READING TEST 1 EXPLANATIONS

Answer Key

Check your answers, then refer to the relevant Answer Explanations for a break-down of why that answer is correct and why other choices were not.

#	Answer	#	Answer
1	A	19	D
2	H	20	H
3	C	21	B
4	J	22	F
5	A	23	B
6	J	24	G
7	B	25	B
8	F	26	F
9	B	27	C
10	F	28	H
11	B	29	C
12	H	30	J
13	B	31	C
14	H	32	G
15	D	33	C
16	J	34	F
17	A	35	B
18	H	36	H

Reading Breakdown

Key Ideas & Details (44-52%)

Craft & Structure (26-33%)

Integration of Knowledge & Ideas (19-26%)

Answer Explanations

Use the following answer explanations and examples to determine why that answer is correct and why other choices were not.

Passage I

1. Key Ideas & Details

   The best answer is **A** because the passage details Frankenstein's shift from thinking of the creature as an "accomplishment" (line 2) to something he was "unable to endure" (line 36). This shift in perspective is explicitly stated in the third paragraph: "I had desired it [bringing the creature to life] with an ardor that far exceeded moderation; but now that I had finished, the beauty of the dream vanished, and breathless horror and disgust filled my heart" (lines 32-35).

   Why other choices are incorrect:

   - **B** – *Contradicted by the passage:* This option suggests Frankenstein feels pride, but the passage shows the opposite—he flees from his creation in disgust.
   - **C** – *Too narrow:* While Frankenstein is exhausted, the passage emphasizes emotional horror rather than simple fatigue.
   - **D** – *Contradicted by the passage:* The passage warns against ambition's dangers, not its benefits, making this choice too narrow and contradictory.

2. Craft & Structure

   The best answer is **H** because the passage shows Frankenstein's emotional conflict and ultimate repulsion. He initially admires the creature's appearance, calling it "Beautiful!" (line 18) and describing features in a positive light — "his hair was of a lustrous black" and "his teeth of pearly whiteness" (lines 20–22). However, his tone shifts dramatically — "but these luxuriances only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes…his shriveled complexion and straight black lips" (lines 21-26).

   Why other choices are incorrect:

   - **F** – *Too narrow:* This option focuses only on Frankenstein's initial admiration and ignores the dramatic emotional shift to horror.
   - **G** – *Misidentifies tone:* Frankenstein is not calmly observing; his exclamation and vivid language show he is emotionally overwhelmed.
   - **J** – *Contradicted by the passage:* While Frankenstein admired the creature's parts before animation, there is no indication he remains impressed—his reaction is dominated by revulsion.

3. Key Ideas & Details

   The best answer is **C** because Frankenstein's determination is quickly replaced with regret. To reach his goal, he had "worked hard for nearly two years" and "deprived [himself] of rest and health" (lines 29-31). However, once the creature comes to life, Frankenstein's reaction quickly changes to "breathless horror and disgust" (line 35). The phrase "the beauty of the dream vanished" refers to the collapse of Frankenstein's hopes and ambitions after experiencing the horrifying reality of his creation.

   Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Misinterprets figurative language*: The phrase is figurative, not literal. Frankenstein is not describing an actual dream ending when he falls asleep.
- **B** – *Contradicts the passage*: This interpretation contradicts information in the text. Frankenstein's initial motivation of wanting to create life or "infuse a spark of being" (line 5) does not change, but he is consumed with regret for his earlier ambitions.
- **D** – *Oversimplified*: Although Frankenstein is horrified by the creature's appearance, the phrase refers more broadly to the collapse of his ambitions and expectations, not simply the creature's physical appearance.

4. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **J** because the dream follows the same pattern of emotions that Frankenstein has just experienced with his creation—delight into darkness. In the dream, Elizabeth first appears "in the bloom of health" and Frankenstein is "delighted and surprised" (lines 44-46). However, quickly her "features appeared to change" (line 48) until she appears to be the "corpse" of his mother (lines 48-49). The dream happens right after he abandons the creature, which suggests the recent events caused these feelings.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Contradicted by the passage*: The dream is not happy or nostalgic—it is disturbing and full of guilt.
- **G** – *Misinterprets symbolism*: The dream is not tied to future events but does summarize the same emotional turmoil Frankenstein experienced just prior to falling asleep.
- **H** – *Outside passage focus*: The dream is about feelings, not science.

5. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **A** because the detailed description shows how Frankenstein's feelings change. At first, he hoped the creature would be "beautiful" (line 16), but as he looks more closely at the "horrid contrast" and "shriveled complexion" and he sees the finished result, he is horrified (lines 22-23, 25-26). The shift in words he uses to describe the creature's appearance shows how he sees the creature. If he had continued to use beautiful descriptions we would think he was still seeing the creature with high regard.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **B** – *Misplaces focus*: The description focuses on the creature's shocking appearance, not on scientific precision.
- **C** – *Outside the passage's focus*: The text does not mention society's reaction; it only shows Frankenstein's feelings.
- **D** – *Misidentifies audience*: The physical description is from Frankenstein's perspective only.

6. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **J** because Henry's arrival brings Frankenstein comfort and emotional relief. Frankenstein had a strong negative reaction to the monster coming to life that put him "in a state of utter exhaustion and fever" "for several days" (lines 71-72). When Henry Clerval nurses him back to health, the phrase "restored me to life" (line 81) is not meant literally; it is a figurative expression. Although Henry's kindness renewed his physical strength, Henry's care also lifted him from emotional despair as well. Salvation means being rescued from suffering, so Frankenstein views Henry's arrive as salvation.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Too narrow*: Frankenstein does feel better, but the passage shows an emotional change, not just physical recovery.
- **G** – *Contradicted by the passage*: Frankenstein is not happy to see the creature—he is horrified to the point of physical illness.
- **H** – *Outside passage focus*: The passage does not mention Frankenstein's education or plans to return to school.

7. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **B** because in context, Frankenstein wonders how he can "delineate the wretch," meaning how can he describe or portray the creature accurately. After asking the question, he immediately answers as he begins to describe the creature with great detail.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Contradicted by passage*: He wants to describe the creature, not eliminate it.
- **C** – Incorrectly defines *vocabulary in context*: Even though Frankenstein feels horror, "delineate" does not mean to criticize; it means to represent or describe.
- **D** – *Too narrow*: While "indicate the exact position of" can be a dictionary meaning, the passage focuses on emotional and descriptive portrayal, not physical location.

8. Global Synthesis

The best answer is **F** because Frankenstein's ambition isolates him and leads to regret. His obsession causes emotional collapse and illness, as shown by his horror and later sickness—"I remained for several days in a state of utter exhaustion and fever" (lines 71-72). Even when Henry helps him recover, he "dared not confess" (line 102) that he had brought a creature to life. This shows how isolated he became with his illness and how his regret over his actions led him to hide things from his friend.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **G** – *Contradicted by passage*: Frankenstein does not earn admiration or success—others do not even know about his creation.
- **H** – *Overstates relationships*: In the passage, Frankenstein is almost entirely isolated. Even though Henry visits him, he becomes withdrawn and hides the truth from his friend (lines 101–102).
- **J** – *Outside passage focus*: The passage shows emotional cost, not scientific progress without consequences.

9. Global Synthesis

The best answer is **B** because Frankenstein's immediate horror at the creature's appearance (lines 22-26)—despite having created him— shows a natural fear of what is unfamiliar. Shelley uses this reaction to comment on human nature's tendency to reject what is different or unknown.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Contradicted by the passage*: Although Franknenstein isolates himself, the creature's isolation is caused by Frankenstein's rejection, not by the creature choosing to be alone.
- **C** – *Too narrow*: While physical beauty matters, the passage focuses more on fear and rejection than attraction.
- **D** – *Outside passage focus*: The passage does not mention society valuing science over emotions; it focuses on Frankenstein's emotional collapse.

Passage II

10. Global Synthesis

The best answer is **F** because the passage spends significant portions describing the mechanical aspects of haboobs followed by related health concerns. Over half the passage includes scientific information, such as how haboobs form (lines 14-19), the contribution of the American monsoon season (lines 37-47), updrafts (lines 50-56), downburst (lines 56-59), and saltation (lines 70-73). The last section of the passage focuses on health concerns (lines 78-130).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **G** – *Too broad*: This option overgeneralizes by focusing on the effects of weather patterns while ignoring the health concerns. The passage doesn't just discuss effects but provides a physical description of the appearance of a haboob, the conditions necessary, and the formation process.
- **H** – *Irrelevant to author's purpose:* Although public health and safety are mentioned, the passage does not attempt to argue the importance of meteorology; it explains a phenomenon, so this option misrepresents the author's intent.
- **J** – *Too narrow:* Although regional formation is mentioned, it accounts for only one detail and does not represent the passage's full purpose.

11. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **B** because as stated in lines 37-44: "The American Southwest is particularly susceptible to haboobs because of…a seasonal reconfiguration…during the summer months."

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Too narrow*: The area is prone to intense storms and high-velocity downbursts, but they are the result of the regional shift in atmospheric circulation during the summer months and the root cause of the seasonal reconfiguration.
- **C** – *Effect, not cause*: Soil that is dry, loose, and full of fine particulates contributes to the wall of dust characteristic of haboobs–it is an effect of the winds not the cause.
- **D** – *Outside passage focus*: The passage mentions airborne dust as a health concern, but it never connects particle retention to why the region is vulnerable to haboobs.

12. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **H** because the characteristics of the phenomenon include physical descriptions like "immense" (line 12), which emphases the size and "intense" (line 13), which emphasizes the power. These descriptions support the idea that the storms are strong and powerful.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Overstates emotional impact:* Intimidating and awe-inspiring describe an emotional response, but the author's description is based on an observation.
- **G** – *Too narrow:* Although the author does go on to indicate haboobs are impressive and have the potential for hazardous conditions, there is no evidence within this paragraph.
- **J** – *Contradicted by the passage:* The author does indicate the process that forms a haboob could be considered dynamic and storms can persist for hundreds of miles, but not in the surrounding text associated with "formidable." Those words describe conditions indirectly associated with haboobs and not the phenomenon itself.

13. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **B** because the passage states "When precipitation follows a haboob, rainfall will clear out the contaminated particles from the air, reducing exposure" (lines 100-102).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Outside passage focus*: While Haboobs can stir up fungal spores (line 75), there is no mention of how rainfall after a haboob affects the spores.
- **C** – *Contradicts the text*: Although the passage does discuss the intensity of thunderstorms in relation to haboobs, it does not provide any suggestion that rainfall decreases the intensity of thunderstorms.
- **D** – *Outside passage focus*: Flooding is never mentioned as a consequence of rainfall after a haboob, so this choice introduces off-topic information.

14. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **H** because although several conditions are necessary for a haboob to form, line 72 states that the "towering wall of dust characteristic of haboobs" occurs when "the winds lift not only fine particulates but small rocks and sediment" (lines 66-67).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Overstates the connection*: While storm complexes can release successive downbursts, there is no indication that haboobs will always form because of successive wind bursts.
- **G** – *Outside the referenced lines*: Shifting wind patterns are mentioned earlier, but they are not mentioned in lines 65-73.
- **J** – *Outside the referenced lines*: While line 51 mentions "substantial volumes of water" in association with updrafts and downdrafts, there is no direct evidence they are necessary conditions according to lines 65-73.

15. Integration of Knowledge & Ideas

The best answer is **D** because the passage shifts from a vivid description of a specific haboob event to an explanation of what a haboob is and how it forms. The first paragraph sets the scene visually with descriptions like "towering wall of dust" (line 4) and "plunging neighborhoods into near-total darkness" (line 7). The second paragraph provides a definition (lines 11-15) and overview of the scientific process (lines 14-22).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Incorrect tone label*: Neither the first nor the second paragraph indicate the feelings of the author or the people experiencing the haboob, so the tone of the first paragraph is not emotional.
- **B** – *Too broad*: The first paragraph could be considered narrative and the second paragraph could be considered explanatory, both terms are broad. "Narrative to explanatory" isn't about tone, but about mode or type of writing. So even though this choice is not entirely inaccurate, D is the better choice because it is more specific.
- **C** – *Misidentifies paragraph 2*: Although the first paragraph is informational, the second paragraph does not indicate any exploration, questioning, interpretation, or anything else that suggests an analysis.

16. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **J** because it evokes an immediacy and intensity that conveys drama as seen in lines 3-4 "the horizon can quickly transform into a towering wall of dust." Even if the other responses are accurate, **J** provides the strongest evidence to support the claim, making it the *best* choice.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Too indirect*: Although haboobs can pose health concerns, the risks noted in the passage are not frequent, acute, or widespread enough to be considered dramatic. These risks include Coccidioides spores, but "Not everyone who breathes in the spores falls ill" (lines 88-89). The passage also notes some storms stir up contaminants, but notes "inhalation over time can contribute" (lines 105-106) to health risks.
- **G** – *Weak connection*: Although haboobs are associated with thunderstorms, thunderstorms are actually the cause of haboobs, not merely a coincidental pattern (lines 48-49) And while thunderstorms can be dramatic compared to other weather events, the passage frames the haboob itself as more dramatic than the thunderstorms that produced them (lines 31-32).
- **H** – *Misaligned detail*: Although this detail is accurate, it is purely factual and does not convey anything striking, sudden, or intense– qualities typically associate with "dramatic."

17. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **A** because the paragraph's primary focus is the formation of updrafts and how they can transform into downbursts.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **B** – *Misplaces focus*: The role of precipitation in haboobs is discussed outside of the paragraph. The paragraph's primary focus is the shift between updrafts and downbursts, not the general role of precipitation in forming haboobs.
- **C** – *Overgeneralizes*: Although the paragraph discusses vertical air movement, this option is too broad. Paragraph 5 specifically addresses the interaction between updrafts and downbursts, making A the *best* choice.
- **D** – *Unsupported idea*: The paragraph does not include any information about why haboobs are rare; rarity is not addressed in this section.

18. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **H** because it provides the clearest and most direct contrast between visibility and health risks. According to the passage, the loss of visibility happens immediately, as shown by the description of neighborhoods being "plunged into near-total darkness" (line 7). The recommendation "If you are caught on the roadway…the storm has dissipated" (lines 112-113) also implies loss of visibility can happen quickly. Health risks, on the other hand, develop more gradually, worsening "over time" (line 105) through "prolonged exposure" (line 126).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Overstates risks*: The passage notes "people with weakened immune systems are especially vulnerable" (lines 89-91) but does not indicate they are the only population affected.
- **G** – *Contradicts the passage*: The passage states that although rainfall can "clear out contaminated particles from the air" (line 101), it also states when the rain evaporates before reaching the ground the "participles may remain suspended for extended periods" (lines 104-105) so risks do not necessarily disappear after precipitation.
- **J** – *Unsupported consequence*: Although the passage indicates loss of visibility is temporary, it does not indicate health risks are permanent and irreversible.

Passage III

19. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **D** because the passage explicitly states that "Attention is the process by which the mind focuses on certain objects or ideas while ignoring others" (lines 6-8).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Misinterprets concept*: The passage emphasizes selective focus, not independent biological function.
- **B** – *Contradicted by definition*: According to the passage attention is not the simultaneous processing of multiple sources which is multitasking but instead involves selective focus.
- **C** – *Overgeneralizes learning*: Although the passage mentions that attention is shaped by behavior, it does not describe attention as a *learned* behavior.

20. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **H** because the passage explicitly states that "Suggestion refers to the process by which an idea is introduced into the mind and, by being attended to, influences thought or action. This can happen in many ways, both consciously and unconsciously…the person may come to believe it without critical examination" (lines 18-26).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Contradicted by the passage*: According to the passage, suggestion bypasses critical thinking rather than requiring more effort.
- **G** – *Too narrow*: The passage mentions education but indicates suggestion occurs in many contexts.
- **J** – *Contradicted by the passage*: This option contradicts the passage's point about unconscious acceptance.

21. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **B** because the passage's opening states that attention and suggestion are "powerful forces in human life," (lines 47-48) and the entire passage systematically explains both concepts, their mechanisms, and their applications in various contexts (workplace, education, and groups). The concluding paragraph emphasizes how understanding these processes helps people "direct their attention wisely" (lines 53-56).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Outside the passage focus*: The passage doesn't critique research methods.
- **C** – *Too narrow*: The passage mentions teaching as an example, but it is not the focus.
- **D** – *Overstates claim*: This option overstates the supporting detail about crowd behavior.

22. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **F** because Passage A explains that people in crowds become more susceptible to suggestion when their attention is directed toward the actions and emotions of the group. The passage states that group behavior can "override individual judgment" (lines 30-33) and gives the example of audience members joining applause once others begin participating. This supports the idea that individual judgment becomes less dominant as group influence increases.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **G** – *Contradicted by the passage*: The passage suggests people in crowds are more susceptible to suggestion, not more intellectually engaged.
- **H** – *Unsupported detail*: The passage never mentions darkness or physical theater conditions affecting attention or cognition.
- **J** – *Misplaces focus*: The example focuses on group behavior and social influence, not on the accuracy or quality of theatrical performances.

23. Craft and Structure

The best answer is **B** because the passage refers to "innate attention triggers" (line 101) such as novelty, emotional intensity, and social relevance. In context, "innate" describes qualities people naturally possess rather than behaviors learned over time. Therefore, "natural or inborn" is the best match.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Contradicted by context*: The passage describes these attention triggers as part of human nature, not something acquired through experience.
- **C** – *Misinterprets meaning*: "Innate" refers to something naturally existing, not something consciously controlled.
- **D** – *Unsupported meaning*: The passage does not suggest these attention triggers are recently developed or new.

24. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **G** because Passage B explains how media capture and hold attention. Media messages are more "tailored" and "provocative" (lines 104-105). This is further supported in the final paragraph that states "information producers compete…for our limited attention, they design content that is increasingly difficult to ignore" (lines 141-145).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Outside passage focus*: The passage discusses modern attention economics, not the historical development of psychological theories.
- **H** – *Unsupported detail*: The passage does not discuss literacy rates or their economic impact.
- **J** – *Contradicted by the passage*: The passage does not argue that traditional classroom instruction is better than digital learning.

25. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **B** because Passage B explains that communicators intentionally design content to target "innate attention triggers such as novelty, emotional intensity, and social relevance" (lines 101-103).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Contradicted by the passage*: This option confuses an automatic response with intentionality.
- **C** – *Contradicted by the passage:* The passage does not state communicators reduce automatic triggers, but that they leverage these triggers.
- **D** – *Unsupported claim*: The passage does not state that automatic responses are replaced, but that they are taken advantage of.

26. Integration of Knowledge & Ideas

The best answer is **F** because both passages examine how attention operates and how it can be shaped or influenced. Passage A explains the psychological processes of how attention and suggestion "influence how people perceive the world, interact with others, and make decisions" (lines 49-50). Passage B describes how those psychological processes created "competition for attention" in a way that has "transformed our media environment" (lines 93-95).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **G** – *Too narrow/Contradictory*: Only Passage A discusses group behavior, but the discussion is explanatory rather than critical
- **H** – *Not supported:* Neither passage advocates for traditional educational methods.
- **J** – *Misses the purpose:* Although both passages present information in a factual way, and do indicate different timeframes within the field, neither concentrates on the field of psychological research as a whole, but rather topics within the field.

27. Integration of Knowledge & Ideas

The best answer is **C** because both passages examine how attention operates and how it can be shaped or influenced. Passage A explains the psychological processes of attention and suggestion, such as "attention determines what we notice, remember, and act upon" (lines 8-10) and "The suggestion to applaud becomes more powerful as more people participate" (lines 36-37). Passage B describes how modern media and technology use those same attention mechanisms to compete for human focus, such as "The competition for attention has transformed our media environment…" (lines 93-95) and "fast-paced, emotionally arousing content becomes more difficult to process accurately" (lines 121-123). Together, both passages emphasize the ways attention affects perception, behavior, and decision-making.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Contradicted by the passage*: Both passages describe how attention can be influenced and manipulated.
- **B** – *Unsupported:* Neither passage makes this claim; both passages apply theories on attention to modern contexts.
- **D** – *Overstates a detail*: Although both passages touch on how individuals' attention can be directed "unconsciously" (line 22) or "automatic" (line 100), neither suggest people have no ability to control the direction of their attention.

Passage IV

28. Integration of Knowledge & Ideas

The best answer is **H** because the passage consistently explains how Julius Caesar's early experiences and later rise were shaped by Rome's political instability, including class divisions, civil conflict, and struggles for power. The passage traces these events chronologically and emphasizes how Rome's instability influenced Caesar's development and rise to power.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Too narrow*: The passage discusses Caesar's role in the decline of the Republic, but it does not focus primarily on assigning blame for the collapse of Roman democracy.
- **G** – *Outside passage focus:* Social class divisions are discussed as important background information, but they are not the central focus of the passage.
- **J** – *Misplaces focus*: Although Marius and Sulla are discussed, the passage does not primarily compare their leadership styles with Caesar's. Their conflict mainly provides historical context for Rome's instability.

29. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **C** because the passage explicitly states that Rome's Italian allies "had fought in Roman armies for generations but had been repeatedly denied Roman citizenship" (lines 23-25). Without citizenship, they lacked legal protection and political representation, which led to the Social War (lines 27-28).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Unsupported detail*: The passage does not state that Rome's allies sought to overthrow patrician rule.
- **B** – *Unsupported detail:* Land and grain subsidies are never identified as causes of the Social War.
- **D** – *Contradicted by the passage*: Although the allies served in the Roman army, the passage does not claim they fought without pay. The conflict centered on citizenship and political rights.

30. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **J** because the passage describes Sulla's march on Rome as "an unprecedented act that shattered *long-standing* political norms." In context, "unprecedented" refers to something that had never happened before.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Misinterprets context* Although the event involved conflict, the word "unprecedented" describes its uniqueness rather than its violence.
- **G** – *Too narrow:* Something may be unexpected without being entirely new or without precedent.
- **H** – *Incorrectly defines vocabulary in context*: "Previously unknown" suggests the act was unfamiliar or unrecognized, but the passage actually suggests the act as something that had not been done before.

31. Inference

The best answer is **C** because the passage explains that Aurelia herself was "politically aware" and "ensured her son received instruction in rhetoric, literature, and civic life" (lines 55-56), showing that she valued education as preparation for understanding public affairs and political realities.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Unsupported detail*: The passage does not connect Aurelia's educational goals to military success.
- **B** – *Outside passage focus:* Although family influence is important in Caesar's life, the passage does not suggest Aurelia prioritized family loyalty over political ambition.
- **D** – *Contradicted by the passage:* Aurelia's education of Caesar prepares him for involvement in civic and political life rather than discouraging public participation.

32. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **G** because the passage explains that Sulla marched his army into Rome during the conflict with Marius, which occurred while Caesar was still young. The other events all take place later in Caesar's life.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Too late*: Caesar formed the First Triumvirate much later in adulthood after rebuilding his political position.
- **H** – *Too late:* Caesar's refusal to divorce Cornelia occurred after Sulla had already seized control of Rome.
- **J** – *Too late*: Caesar was named dictator for life near the end of his political career.

33. Key Ideas & Details

The best answer is **C** because the paragraph describing Marius and Sulla emphasizes that their rivalry "escalated into violence" (line 43) and the collapse of "long-standing political norms" (line 45). Sulla's decision to march his army into Rome is presented as a major violation of political norms that contributed to the Republic's instability.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Unsupported detail*: The passage does not discuss whether Caesar personally admired Marius.
- **B** – *Misplaces focus:* Although military actions are mentioned, the paragraph focuses on political instability rather than military tactics.
- **D** – *Too narrow*: The paragraph mentions reforms, but its primary purpose is to show the erosion of political norms and increasing conflict within Rome.

34. Integration of Knowledge & Ideas

The best answer is **F** because the passage directly states that Marius's reforms "allowed landless men to serve in the army, binding soldiers' loyalty to commanders rather than the Senate" (lines 38-41).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **G** – *Unsupported claim*: The passage does not state that plebeians gained full political equality as a result of the reforms.
- **H** – *Misreads cause and effect:* Roman allies gained citizenship as a result of the Social War, not because of Marius's military reforms.
- **J** – *Contradicted by the passage*: The passage describes growing instability and challenges to aristocratic control rather than a restoration of aristocratic power.

35. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **B** because the author presents both Caesar's accomplishments and the dangers of his growing power in a balanced and analytical way. The passage acknowledges his political skill and reforms while also explaining how his concentration of power contributed to instability in the Roman Republic.

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **A** – *Unsupported claim*: Although the passage recognizes Caesar's achievements, it also includes criticism and caution about his accumulation of power, such as "his concentration of power had destabilized the Republic" (lines 106-107).
- **C** – *Contradicted by tone:* The author's tone remains measured and analytical rather than openly hostile.
- **D** – *Misrepresents the passage*: The passage acknowledges Caesar's political and military successes rather than dismissing his achievements, such as "Caesar's military campaigns expanded Roman territory and earned him widespread support among soldiers and citizens alike" (lines 75-78).

36. Craft & Structure

The best answer is **H** because the phrase “both privilege and decline” refers to the fact that Caesar’s family still possessed patrician social status but “had lost much of its wealth and influence”(line 48).

Why other choices are incorrect:

- **F** – *Unsupported detail*: The passage does not suggest that Caesar’s family lacked education.
- **G** – *Contradicted by the passage:* The family is described as having lost wealth and influence rather than retaining wealth while being politically ignored.
- **J** – *Unsupported claim*: The passage does not indicate that Caesar’s family rejected aristocratic or patrician values.

AI Statement: A human subject matter expert has reviewed all content for accuracy. Copilot and other AI chatbots were used in the co-constructing of most examples, non-examples, and explanatory text, as well as to conduct quality assurance checks to ensure rigor and consistency.