



ASVAB-SECTION-8^{Q&As}

ASVAB Section Eight : Paragraph comprehension

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QUESTION 1

About three-fourths of the Earth's surface is covered with water. Of these 336 million cubic miles of water, most (97.2 percent) is found in the oceans and is salty. Glaciers at both poles contain another 2 percent of the total amount. Less than 1 percent (0.8 percent) is available as fresh water for people to use – and much of that is not near the people who need it the most.

The amount of fresh water available for people to use is _____.

- A. 97.2 percent
- B. 0.8 percent
- C. two-tenths
- D. 2.0 percent

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The amount of fresh water available for people to use is, as stated in the passage, 0.8 percent.

QUESTION 2

About 2 to 3 out of every 1,000 children in the United States are born deaf or hard of hearing. Over 90% of these children are born to parents who can hear. Early identification of children who are born deaf or hard of hearing is critical to ensure that their families have the resources they need to help their children acquire language, spoken and/or visual, and achieve age-appropriate communicative, cognitive, academic, social, and emotional development. The National Association for the Deaf (NAD) supported passage of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act (EHDI) in 2000 and subsequent federal funding to establish state newborn hearing screening programs in hospitals. At the time, the average age of identification of deaf children was about 21/2 years old; children who were hard of hearing were often identified much later. The goals of the EHDI program include hearing screening of all newborns by age one month, confirmation of hearing status by three months, and enrollment in an early intervention program for deaf and hard of hearing babies and their families by six months.

From the information given in the above passage, the reader can assume the author would agree that _____.

- A. early identification of hearing problems can help match parents with resources
- B. a child's first hearing test should be done at 6 months of age
- C. intervention for hard-of-hearing children is not necessary until they reach school age
- D. most deaf children are born to deaf parents

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 3



Many criminal-law statutes permit more severe punishment of a person convicted of a crime if he or she intended to harm another person. For example, voluntary manslaughter carries a heavier penalty than involuntary manslaughter in most states. Planned crimes are also punished more severely than spur-of-the-moment crimes. The problem is that juries find it difficult to know what the intent of a person was at the time he or she committed a crime. Many defendants will deny that they intended to harm the other person and claim that any harm that occurred was "accidental." The law asks too much of juries when it expects them to determine what a person was thinking. Juries should only be asked to weigh objective evidence.

According to this passage, _____.

- A. most states don't distinguish between voluntary and involuntary manslaughter
- B. punishing people more severely for voluntary manslaughter is unconstitutional
- C. it's difficult for juries to determine a defendant's intentions at the time a crime was committed
- D. prosecutors can, through careful questioning, show a defendant's intention at the time a crime was committed

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The passage says that most states punish voluntary manslaughter more severely than involuntary manslaughter, so Choice "most states don't distinguish between voluntary and involuntary manslaughter" is incorrect.

The argument that punishing people more severely for voluntary manslaughter is unconstitutional isn't made in the passage, so Choice "punishing people more severely for voluntary manslaughter is unconstitutional" is incorrect.

The passage doesn't support Choice "prosecutors can, through careful questioning, show a defendant's intention at the time a crime was committed".

QUESTION 4

To get full value for your energy dollars, first arrange for an energy audit of your home. An audit will reveal such things as energy-sapping drafts, insufficient insulation, improper weather stripping, and a need for storm windows and doors.

Installing storm windows may be energy-saving but should be preceded by _____.

- A. an energy audit
- B. storm doors
- C. insulation
- D. proper weather stripping

Correct Answer: A



Explanation:

The main idea of the paragraph is that an energy audit should be done as a first step toward saving energy dollars.

The details that follow are some of the items an audit concentrates on.

The question, however, asks you to identify what precedes, or comes before, the installation of an energy-saving device.

QUESTION 5

Common sense says that the shade of a tree will help retain snow, and snow exposed to sunlight in open areas will melt. This typically is the case in regions where winter temperatures are below freezing, such as the Northeast, Midwest and most of central and eastern Canada. But in Mediterranean climates – where the average winter temperatures usually are above 30 degrees Fahrenheit – a different phenomenon occurs. Snow tends to melt under the tree canopy and stay more intact in open meadows or gaps in a forest. This happens in part because trees in warmer, maritime forests radiate heat in the form of long-wave radiation to a greater degree than the sky does. Heat radiating from the trees contributes to snow melting under the canopy first.

Which of these statements is true, given the information in the above passage?

- A. There is always snow under trees in Canada.
- B. Average winter temperatures in the Northeast, Midwest, and most of central and eastern Canada are generally below 30 degrees Fahrenheit.
- C. Average winter temperatures in the Northeast, Midwest, and most of central and eastern Canada are generally above 30 degrees Fahrenheit.
- D. It does not snow in Mediterranean climates.

Correct Answer: B

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