

Markhor Junior Contest 2024

PIONEER LEVEL (Class VII & VIII) ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There are 25 questions, each question carry 2 marks.

Time allowed: 60 minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

Read the paragraph below and answer the following questions (1-5).

Since Lewis and Clark's pioneering journey to the Pacific Coast in the early 19th century, a plethora of published narratives chronicling the "unveiling" of the American West has flourished, particularly during the 1860-1890 period. This era was marked by turmoil, avarice, audacity, sentimentality, unbridled zeal, and a profound reverence for personal freedom among those already endowed with it.

During this epoch, the Indigenous peoples' culture and civilization underwent catastrophic decimation, giving rise to the enduring myths of the American West – legends of fur traders, mountain men, steamboat pilots, gold prospectors, gamblers, gunmen, cavalymen, cowboys, harlots, missionaries, educators, and settlers. The Indigenous voice remained largely muted, often documented through the lens of white observers. Even if they possessed literacy in English, avenues for publication remained elusive.

Yet, not all historical voices faded into obscurity. Some authentic accounts were penned by Indigenous individuals in pictorial form or translated into English. Some found publication in obscure publications. In the late 19th century, heightened white interest in surviving Indigenous populations led to newspaper interviews with tribal leaders,

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offering glimpses into their perspectives on Western affairs. Although the reliability of these accounts varies, they offer poignant insights into the Indigenous experience. Contemporary newspaper statements attributed to Indigenous individuals should be approached with caution, despite their occasional literary merit. The records of treaty councils and formal meetings with U.S. government representatives serve as rich sources of firsthand Indigenous narratives. Stenographic systems facilitated precise documentation during these interactions.

Interpreters, often of mixed ancestry, employed vivid imagery to convey Indigenous thoughts, enriching English translations with naturalistic metaphors. During councils, Indigenous leaders asserted their right to select interpreters and recorders, ensuring their voices were accurately preserved. These preserved narratives offer a window into the Indigenous experience during the West's conquest, shedding light on their profound connection to the land and their struggle to comprehend the colonizers' efforts to eradicate their culture and homeland.

1. What was the primary focus of the text?

- a) Lewis and Clark's expedition to the Pacific Coast
- b) The decimation of Indigenous culture
- c) The enduring myths of the American West
- d) The period between 1860 and 1890

2. How would you characterize the era between 1860 and 1890?

- a) Tranquil and harmonious
- b) Marked by violence and avarice
- c) Lacking in cultural significance
- d) Dominated by Indigenous voices

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- 3. What term is used to describe the portrayal of Indigenous peoples in historical accounts?**
- a) Revered
 - b) Subdued
 - c) Honored
 - d) Celebrated
- 4. What was a significant challenge faced by Indigenous individuals attempting to document their experiences?**
- a) Lack of interest from publishers
 - b) Difficulty in translating their stories
 - c) Absence of literacy in English
 - d) Limited access to writing materials
- 5. What facilitated the accurate documentation of interactions between Indigenous leaders and U.S. government representatives?**
- a) Oral tradition
 - b) Stenographic systems
 - c) Pictorial representation
 - d) Indigenous storytelling
- 6. What is emphasized as a key theme throughout the text?**
- a) Indigenous supremacy
 - b) Colonial triumph
 - c) Indigenous struggle and resilience
 - d) Colonial benevolence

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- 7. In the sentence "The dogs ____ barking loudly all night," which option correctly completes the sentence for subject-verb agreement?**
- a) are
 - b) were
 - c) is
 - d) had been
- 8. Which of the following sentences demonstrates correct concord between subject and verb?**
- a) The group of students was studying for their exams.
 - b) Each of the girls are wearing blue dresses.
 - c) My brother and sister is going to the park.
 - d) The team of players are practicing on the field.
- 9. In the sentence "If I ____ enough money, I would buy a new car," which option correctly completes the conditional statement?**
- a) have
 - b) have had
 - c) will have
 - d) had
- 10. Which of the following sentences represents the second conditional?**
- a) If it rains, I will bring an umbrella.
 - b) If I had wings, I could fly.
 - c) If I am hungry, I eat a snack.
 - d) If she studied hard, she would pass the exam.

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- 11. Choose the sentence that correctly reports the original statement: "She said, 'I will visit my grandmother tomorrow.'"**
- a) She said that she would visit her grandmother tomorrow.
 - b) She said that she will visit her grandmother tomorrow.
 - c) She says she would visit her grandmother tomorrow.
 - d) She says she will visit her grandmother tomorrow.
- 12. "Either the cat or the dog ____ the food."**
- a) eats
 - b) eating
 - c) eat
 - d) ate
- 13. During Victorian times, numerous Egyptian mummies were ground up to produce dried mummy powder, hailed by quacks as a near-magical ____, able to cure a wide variety of ailments.**
- a) Placebo
 - b) Toxin
 - c) Symptom
 - d) Panacea
- 14. The commission of inquiry rebuked the senator for his _____ expenditure of public funds, which they found to be _____.**
- a) Flagrant...cursory
 - b) Improper...vindicated
 - c) Lavish...unjustifiable
 - d) Judicious...blameworthy

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15. **Despite their ____ of Twain's Huckleberry Finn for its stereotyped portrait of the slave Jim, even the novel's ____ recognized it as a masterpiece of American prose.**
- a) Admiration...critics
 - b) Denunciation...supporters
 - c) Criticism...detractors
 - d) Praise...advocates
16. **"She told me, 'I am going to the party tonight.'"**
How is this sentence correctly written in reported speech?
- a) She told me that she is going to the party tonight.
 - b) She told me that she was going to the party tonight.
 - c) She tells me that she was going to the party tonight.
 - d) She tells me that she is going to the party tonight.
17. **In general, the fate of Latin American or East Asian countries will affect America more than it does Britain or France.**
- a) will have a greater impact on America than it currently does
 - b) will have a greater effect on America than it currently does
 - c) will influence America more than they currently do
 - d) will impact America more than they would currently
18. **"By next month, they _____ renovating their house for a year."**
- a) will have been
 - b) have been
 - c) would be
 - d) could have been

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19. **"By the time you finish your studies, I _____ finished cooking dinner."**
- a) will have
 - b) would have
 - c) have been
 - d) could have
20. **"We need both ornament and implement in our society; we need the artist and the _____."**
- a) beautician
 - b) Critic
 - c) Politician
 - d) Artisan
21. **"Because he was _____, he shunned human society."**
- a) a misanthrope
 - b) an oligarch
 - c) an anomaly
 - d) a stereotype
22. **"Even critics who do not _____ Robin Williams' interpretation of the part _____ him as an inventive comic actor who has made a serious attempt to come to terms with one of the most challenging roles of our time."**
- a) Dissent from...dismiss
 - b) Concur with...acknowledge
 - c) Agree with...denounce
 - d) Recoil from...deride

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23. "Cold : heater"

- a) Darkness : flashlight
- b) Loneliness : companion
- c) Fatigue : exercise
- d) Noise : earplugs

24. "Thirst : beverage"

- a) Fear: courage
- b) Stress: relaxation
- c) Sadness: joy
- d) Anger: tranquility

25. "Anxiety: calming"

- a) Happiness: sorrow
- b) Pain: sedative
- c) Anger: aggression
- d) Hunger: starvation