

## Quiz Practice

### Main Idea

#### Passage 1

How do migrating animals find their destination? They navigate in a variety of ways. Fish use their sense of smell to recognize their migration paths and are guided by changing water temperatures. Birds use the position of the sun to orient themselves. Some birds have magnetic particles in their ear mechanisms that act as a compass. Mammals rely on their memory. Some elephant trails have been used for hundreds of years.

1 The topic of this paragraph is:

- A) destinations.
- B) fishes' sense of smell.
- C) how birds orient themselves.
- D) migrating animals

2 The implied main idea is:

- A) How do migrating animals find their way?
- B) Migrating animals navigate in a variety of ways.
- C) Mammals rely on their memory.
- D) Fish and birds have special methods for finding their way.

#### Passage Two

Psychologists say that a sigh can express satisfaction and contentment. Frequent sighing can suggest despair and depression. It can also express disgust or frustration. It can express several emotions, but there is no one correct way to interpret its meaning.

3 The topic of this paragraph is:

- A) psychologists.
- B) a sigh; sighing.
- C) despair and depression.
- D) interpreting emotions.

4 The implied main idea is:

- A) Psychologists say that a sigh can express satisfaction and contentment, and frequent sighing can suggest despair and depression.
- B) Sighing can express several emotions.
- C) A sign can express emotions, such as disgust or frustration.
- D) A sigh can express several emotions, but there is no one correct way to interpret its meaning.

#### Passage Three

You're up to your neck in credit card debt. You're feeling stressed, perhaps even panicky. You may be tempted to take out a home equity loan to pay off high credit card debt. Financial specialists say that's a bad idea! If you spend the money instead of paying off your debt, you'll dig yourself into a deeper financial hole. Even worse, you could lose your home.

5 The topic of this paragraph is:

- A) credit card debt.
- B) feeling stressed and panicky.
- C) using a home equity loan to pay off credit card debt.
- D) consulting financial specialists.

6 The implied main idea is:

- A) You're feeling stressed, perhaps even panicky, and you may be tempted to take out a home equity loan to pay off high credit card debt.
- B) You may be tempted to take out a home equity loan to pay off high credit card debt, but financial specialists say that's a bad idea.
- C) If you spend the money instead of paying off your debt, you'll dig yourself into a deeper financial hole.
- D) Financial specialists say that's a bad idea!

#### Passage 4

Despite modern outcries for technology in schools, some skeptics believe technology has no place in the modern classroom, and argue against it for several reasons. Some of the loudest, most heavily researched arguments come from The Alliance for Childhood, an organization whose mission involves supporting the rights of children globally. They have completed a report called, "Fools Gold: A Critical Look at Computers and Childhood." The document's authors purport these: (1) there are no conclusive stats that prove technology's helpfulness in school, and (2) kids need hands-on, real-world learning, not computer training. Their research backs up their claims, which heightens the debate about what real learning means.

*What is the main idea of this paragraph?*

#### Quoting Sources

Use the following two sources to prepare a good sentence supporting the given claim. Make sure you include a direct quotation of the source.

##### Source 1

Whenever your physician orders a medical test for you, ask why you need it. You should also inquire about the risks and benefits are. Find out how to prepare for it. For example, you may need to fast or discontinue medications or herbal remedies you are taking. Finally, be sure to ask what the test will involve.

**Claim:** There are several things you need to do to prepare for a medical test.

##### Source 2

In 1997, the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission reported that skateboarding injuries were up by 33 percent. Mountain climbing injuries were also up by 20 percent. Similarly, snowboarding injuries showed an increase of thirty-one percent. By all accounts, many Americans are having a love affair with risky sports; as a result, they are injuring themselves in ever greater numbers. One reason for the growing participation in risky, or extreme, sports has been put forth by Dan Cady, a professor of popular culture at California State University. According to Cady, previous generations didn't need to seek out risk. It was all around them in the form of disease epidemics, economic instability, and global wars. At one time, just managing to stay alive was risky, but that feeling has all but disappeared, at least for members of the privileged classes. To a degree Cady's theory is confirmed in the words of adventure racer Joy Marr. Marr says that risk has been "minimized" in everyday life, forcing people to seek out challenges in order to prove themselves.

**Claim:** More and more Americans are taking up high-risk sports; as a result, injuries from these sports are increasing