

Recommended Time: 20-25 mins

Tips:

DO

- *Read the questions before you read the text.*
- *Skim through the passage.*
- *Pay attention to the introduction and conclusion.*
- *Identify key words.*
- *Answer every question.*
- *Check your answers.*

DO NOT

- *worry if there are words you don't understand.*
- *get nervous in the exam. Just relax and do your best!*

READING (10*2=20 POINTS)

PART A. Answer questions 1-5 according to Text 1.

TEXT 1

Phases of the U.S. space flight program

¹ The U.S. manned space flight program of the 1960s and 1970s consisted of three distinct phases: Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo. Each of these distinct phases of the space flight program served a very different purpose.

² Mercury was the first phase of the manned space flight program. Its purpose was to get a person into orbital flight. The tiny Mercury capsule carried only a single astronaut. Alan Sheppard and Virgil Grissom piloted the first two Mercury flights, which were suborbital flights followed. The next phase of the manned space flight program was Gemini. The purpose of the ten crewed Gemini flights in 1965 and 1966 was to **conduct** training tests necessary for longer space flights. Gemini, for example, carried out training in orbital clocking techniques and tests of the effects of long-term weightlessness on astronauts. Unlike Mercury capsules, which held only one astronaut, the Gemini capsules were designed to carry two astronauts. The name Gemini was taken from the name of the constellation, which means “twins.”

³ The Apollo flights followed the Gemini flights with the goal of landing astronauts on the Moon. The Apollo spacecraft consisted of three modules. The command module carried three astronauts to and from the Moon, the service module housed the propulsion and environmental systems, and the lunar module separated from the command module to land two astronauts on the Moon. There were seventeen total Apollo flights, of which the first six carried no crew. The seventh through tenth Apollo flights (1968-1969) circumnavigated the Moon without landing and then returned to Earth. The next seven Apollo flights (1969- 1972) were intended to land on the Moon. All of them did, except Apollo 13, which developed serious problems and had to abort the intended landing but still managed to return safely to Earth.

Choose the best answer to each question. There is ONLY ONE correct answer for each question.

1. According to the passage, the Mercury flights_____.

- (A) were all suborbital flights
- (B) did not include any orbital flights
- (C) were all orbital flights
- (D) included suborbital and orbital flights

2. The purpose of the Gemini flights was to _____.

- (A) prepare for longer space flights
- (B) attempt suborbital flights
- (C) circumnavigate the moon
- (D) land on the Moon

3. It is NOT stated in the passage_____.

- (A) how many astronauts a Mercury flight carried
- (B) how many astronauts a Gemini flight carried
- (C) how the Mercury flights were named
- (D) how the Gemini flights were named

4. It can be inferred from the passage that the manned space flight program lasted for _____.

- (A) two years
- (B) just over 6 years
- (C) almost 12 years
- (D) three decades

5. “conduct” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:

- (A) to organize and/or do a particular activity
- (B) to control or be in charge of a business, a team, an organization, land, etc.
- (C) to have a plan, result or purpose in your mind when you do something
- (D) to prevent somebody or somebody from doing something

GO TO THE NEXT PAGE

PART B. Answer questions 6-10 according to Text 2.

TEXT 2

The Native American Land Conservancy

- 1** The Native Americans who live in present-day California are the descendants of the indigenous peoples who lived in the area before the arrival of European settlers. According to a recent United States census report, over 300,000 people living in California today have Native American heritage. Despite this, most areas in the state that have cultural and historical significance for Native American tribes are not owned or controlled by tribes. Ongoing plans made by property developers, as well as pollution, threaten to destroy places that have historically been important to native people. Because many Native American communities do not have access to their sacred sites and find it difficult to protect their own traditional cultures, groups like the Native American Land Conservancy (NALC) have been formed. The NALC started in 1998 as an inter-tribal group focused on protecting sacred sites in Southern California. A review of some examples of the work that the NALC does demonstrates the organization's importance and shows why it should have the support of all Americans.
- 2** In 2004, the NALC collaborated with tribal representatives and conservation groups to acquire and protect an area called Horse Canyon in the Santa Rosa Mountains. This area is part of the Colorado Desert, which contains evidence of the societies of early native peoples. This includes ancient trails, rock shelters, quarry sites, and examples of rock art. In the past, tribes would use the area for ritual hunting activities. If it were not for the support of the NALC, this area might now be a housing development.
- 3** The Cahuilla Fish Traps Program is another example of the good work that the NALC does. Working with an organization called the Trust for Public Lands, they monitor an ancient Native American site and act as tribal representatives. The Salton Sea is the name of a lake in Southern California where ancient fish traps were carved into the rocks by members of the Cahuilla tribe. This site has long been of cultural and historical importance to the local Native American community. However, because of the extensive use of off-road vehicles, the archeological evidence has been **vulnerable** to pollution. By monitoring this site, the NALC and other groups can both register and record those who use the area and encourage protective measures. They also maintain an informational facility on the property.
- 4** Finally, the NALC has been instrumental in conserving the area called Old Woman Mountains Preserve in San Bernardino County. This area surrounds a group of mountains, and it includes a large granite rock that is thought to resemble an old woman. The 2,560-acre preserve contains many places with historical and cultural ties to various Native American tribes. In 2002, the NALC purchased it with the goal of improving hiking trails, protecting the landscape, and running educational programs. They now conduct scientific surveys of the plants and animals found on the property. Especially important is the Learning Landscape program for tribal young people, which teaches them about their own cultural traditions.
- 5** It is plain to see that the NALC is helping to conserve both the environment and Native American culture with such projects just as the National Park Service preserves Alcatraz Island and Muir Woods for the good of the country. After all, the history of the native people in California is just as important as any other history of the region, and we must support groups like the NALC in their goals. It is abundantly clear that, without the assistance of groups like the NALC, places of cultural and historical importance to Native American tribes in California would not be maintained and conserved. All United States citizens must remember that the legacy of the native tribes and the land they have lived on is part of our shared history.

Choose the best answer to each question. There is ONLY ONE correct answer for each question.

6. What is the writer’s main argument?

- (A) The NALC deserves the support of all Americans due to its proven work of preserving tribal history, culture, and the environment.
- (B) The NALC works with other organizations to protect important Native American sites.
- (C) Native Americans need organizations like the NALC to help them conserve their sacred land.
- (D) The NALC should build trails and rock shelters.

7. In paragraph 2, why does the author mention “ritual hunting activities”?

- (A) He is against the hunting of animals.
- (B) He thinks that knowing this information can help us understand more about past cultures.
- (C) He wants to emphasize that Native Americans hunted based on specific rules.
- (D) He wants to give a warning about endangered species

8. What was the author’s main purpose for writing this essay?

- (A) to educate the reader about an organization he admires
- (B) to criticize the government of California and offer solutions
- (C) to describe some different Native American tribes of Southern California
- (D) to give information about the history of Native Americans in the state of California

9. How would you describe the overall tone of this essay?

- (A) sarcastic
- (B) informative
- (C) disappointed
- (D) frantic

10. Which option is the opposite of “vulnerable” in paragraph 3?

- (A) difficult in an interesting way that tests your ability
- (B) opposed to great or sudden social change
- (C) having a great effect on people or things; of great value
- (D) strong and barely hurt physically or emotionally

THE END OF THE TEST

Answer Key: 1 – D 2-D 3- C 4-C 5-A 6-A 7-B 8-A 9-B 10-D