operate in a much more subtle fashion.

—Folger, Peale, and Stutman, *Working Through Conflict*, 4th ed., p. 27

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Which sentence states the main idea of the paragraph?
- a. sentence 1
  - b. sentence 3
  - c. sentence 5
  - d. sentence 7

- A.** Skim each of the following paragraphs and circle the topic as it recurs throughout the paragraph. Then identify the idea that correctly states the topic. (Hint: one idea is too general to be the topic; another idea is too specific.)

**A Low-Cost Lifesaving Technique**



\_\_\_\_\_ **1.** <sup>1</sup>A low-cost lifesaving technique for heart attack victims is cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). <sup>2</sup>CPR, which involves rescue breathing (mouth-to-mouth resuscitation) alternating with pressure applied to the chest, is a basic life skill that is used in emergency situations. <sup>3</sup>It has been estimated that if one of every three Americans were trained in CPR, more than one hundred thousand lives a year could be saved.

—Pruitt and Stein, *HealthStyles*, 2nd ed., p. 328

- a. one hundred thousand lives a year could be saved
- b. CPR
- c. emergency techniques

**Uses of Ritalin**

\_\_\_\_\_ **2.** <sup>1</sup>Ritalin is a medication prescribed for individuals (usually children) who have an abnormally high level of activity or attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). <sup>2</sup>According to the National Institute of Mental Health, about 3 to 5 percent of the general population has the disorder. <sup>3</sup>ADHD is characterized by agitated behavior and an inability to focus on tasks. <sup>4</sup>Ritalin also is occasionally prescribed for treating narcolepsy, the sleeping disease.

—“Methylphenidate (Ritalin),” *InfoFacts*, National Institute on Drug Abuse, 25 June 2003. 25 Oct. 2003 <<http://www.nida.nih.gov/Infofax/ritalin.html>>

- a. legally prescribed drugs
- b. attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- c. Ritalin

- B.** Read the following group of ideas and then answer the questions that follow.
- a. In 1993, Morrison was the first black woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize in literature.
  - b. American novelist Toni Morrison has won worldwide acclaim for her works that explore the black experience in a racist society.
  - c. Morrison’s 1988 novel *Beloved* earned her the Pulitzer Prize and established her as a major literary voice.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Statement (a) is  
a. the main idea. b. a supporting detail.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Statement (b) is  
a. the main idea. b. a supporting detail.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Statement (c) is  
a. the main idea. b. a supporting detail.

# MASTERY Test 8

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Score (Number Correct) \_\_\_\_\_ × 20 = \_\_\_\_\_ %

- A. Skim each of the following paragraphs and circle the topic as it recurs throughout the paragraph. Then identify the idea that correctly states the topic. (Hint: one idea is too general to be the topic; another idea is too specific.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. <sup>1</sup>Elizabeth Arden (1878?–1966) rose from poverty in rural Canada to play a central role in the beauty business in the early 20th century. <sup>2</sup>Born Florence Nightingale Graham, she reinvented herself as Elizabeth Arden and built a \$20 million empire that defined success in the beauty industry. <sup>3</sup>With cosmetics as her central product, Arden opened a network of salons worldwide, and harnessed science and technology in the service of beauty. <sup>4</sup>Her global business coincided with women’s emergence in public life and, as a result, helped to link beauty to the growing movement for women’s rights.

—“Elizabeth Arden,” *Enterprising Women* exhibition stories, The New York Historical Society. 28 April 2003 <<http://www.nyhistory.org/entwomen/index.html>>

- a. a \$20 million cosmetic business
- b. Elizabeth Arden
- c. successful businesswomen

## The Danger of Cigarette Smoking

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. <sup>1</sup>Cigarette smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death in the United States. <sup>2</sup>Each year, more than 400,000 Americans die from cigarette smoking. <sup>3</sup>In fact, one in every five deaths in the United States is smoking related. <sup>4</sup>Every year, smoking kills more than 276,000 men and 142,000 women.

—“Cigarette Smoking–Related Mortality,” *Tobacco Information and Prevention Source*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 11 Apr. 2003. 25 Oct. 2003 <[http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/research\\_data/health\\_consequences/mortali.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/research_data/health_consequences/mortali.htm)>

- a. death rates from smoking cigarettes
- b. the smoking habit
- c. Smoking kills more than 276,000 men and 142,000 women each year.

- B. Read the following group of ideas and answer the questions that follow.
- a. *Frasier* achieved record-breaking success.
  - b. The sitcom made history by winning the Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series five years in a row.
  - c. In addition, *Frasier*, by its 11th season, set another industry record by winning a total of 31 Emmys.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Statement (a) is
  - a. the main idea.
  - b. a supporting detail.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Statement (b) is
  - a. the main idea.
  - b. a supporting detail.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Statement (c) is
  - a. the main idea.
  - b. a supporting detail.