Test-Wiseness Clues

Test-wiseness clues can help you to identify the correct answer on objective type tests when you are having difficult selecting an answer.

♦ Multiple Choice Questions

• The most general alternative is often the correct one.
  1. The lungs
     a. are solid and immobile and located within the chest.
     b. are the only organs that produce insulin.
     c. function primarily in respiration.
     d. possess the sphincter of Oddi.

• The longest alternative may be the correct one.
  2. One of the main reasons for Custer’s defeat at the Little Big Horn was the fact that
     a. he split his troops into three groups, making each group too small to effectively fight.
     b. the weather was too hot.
     c. he had sick horses.
     d. he wanted to be president.

• The correct alternative is usually of middle value.
  3. The mature human being has how many teeth?
     a. 15          c. 54
     b. 32          d. 7

• If two alternatives have similar meaning, choose neither.
  4. The treaty of Brest Litovsk was ratified by Moscow because:
     a. Tzar Alexander I wanted to prevent Napoleon’s invasion of Russia.
     b. Russia was unable to keep up with the armament manufacture of Austria.
     c. Russia could not keep pace with the military production of Austria.
     d. Nicolai Lenin wanted to get the Soviet Union out of WWI.

• If two alternatives have opposite meaning, choose either.
  5. The planarian has:
     a. an anterior brain.          c. red eyes.
     b. three legs.                d. a posterior brain.

• Pay attention to grammatical agreement between stem and correct alternative.
  6. A biologist who specializes in the study of the relationships of an organism to its environment is known as an:
     a. ecologist.          c. taxonomist.
     b. structuralist.     d. naturalist.

7. Important in feeling pain are:
     a. bone          c. muscle
     b. ear           d. nerves
8. The Strong Vocational Interest Blank is used to measure:
   a. aptitudes c. achievement
   b. interest d. adjustment

9. Charles Dicken’s Hard Times deals with:
   a. the difficult life of a factory worker.
   b. the politics of the French Chateau country.
   c. the court of King Edward’s existentialism.

Note the number of blanks provided for fill-in-the-blank items.

10. A popular song during World War I was __________ __________.
    a. Over the Hill c. Why the Kaiser
    b. Over there d. Adolph

True-False Questions

Specific determiners: Certain words associated with correct and incorrect statement.

List I — usually make an item false.
     always  all
     never  none
only  impossible
necessarily  invariably
must

List 2 — may make true or false
     often  generally
     seldom  may
perhaps  usually
sometimes

11. It is always sunny during the winter at LaCrosse.
    a. True  b. False

12. July is always a summer month.
    a. True  b. False

13. The compensation of a skilled work-person often exceeds that of a laborer.
    a. True  b. False

14. Operas are invariably sung in Italian.
    a. True  b. False

15. Insurance sometimes serves as protection against income interruption.
    a. True  b. False

Caution: Test Wiseness clues should only be used after you have tried to logically determine the answer and still are very uncertain of the answer.

From: The Learning & Academic Skills Center, Univ. of MN

Answer Key:
1. c  2. a  3. b  4. d  5. a
6. a  7. d  8. b  9. a  10. b
11. b  12. b  13. a  14. b  15. a