ctice Test 2

POETRY PACKET (MC) 1

ection I: Multiple-Choice Questions

Time: 60 Minutes
56 Questions

SONNET BY SAMUEL DANIEL 1562-1619

Directions: This section contains selections from two passages of prose and two poems with questions on their content, style, and form. Read each selection carefully. Choose the best answer of the five choices.

Questions 1–16. Read the poem carefully before you begin to answer the questions

When men shall find thy flower, thy glory pass,
And thou, with careful brow sitting alone,
Received hast this message from thy glass,
That tells thee truth, and says that all is gone,
Fresh shalt thou see in me the wounds thou madest,
Though spent thy flame, in me the heat remaining,
I that have loved thee thus before thou fadest;
My faith shall wax, when thou art in thy waning.
The world shall find this miracle in me,
That fire can burn when all the matter's spent;
Then what my faith hath been thyself shall see,
And that thou wast unkind thou mayst repent.
Thou mayst repent that thou has scorned my tears,
When winter snows upon thy golden hairs.

1. The speaker and the person addressed in the poem are probably

   A. an old man speaking to an old woman
   B. an old woman speaking to another old woman
   C. a young man speaking to an old woman
   D. a young man speaking to a young woman
   E. a young man speaking to himself

2. Setting aside considerations of rhythm and rhyme, a modern writer would probably replace the verb form "pass" in line 1 with

   A. passing
   B. is passing
   C. to pass
   D. will have passed
   E. to have passed

3. The word "glass" in line 3 means

   A. tumbler
   B. mirror
   C. crystal ball
   D. decanter
   E. window

4. The "miracle" referred to in line 9 is

   A. his continuing love
   B. his suffering
   C. her beauty
   D. her remaining beautiful in old age
   E. her returning his love

5. In line 10, "all the matter's spent" can be best rephrased as

   A. all cares are over
   B. all my reasons for living have vanished
   C. all the fuel is gone
   D. all difficulties have been ended
   E. the subject has been closed completely

6. In line 14, "winter" is a symbol of

   A. love rejected
   B. isolation
   C. old age
   D. indifference
   E. death

7. Which of the following are arguments of the poem?

   I. When you are old, you will be sorry you ignored my love.
   II. Poetry will preserve your beauty despite the passage of time.
   III. No matter how you look, I will still love you.

   A. II only
   B. I and II only
   C. I and III only
   D. II and III only
   E. I, II, and III

8. On which of the following constructions does the poem implicitly or explicitly most rely?

   A. Both . . . and
   B. When . . . then
   C. If . . . then
   D. If . . . but
   E. Since . . . therefore

9. One meaning of the word "glory" is a halo; if this meaning is intended in line 1, the image recurs in

   A. line 2
   B. line 5
   C. line 9
   D. line 11
   E. line 14

10. The poem deliberately repeats all the following words and phrases EXCEPT

A. "spent"
B. "in me"
C. "fire"
D. "repent"
E. "faith"

11. All the following words and phrases are used to represent the beauty of the woman EXCEPT

A. "flower" (line 1)
B. "glory" (line 1)
C. "thy flame" (line 6)
D. "miracle" (line 9)
E. "golden hairs" (line 14)

12. All the following are used to represent the continuing love of the speaker EXCEPT

A. "truth" (line 4)
B. "wounds" (line 5)
C. "heat" (line 6)
D. "faith" (line 8)
E. "miracle" (line 9)

13. The rhetorical purpose of the speaker of the poem is to

A. convince the lady to return his love now
B. inform the lady about what the future will bring
C. warn the lady of the consequences of vanity
D. convince himself to give up a useless pursuit
E. convince the lady of the superiority of poetry to passion

14. Which of the following contrasts does the poem employ?

I. Youth vs. age
II. Growth vs. decline
III. Permanence vs. transience
IV. Truth vs. lie

A. I and III only
B. I, III, and IV only
C. II, III, and IV only
D. I, II, and III only
E. I, II, III, and IV

15. The poem employs religious diction in all the following words EXCEPT

A. "faith" (line 8)
B. "miracle" (line 9)
C. "faith" (line 11)
D. "repent" (line 12)
E. "scorned" (line 13)

16. The form of this poem is a

A. Shakespearean sonnet
B. Petrarchan sonnet
C. Romantic ode
D. Ballad
E. Villanelle

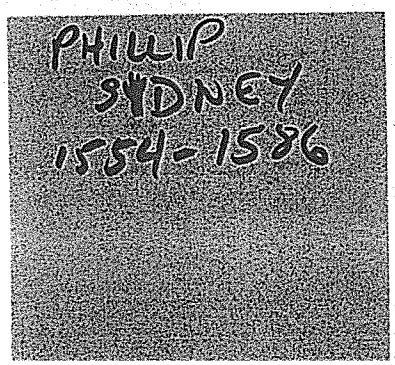
GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

Questions 28–41. Read the following poem carefully before you mark your answers.

My true love hath my heart and I have his,
By just exchange one for the other given:
I hold his dear, and mine he cannot miss,
There never was a bargain better driven.
His heart in me keeps me and him in one;
My heart in him his thoughts and senses guides:
He loves my heart, for once it was his own;
I cherish his, because in me it bides.
His heart his wound received from my sight;
My heart was wounded with his wounded heart;
For, as from me on him his hurt did light,
So still me-thought in me his hurt did smart:
Both equal hurt, in this change sought our bliss:
My true love hath my heart and I have his.

28. The first two lines serve to
(A) establish the setting, the time and place of the action
(B) help readers infer that the speaker is wise and worldly in the ways of love
(C) present a vivid image of love
(D) introduce the poem's central conflict: unrequited love
(E) demonstrate the speaker's confusion over love

29. The central image that the poet creates with the phrases "just exchange" (line 2), "There never was a bargain better driven," (line 4), and "this change" (line 13) indicates love as
(A) barter
(B) steadfast
(C) changeable
(D) mere commerce
(E) inherently unequal



30. The image in question 29 helps the poet convey his theme because the image
(A) emphasizes how the lovers have carried out a trade
(B) suggests that the speaker has been cheated
(C) hints that the speaker has gotten the better end of the bargain
(D) conveys the poet's conviction that love never lasts
(E) alludes to the divinity of true love

31. What does the speaker mean in line 5 when he says: "His heart in me keeps me and him in one"?
(A) The speaker would die if her lover deserted her.
(B) The speaker and her lover go everywhere together and are accepted as a couple.
(C) Because the speaker has already been disappointed in love, she will never relinquish her lover's heart.
(D) Since the speaker holds her lover's heart in her heart, they are joined. They are as one person.
(E) The speaker is astonished at the strength of their love, but it makes her feel stifled and trapped.

32. The word "bides" in line 8 most likely means
(A) flourishes
(B) grows
(C) expires
(D) dwells
(E) regrows

33. The technique the poet uses in lines 9–10 to develop the poem's meaning is
(A) onomatopoeia
(B) understatement
(C) repetition
(D) litote
(E) figurative language

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

34. This poem is constructed as a(n)

(A) paradox
(B) antithesis
(C) conceit
(D) logical argument
(E) cause and effect

35. What does the speaker mean when she claims that both hearts are wounded?

(A) The man is pretending to be wounded to show that his love is greater than the speaker's.
(B) The man has suffered a heart attack and the woman feels sorrow at his precarious health.
(C) The man's heart was pierced by Cupid's arrow when he saw the woman and her heart shares his pain.
(D) Both the speaker and the man have survived previous relationships that caused them enduring pain.
(E) The speaker knows that their love affair is coming to a close and the break-up will be agonizing for both of them.

36. The phrase that runs through the poem as a *motif* can best be identified as

(A) true love
(B) wounded heart
(C) dear heart
(D) heart for heart
(E) blissful oneness

37. The tone of this poem is best characterized as

(A) somber and restrained
(B) bitter and resentful
(C) elegiac and respectful
(D) clever and witty
(E) deferential and uneasy

38. The best synonym for "smart" as it is used in line 12 would be

(A) sting
(B) intelligent
(C) bless
(D) benefit
(E) relieve

39. The poet achieves what effect by repeating the first line as the last line?

(A) It underscores the similarity of all love affairs, no matter who is involved.
(B) It ironically suggests the brief nature of love.
(C) It reinforces the metaphor of the exchange of hearts.
(D) It suggests that their love has grown in a surprisingly brief time span.
(E) It concludes that love causes more pain than bliss.

40. The poem's rhythm and rhyme are best described as

(A) blank verse with iambic pentameter
(B) heroic couplets, rhyming pairs of lines in iambic pentameter
(C) tercets, three-line stanzas of iambic pentameter
(D) terza rima, three-line stanzas linked by rhyme to the next stanza (*aba bcb cdc*, etc.)
(E) alternating rhyming lines of iambic pentameter and a final couplet

41. The form of this poem is best described as

(A) an epic, with heroic couplets
(B) a villanelle
(C) a lyric
(D) a sonnet
(E) a narrative

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

Sample Examination B

SECTION 1

Part A: Time—25 minutes

Directions: Read the poem that follows and answer all the questions about it.

UPON THE BURNING OF OUR HOUSE
JULY 10TH, 1666

In silent night when rest I took,
For sorrow near I did not look,
I waken'd was with thund'ring noise
And piteous shrieks of dreadful voice.
That fearful sound of fire and fire,
Let no man know is my desire.

I, starting up, the light did spy,
And to my God my heart did cry
To strengthen me in my distress
And not to leave me succorless.
Then coming out beheld a space,
The flame consume my dwelling place.

And, when I could no longer look,
I blest his Name that gave and took,
That laid my goods now in the dust:
Yea so it was, and so 'twas just.
It was his own: it was not mine;
Far be it that I should repine.

He might of all justly bereft,
But yet sufficient for us left.
When by the ruins oft I past,
My sorrowing eyes aside did cast,
And here and there the places spy
Where oft I sat, and long did lie.

Here stood that trunk, and there that chest;
There lay that store I counted best:
My pleasant things in ashes lie,
And them behold no more shall I.
Under thy roof no guest shall sit,
Nor at thy table eat a bit.

No pleasant tale shall e'er be told,
Nor things recounted done of old.
No candle e'er shall shine in thee,
Nor bridegroom's voice ere heard shall be.
In silence ever shalt thou lie;
Adieu, adieu; all's vanity.

Then straight I gin my heart to chide,
And did thy wealth on earth abide?
Didst fix thy hope on mould'ring dust,
The arm of flesh didst make thy trust?
Raise up thy thoughts above the sky
That dunghill mists away may fly.

Thou hast an house on high erect,
Fram'd by that mighty Architect,
With glory richly furnished,
Stands permanent tho' this be fled.
It's purchased, and paid for too
By him who hath enough to do.

A prize so vast as is unknown,
Yet, by his gift, is made thine own.
There's wealth enough, I need no more;
Farewell my pelf, farewell my store.
The world no longer let me love,
My hope and treasure lies above.

—*Anne Bradstreet*

1. Many people try to find logical explanations for unfortunate events. Does the poet, anywhere in the poem, attempt to place blame for the fire?
   (A) She attributes the cause to God, but not the blame.
   (B) Initially she blames the bridegroom, but realizes that it is really God's fault by line 40.
   (C) She blames the initial builder for his use of substandard materials and workmanship.
   (D) She really doesn't care that much about the loss of her possessions, for she already has another house in a better neighborhood.
   (E) She blames God, for He cruelly took back His possessions, as line 17 shows.

2. The "arm of flesh" in line 40 refers to
   (A) hope, promise
   (B) death, decay
   (C) secular, mundane concerns
   (D) the destruction of the fire
   (E) spiritual renewal

3. The poet's attitude toward her home
   (A) remains the same throughout the poem
   (B) changes in the seventh stanza, best summarized in lines 37–42
   (C) changes in the fifth stanza, best summarized in line 26
   (D) is never really made clear, and is especially ambiguous in the eighth stanza
   (E) is not important to the meaning of this poem

4. The poet speaks of two homes in this poem. Who is the nominal owner of each?
   (A) The bridegroom owned the first home; the wealthy architect the second.
   (B) The poet owns the first home; the bridegroom the second.
   (C) The poet owns both homes.
   (D) The plantation overseer owns both homes.
   (E) The poet is the nominal owner of the first home; God, the second.

5. In a philosophical sense—the way the poet really intends it—who is the true owner of both homes?
   (A) The poet feels she owns all homes, but she does have a mortgage on the first.
   (B) God owns both homes, for the poet believes that everything man has is a gift from God.
   (C) The homes are both really unowned, as line 47 and 44 reveal.
   (D) Mankind owns both homes, for all possessions are commonly shared.
   (E) The reader is never sure of ownership here, for it is not critical to the poet's message.

6. "Pelf" in line 52 most nearly means
   (A) a home
   (B) furniture
   (C) money or riches
   (D) a small shop
   (E) furs

7. The connotation of the word "pelf" is
   (A) the poet's earthly nature that must be overcome if she is to find salvation
   (B) the poet's greedy attitude toward her possessions
   (C) The poet's cavalier attitude toward her possessions
   (D) the poet's secret love of death and desire for release from travails
   (E) the poet's deep love of God and His kingdom

8. When the poet finds herself unable to look at the fire any longer, she
   (A) curses God and His unjust actions
   (B) blesses God, but finds His action incomprehensible
   (C) consoles herself with plans for the new house on which a famous architect is already working
   (D) consoles herself with the thought of the new house her husband is building high on the hill
   (E) blesses God, for she believes His actions were just

9. Which adjective best describes the language of the poem?
   (A) Ironic
   (B) Argumentative
   (C) Colloquial
   (D) Pedantic
   (E) Highly figurative

10. Which of the following is the most accurate description of the way material possessions are treated in the poem?
    (A) Their value diminishes when compared to God's treasures.
    (B) Although initially highly valued, the author realizes by the end of the poem that she can easily replace her goods. Thus, their value diminishes.
    (C) Select items—her trunk and chest especially—mean more than anything else to the author.
    (D) They were never highly regarded.
    (E) She is just thankful that her family has been spared.

11. The verse pattern here is
    (A) free verse

(B) rhymed couplets
(C) sprung rhythm
(D) highly alliterative
(E) irregular

12. Judging from the situation and its description, most probably
(A) this is a true story
(B) this never could have occurred
(C) the author is not very religious
(D) this happened to someone the author knew very well
(E) this is a totally false story

13. The attitude of the speaker can best be described as
(A) ironic
(B) sarcastic
(C) moody
(D) religious
(E) irreligious

14. "The world no longer let me love,/My hope and treasure lies above" makes a suitable ending for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:
(A) The ending shows the speaker's growing realization of God's majesty, and proves the theme.
(B) The first thing the speaker did when she saw the fire was pray to God.
(C) The author is really not very devout.
(D) The thought behind the words helps console the author on the loss of her possessions.
(E) The destruction of her worldly goods was followed by prayer to God.

15. In which stanza does the speaker's attitude toward her home change?
(A) sixth
(B) first
(C) third
(D) seventh
(E) ninth

16. Which line best summarizes her change in feeling?
(A) "And to my God my heart did cry" (line 8)
(B) "Then straight I gin my heart to chide" (line 37)
(C) "Thou hast a house on high erect" (line 43)
(D) "I blest his Name that gave and took" (line 14)
(E) "In silent night when rest I took" (line 1)

17. The point of view in this poem is
(A) objective
(B) limited omniscient
(C) omniscient
(D) first-person participant
(E) first-person observer

18. In the eighth stanza, the "house on high erect" stands for
(A) heaven
(B) her newly constructed house on the hill
(C) her store
(D) the richly furnished home provided by her architect friend
(E) none of the above

19. The literary device in the eighth stanza is called
(A) metaphor
(B) understatement
(C) paradox
(D) oxymoron
(E) hyperbole

Part B: Time—35 minutes

One can imagine how sacred home was in the colonial period when Anne Bradstreet wrote this verse: a place of refuge against hostile Indians and bitter weather; a place of order in an alien wilderness. Discuss Bradstreet's attitude toward her loss. Be sure to include specific references from the poem.