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QUESTION 1

Denise was astounded to hear that her brother, whom she knew to be quite _____, was described as taciturn and aloof by his colleagues at the university.

- A. insular
- B. placid
- C. anguished
- D. vacuous
- E. garrulous

Correct Answer: E

QUESTION 2

The discovery that interstellar _____ exist _____ the scientific hypothesis that the expanses between the stars are devoid of matter.

- A. galaxies; revived
- B. constellations; prompted
- C. molecules; demolished
- D. vastness; challenged
- E. vacuums; altered

Correct Answer: C

The word "interstellar" means the space between stars. The sentence speaks of "the scientific hypothesis that the expanses between the stars are devoid of matter." A hypothesis can be either confirmed or falsified by any new discovery. So, among the choices for the second missing word, "demolished" is the only word, which has one of these meanings. The theory that the expanses between the stars are devoid of matter would certainly have been demolished, if it had been discovered that there are molecules in interstellar space. Thus, the word "molecules" is well to give a cogent meaning to the sentence. So, "molecules; demolished" is the answer.

QUESTION 3

As a people, the Aztecs were full of contradictions; _____ and yet prizing humility, _____ and yet obliging and kind.

- A. arrogant; benevolent
- B. pious; gallant
- C. provincial; sullen



D. tolerant; competitive

E. proud; implacable

Correct Answer: E

QUESTION 4

Despite the band practicing for months, a cacophony of noise greeted the stunned concert-goers.

Based on the sentence above, what is the meaning of the word cacophony?

A. a beautiful or ethereal noise

B. a loud, harmonious noise

C. the sound of animals yelping

D. a large, disharmonious sound or noise

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 5

The movie avoids many of the _____ novel, bringing into sharper focus characters that originally were amiable or disagreeable _____.

A. subtleties; monsters

B. excellencies; stereotypes

C. allusions; individuals

D. particulars; nonentities

E. shortcomings; blur

Correct Answer: E

If the movie had brought the characters in the novel to a sharper focus, those characters must have been portrayed with less sharpness in the novel. Among the choices, it is "stereotypes" and "blurs" which have this meaning. But "stereotypes" cannot be described as excellence of a novel. So, "excellencies" can also

be ruled out.

The pair "shortcomings; blur" completes a meaningful sentence, and is the answer.

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