



## SECTION 4

### TEST II SAMPLE QUESTIONS

This section of the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE™) Preparation Guide provides sample selected-response questions with an annotated answer key for you to review as part of your preparation for the test. The sample selected-response questions are designed to illustrate the nature of the test questions. Work through the questions carefully before referring to the annotated answer key, which follows the sample selected-response questions. The answer key provides the correct response to each question, describes why each correct response is the best answer, and lists the objective within the test framework to which each question is linked.

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## QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following sentences provides an example of parallel structure?
  - A. This winter I want to learn to ski, ice-skate, and to make hot chocolate from scratch.
  - B. The news article addressed all aspects of the problem—environmental, political, and cost.
  - C. According to her teacher, her essay reflected considerable skill, effort, and attention to detail.
  - D. Kiwis and other tropical fruits not only grow in New Zealand but in other areas as well.
  
2. A writer has created a first draft of an essay and wishes to revise it for coherence. Which of the following actions is likely to be most important in helping the writer achieve this goal?
  - A. changing all verbs from the active to the passive voice
  - B. creating a new thesis statement
  - C. removing any ill-fitting or redundant ideas
  - D. correcting all spelling errors

3. Which of the following questions should a researcher ask to test the objectivity of a source?
- A. Is the information included in the source supported by evidence?
  - B. Is this the first edition of the source or has it been revised and updated?
  - C. Is the publication aimed at a general or a specialized audience?
  - D. Is the source focused on one facet of a topic or does it provide an overview?
4. A writer would like to describe a plaza scene in a way that evokes a mood of suspense. Which of the following passages most effectively fulfills that goal?
- A. At midday, the quaint little plaza was empty of people, except for a dignified waiter who stood in the doorway of a small café. He proudly held onto his silver tray, waiting for his first customers.
  - B. About twelve o'clock, a leaden heat filled the plaza. It was so oppressive that it seemed to threaten to melt the tables and chairs in front of the café. A waiter, sweating profusely, wondered about his next tips.
  - C. One minute before noon, and outside the café, chairs and tables baked in the sun. A lone waiter held a silver tray against his chest like a badge, watching the deserted plaza closely. Just thirty seconds now till noon.
  - D. It was almost twelve and the sun bore down on the plaza. The townspeople knew better than to sit outside the café in this heat. One waiter looked out, though, in case a brave tourist or two happened to come by and sit.

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5. Use the notes below taken for a newspaper story to answer the question that follows.

- A one-car accident occurred last Saturday.
- It happened near the intersection of Main Street and South Street in Augusta.
- Sonya Martin was the driver of the vehicle.
- Martin is 33 years old and lives in Augusta at 100 West Street.
- Martin's two children, ages 7 and 9, were visiting relatives in Pittsburgh at the time.
- Martin was driving a brown, four-door sedan.
- She was the only person in the car and the only person injured.
- It was raining, the street was slick, and Martin was driving 10 miles above the speed limit when she lost control of her vehicle.
- She was driving east on Main Street at around 4 p.m. when the accident occurred.
- The car crashed into the front of Elron's Grocery.
- Martin was wearing a seat belt and suffered only minor injuries.
- She was taken to Memorial Hospital, treated, and released.
- The impact crushed the front end of Martin's car and did significant damage to the store.
- Elron Quigby, owner of Elron's Grocery, said, "It's just lucky nobody happened to be in the store right at that moment."

If a writer were using an inverted pyramid structure to develop the newspaper story from these notes, which of the following sentences would be best to lead the story with?

- A. Although Sonya Martin was wearing her seatbelt, she suffered minor injuries and was taken to a nearby hospital.
- B. Skidding on the wet pavement, Sonya Martin's car crashed into the front of Elron's Grocery at the corner of Main and South streets, crushing its front end.
- C. An Augusta woman was slightly injured on Saturday after losing control of her car and crashing into the front of a local business.
- D. Thirty-three-year-old Sonya Martin, of 100 West Street, lost control of her brown, four-door sedan at around 4 p.m. while heading east on Main Street.

6. Which of the following techniques would be most effective for a writer to use to support a persuasive argument?
- A. defining terms carefully to avoid misconceptions
  - B. directly addressing opposing viewpoints
  - C. recounting relevant personal experiences
  - D. creating emphasis with transitional words and phrases

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7. Use the information below to answer the question that follows.

A writer is planning an essay entitled "Self-Made Individuals," in which she will draw parallels between the lives of the fictional character Jay Gatsby from F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel *The Great Gatsby* and a well-known contemporary figure. The writer's notes appear below.

### Notes on Jay Gatsby

- Real name: James Gatz
- Son of poor North Dakota farmer
- College dropout, clam digger, fisherman
- Charms way into job with millionaire
- Makes fortune on fake bonds, shady schemes
- Hosts lavish parties at Long Island mansion

Based on the notes above, which of the following contemporary figures would be the most appropriate choice for the writer to use to draw a parallel with Gatsby in her essay "Self-Made Individuals"?

- A. Fashion designer: Parents were cannery workers in Alaska. Encouraged by high school drama teacher to design costumes. Shuns spotlight, lives alone in log cabin. Needs solitude to create.
- B. Rock singer: Born in Chicago to famous opera singers. Changed name to avoid embarrassment to his parents. Lives on farm with wife and children and sings at annual fundraisers for local hospital.
- C. Nobel Prize-winning physicist: Born in California, son of a teacher and accountant. Teaches at Stanford University. Donated Nobel Prize money to scholarships for underprivileged students.
- D. Movie actor: Born in Texas to ranch hand and waitress. Ran away at age 16. "Discovered" surfing in Malibu. Had plastic surgery. Rumored to have illegal casino in basement of his palatial home.

8. Use the information below to answer the question that follows.

The president of a community gardening organization has just shared some discouraging news with other group members about municipal plans to demolish the gardens in order to make way for a new shoe factory. Group members are clearly upset, but the meeting is scheduled to end in ten minutes.

Which of the following techniques would be the most effective for addressing members' concerns while achieving closure?

- A. summarizing the most significant threats to the gardens and reviewing the dates of important municipal decisions regarding demolition
- B. assuring group members that they are justified in feeling worried and selecting three members to speak briefly before the meeting ends
- C. outlining a list of actions that group members can take in order to express their concerns to a wider audience, including local residents and officials
- D. encouraging group members to write to the president of the shoe company to let her know that her company is not welcome in the area

9. Use the information below to answer the question that follows.

A magazine advertisement depicts a mother, a father, and two young children in bathing suits lounging around the pool at an upscale hotel. The setting is tropical, and the sun, sand, and sea are clearly on display in the background. The mother is smiling while applying Never Burn suntan lotion to her daughter's back. A caption at the bottom of the page reads "A Day in the Sun Was Never So Much Fun!"

The implied message that this advertisement is most likely designed to convey is that using Never Burn suntan lotion will:

- A. make both men and women look younger.
- B. allow people to stay out in the sun indefinitely.
- C. make children more attractive and popular.
- D. allow families to spend more time together.

## ANNOTATED ANSWER KEY

For question	The correct response is	Reason	Test Objective
1	C	In parallel structure, a grammatical pattern begun in a series of elements must be continued throughout the series. In this sentence, an essay is described as reflecting three attributes, all correctly presented as nouns or noun phrases: <i>skill</i> , <i>effort</i> , and <i>attention to detail</i> .	0009
2	C	When revising a first draft for coherence, a writer attempts to make sure all parts of the draft are logical and consistent with each other. An important part of the process is deleting material that is not necessary or that wanders from the main point.	0010
3	A	An objective source is one that presents the facts in a dispassionate and unbiased way; the information given by such a source would certainly be supported by evidence.	0011
4	C	Suspense is a sense of expectation that something will happen; it may range from pleasurable anticipation to anxiety or even fear. This passage achieves suspense by beginning and ending with pointed references to the immediate future: "One minute before noon . . . Just thirty seconds now till noon." Also, it portrays the waiter as "watching the deserted plaza closely," strongly suggesting that he too expects something to happen.	0012
5	C	A news story that uses an inverted pyramid structure is one that arranges facts in order from most important to least important. This sentence fits that description because it is a concise statement of the most important facts of the story. The other details in the reporter's notes will follow later in the story.	0013
6	B	One of the most effective ways to support and strengthen a persuasive argument is to deal with opposing viewpoints directly—for example, by exposing their logical flaws or challenging the evidence they are based on. In fact, an argument that sidesteps opposing viewpoints is usually considerably weakened.	0014
7	D	The movie actor's story parallels that of Jay Gatsby in several ways. Like Gatsby, the actor rose from humble origins to considerable wealth (evidenced by the actor's "palatial home"), a pattern that fits well with the writer's overall theme of "Self-Made Individuals." Both have altered their identities—Gatsby by changing his name and the actor by changing his or her appearance with "plastic surgery." Both are also associated with illicit activity, real or rumored.	0015

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<b>For question</b>	<b>The correct response is</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Test Objective</b>
8	C	Because the members of a gardening organization are likely to be unanimous in their opposition to a plan to demolish their gardens, there is probably little need for speeches or debate. It would make better sense for the group's president to end the meeting by outlining a list of actions that group members can take. Their best chance for mounting an effective opposition to the factory will probably be to join together with other local residents, officials, and organizations.	0016
9	D	The visual imagery in the advertisement is clearly focused on the family group, primarily on the smiling mother and daughter. The effect is to associate the product with the ideas of family togetherness, leisure, relaxation, and, as the caption says, fun.	0017