# Academic Challenge 

# 2019 Academic Challenge ENGLISH TEST - STATE 



GENERAL DIRECTIONS
Please read the following instructions carefully. This is a timed test; any instructions from the test supervisor should be followed promptly.

The test supervisor will give instructions for filling in any necessary information on the answer sheet. Most Academic Challenge sites will ask you to indicate your answer to each question by marking an oval that corresponds to the correct answer for that question. One oval should be marked to answer each question. Multiple ovals will automatically be graded as an incorrect answer.

Be sure ovals are marked as


If you wish to change an answer, erase your first mark completely before marking your new choice.

You are advised to use your time effectively and to work as rapidly as you can without losing accuracy. Do not waste your time on questions that seem too difficult for you. Go on to the other questions, and then come back to the difficult ones later if time remains.

Time: $\mathbf{4 0}$ Minutes Number of Questions: 80
DO NOT OPEN TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO!
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In items 1-10, choose the correct spelling of the word.
1.
a. Irreconcilable
b. Irreconceilable
c. Irreconcelable
d. Irreconsilable
2.
a. Playwrite
b. Playrite
c. Playwright
d. Playright
3.
a. Immixibility
b. Imixibility
c. Imiscibility
d. Immiscibility
4.
a. Biodegredation
b. Biodegradation
c. Biodagredation
d. Biodegridation
5.
a. Psyllium
b. Psylium
c. Psilium
d. Psillium
6.
a. Wizzened
b. Wizzenned
c. Wizened
d. Wizenned
7.
a. Legerdomain
b. Lagerdomain
c. Lagerdemain
d. Legerdemain
8.
a. Epizootic
b. Epyzootic
c. Epizotic
d. Epizytic
9.
a. Virrago
b. Virago
c. Viraggo
d. Virraggo
10.
a. Staunchion
b. Staunchun
c. Stanchion
d. Stanchon

In items 11-30, find the answer that best develops the meaning of the word in boldface.
11. Doctors are always careful to use aseptic surgical equipment.
a. Insurance rates are lower.
b. The new tools are easier to handle.
c. It helps to prevent infection.
d. The kickbacks they receive are tremendous.
12. The prolix manuscript took days to read.
a. The tome frequently put readers to sleep.
b. The complex ideas would take long to digest.
c. The rich immersion was hard to break.
d. Its absurd length was a burden to the overworked editor.
13. Huck Finn is a picaresque hero.
a. His travels through lush landscapes are well known.
b. His heroic deeds on behalf of wildlife is amendable.
c. His roguish charm is an enduring feature of American fiction.
d. His skill at photography is legendary.
14. The couple had totally antipodal personalities.
a. They enjoyed each other's company despite their opposites.
b. Their relationship confused their friends.
c. They complemented each other so well they could finish each other's sentences.
d. Their relationship was marred with verbal sparring.
15. In Thailand, it is considered infelicitous to touch someone's head.
a. It is a terrorizing gesture.
b. It is considered inappropriate.
c. It is considered spiteful.
d. It is a romantic gesture.
16. Courtney employed dilatory tactics in the debate in order to collect her thoughts.
a. Her eyes shifted from left to right in rapid succession.
b. The judges noticed, and she was docked a point.
c. She angerly lashed out at fellow competitors.
d. Her competitors wondered why she began to dance.
17. lan made the overweening assumption that people would rush to help him.
a. He assumed too quickly and was left underprepared.
b. His foolish ideas left him alone.
c. He was accurate in assuming that people would help him.
d. His immoderate ideals would be his undoing.
18. The extreme heat led to a general lassitude that settled on the village.
a. Laziness spread across the village.
b. Work ceased as laborers were sapped of energy.
c. Depression gripped the community.
d. Villagers began to leave in mass numbers.
19. The jocose lawyer could always be counted on for a bit of levity.
a. The bumbling fool could never win a case.
b. His stern glare brought the room to a standstill.
c. His merriness was a light in the courtroom.
d. His inexperience was laughable.
20. The country's national anthem is an encomium to the heroes of a war long past.
a. The saccharine song prompts eye rolls.
b. The historical accuracies are incredible.
c. The song always makes its listeners shed tears.
d. The effuse praise is over the top.
21. During the concert, Serena couldn't hear Rick over the din of the loudspeakers.
a. The shiny loudspeakers distracted her attention.
b. The discordant feedback was simply too loud.
c. The loudspeaker's size obscured her view.
d. The sounds were so pleasant it didn't matter any way.
22. The basilisk's baleful glare is lethal.
a. Its intensity was overwhelming.
b. Its kindness was an unnerving disguise.
c. Its slowness subdued its effectiveness.
d. Its foreboding evil can kill on sight.
23. The site for the church was hallowed in a special ceremony.
a. The taxes would soon increase.
b. The mayor signed off on the paperwork.
c. The consecrated land was now ready for construction.
d. The land was labeled a nature preserve.
24. Carolyn's position in the office is a sinecure.
a. She is on the fast track to a promotion.
b. She does nothing all day, yet she draws the same salary as everyone else.
c. She has the worst job duties out of all of us.
d. She works the graveyard shift.
25. He was nothing but a lackey of the establishment.
a. The man raged against his superiors.
b. His intellect was put to good use.
c. The spineless stooge did whatever he was told.
d. His independent streak was unappreciated.
26. The peaceful petitioning for redress of wrongs is a right enshrined in our country's founding documents.
a. Setting things right through peaceful action is an important factor of civic life.
b. Avenging those who have wronged you is a civil right.
c. Court trials are important to a functioning criminal justice system.
d. Direct ballot initiatives are an underutilized facet of our democracy.
27. The unctuous car salesman's pitch was off-putting.
a. His stench lingered in the air.
b. His droll delivery put me to sleep.
c. His eagerness killed the sale.
d. His sleazy comments make me squirm.
28. Though the professor is considered one of the greats, lately his lectures have verged on arrant tangents.
a. The extreme shifts are hard to follow and leave students confused.
b. His straightforward delivery is beginning to bore.
c. The supposedly humorous jokes don't land like they used to.
d. His even-keeled approach has been an unfortunate development for the normally theatrical professor.
29. Yaneza, though usually very modest, will readily vaunt her achievements in a job interview.
a. The lies she put on her resume were outlandish.
b. Her ability to communicate was vital to her new role in the company.
c. Her ability to brag about herself was what got her the job.
d. Her loudness was off-putting.
30. His grandmother is obsessed with philately and has even made several overseas pen pals in order to receive foreign mail.
a. She enjoys traveling abroad and collecting momentos.
b. Her fascination with foreign cultures is admirable.
c. The length she goes to collect stamps is getting out of hand.
d. She loves to learn new languages.

## In items 31-35, select the sentence that has no errors in grammar, punctuation, or mechanics.

31. 

a. Whether you have a stiff neck, or just want to strengthen it, there are a variety of stretches and exercises that target the neck.
b. You can do most of them while sitting, which is perfect if your stuck at a desk or on a long drive.
c. Because your neck, trunk, and legs work together to support your weight, core strengthening exercises are also great for the neck and spine.
d. If you're in a lot of pain, experience chronic neck pain, or, suffered a neck injury, head to a medical professional before trying neck exercises.
32.
a. Shipping liquids may seem confusing but all it takes is some careful planning.
b. Starting with a strong cardboard box and plenty of padding.
c. Most factory sealed liquids can be packed directly this way.
d. For perishables add a couple of coolant packs to preserve the liquid.
33.
a. Becoming a brewmaster can begin with something as simple as taking up brewing in your home.
b. If you've brewed beers at home for a few years you may be ready to take the next step.
c. You can start by applying for a job in a brewery, or, by completed coursework through a brewing course.
d. Then you can work your way up through a brewery, or start your own.
34.
a. In our family, travel is one of the most rewarding experiences we have together, however, not all travel is created equal.
b. Our adventures tend to be most gratifying when we don't limit our itinerary to the top tourist attractions but instead also seek to veer off the beaten path and, ideally, mingle with the locals.
c. Try to learn a few phrases in the native language: it never fails to boost our interest in our destination and it's culture.
d. Talk to hotel employees; restaurant staff; the taxi driver; or the friendly stranger who helped with directions and is equally happy to tell you about her favorite view of the city.
35.
a. You'll never regret—in fact, you'll thank yourself later-for investing the time necessary to prepare for writing your first book.
b. You wouldn't set out to cut down a huge grove of tree with just an axe: you'd need a chain saw perhaps more than one.
c. Naturally the nicer and more comfortable and private you can make your writing lair the better.
d. Even if someone else is keyboarding for you: you'll need a computer for research and for communicating with potential agents, editors, publishers.

## In items 36-45, select the sentence group that best revises any grammatical or punctuation errors or improves the style. If you see no error, select "no change necessary."

36. If Jasmine was to be selected by the Board of Directors, she would become the first female CEO in the history of the company.
a. If Jasmine were to be selected by the Board of Directors, she will become the first female CEO in the history of the company.
b. If Jasmine is selected by the Board of Directors, she becomes the first female CEO in the history of the company.
c. If Jasmine were to be selected by the Board of Directors, she would become the first female CEO in the history of the company.
d. No change necessary
37. The antique wooden clock has set locked in our den for years because the key is lost; we do not know what secrets it may contain, but no one is willing to risk possibly damaging the clock itself to find out.
a. The antique wooden clock has sat, locked, in our den for generations because the key is lost; we do not know what secrets it may contain, but no one is willing to risk damaging the clock itself to find out.
b. The antique wooden clock sat locked in our den for generations; because the key is lost we do not know what secrets it may contain, but no one is willing to risk damaging the clock itself to find out.
c. The antique wooden clock has been sitting locked in our den for generations because the key is lost; we do not know what secret it may contain, but no one is willing to possibly risk damaging the clock itself to find out.
d. No change necessary
38. The traffic on our street is not very heavy because it is closed for repairs two blocks from our house, so people who would ordinarily through our neighborhood are now taking the long way around.
a. The traffic on our street is not very heavy because it is closed for repairs two blocks from our house so people who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood are now taking the long way around.
b. Because our street is closed for repairs two blocks from our house, the traffic is not very heavy, so people who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood are now taking the long way around.
c. Because our street is closed for repairs two blocks from our house the traffic is not very heavy, so people, who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood, are now taking the long way around.
d. No change necessary
39. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks now and flooding has become a serious threat in the West side of the city; each of the citizens who have called City Hall in the past few days are concerned about the possibility that the levy may fail.
a. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks now, and flooding has become a serious threat in the south side of the city; each of the citizens who have called City Hall in the past few days is concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
b. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks now and flooding is a serious threat in the South side of the city; each of the citizens who has called City Hall in the past few days are concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
c. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks and flooding is now a serious threat in the South side of the city; each of the citizens who has called City Hall in the past few days is concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
d. No change necessary
40. One of photography's basic principals of composition is referred to as the "rule of thirds;" it holds that important subjects in a photograph are most effectively placed at the intersection of vertical and horizontal lines which divide the frame into thirds.
a. One of photography's basic principles of composition is referred to as the "rule of thirds;" it holds that important subjects in a photograph are most effectively placed at the intersection of vertical and horizontal lines that divide the frame into thirds.
b. One of photography's basic principals of composition is referred to as the "rule of thirds"; it holds that important subjects in a photograph are most effectively placed at the intersection of vertical and horizontal lines, which divide the frame into thirds.
c. One of photography's basic principles of composition is referred to as the "rule of thirds"; it holds that important subjects in a photograph are most effectively placed at the intersection of vertical and horizontal lines that divide the frame into thirds
d. No change necessary
41. Our refrigerator door is the place in our home that attracts all things magnetic; magnetic business cards; magnetic clips for holding recipes, magnetic buttons advertising vacation spots, and so on, ad nauseam.
a. Our refrigerator door is the place in our home that attracts all things magnetic: magnetic business cards, magnetic clips for holding recipes, magnetic buttons advertising vacation spots, etc., ad nauseam.
b. Our refrigerator door is the place in our home that attracts all things magnetic: magnetic business cards, magnetic clips for holding recipes, magnetic buttons advertising vacation spots, and so on, ad nauseam.
c. Our refrigerator door is the place in our home that attracts all things magnetic: magnetic business cards, magnetic clips for holding receipts, magnetic buttons advertising vacation spots, et cetera., ad nauseam.
d. No change necessary
42. When the senator spoke of citizens who take the initiative to help others in time of crisis, he was eluding to the survivors of the recent earthquake who worked tirelessly, despite their own losses, to rescue victims trapped in the rubble.
a. When the senator spoke of citizens who take the initiative to help others in time of crisis, he was alluding to the survivors of the recent earthquake who worked tirelessly, despite their own losses, to rescue victims trapped in the rubble.
b. When the senator spoke of citizens, who take the initiative to help others in time of crisis, he was alluding to the survivors of the recent earthquake who worked tirelessly, despite their own losses, to rescue victims trapped in the rubble.
c. When the senator spoke of citizens who take the initiative to help others in time of crisis, he was eluding to the survivors of the recent earthquake, who worked tirelessly, despite their own losses, to rescue victims trapped in the rubble.
d. No change necessary
43. We have a long history, Megan and me; we were schoolmates in elementary school and have been friends ever since.
a. We have a long history together; Megan and me were schoolmates in elementary school and have been firm friends ever since.
b. We, Megan and I, have a long history together; we were schoolmates in elementary school and have been firm friends ever sense.
c. We have a long history, Megan and I; we were schoolmates in elementary school and have been firm friends ever since.
d. No change necessary
44. Over the course of its 4.5 billion year existence, the earth has occasionally lashed out against its inhabitants, at five different times, mass extinctions ensued.
a. Over the course of its 4.5-billion-year existence, the earth has occasionally lashed out against its inhabitants. At five different times, mass extinctions ensued.
b. Over the course of its 4.5-billion-year existence, Earth has occasionally lashed out against its inhabitants. At five different times, mass extinctions ensued.
c. Over the course of its 4.5 billion year existence, the Earth has occasionally lashed out against its inhabitants. At five different times, mass extinctions ensued.
d. No change necessary
45. Independence Trail was built in the early 1980's using abandoned mining flumes: wooden channels that carried debris away from the hydraulic mine at malakoff diggins.
a. Independence Trail was built in the early 1980s using abandoned mining flumes, wooden channels that carried debris away from the hydraulic mine at Malakoff Diggins.
b. Independence Trail was built in the early 1980's using abandoned mining flumes. Wooden channels that carried debris away from the hydraulic mine at Malakoff Diggins.
c. Independence Trail was built in the early 1980s using abandoned mining flumes, wooden channels that carried debris away from the hydraulic mine at malakoff diggins.
d. No change necessary

In items 46-50, select the phrase that best describes the underlined words.
46. Determined not to show how exhausted he was after finals.
a. Passive voice
b. Dangling modifier
c. Fused sentence
d. Sentence fragment
47. She left the party after the speakers broke.
a. Dependent clause
b. Verbal phrase
c. Independent clause
d. Noun clause
48. Sing me a song.
a. Compound subject
b. Direct object
c. Simple predicate
d. Indirect object
49. The high from my Mountain Dew usually lasts about an hour.
a. Future perfect progressive
b. Prepositional phrase followed by an infinitive phrase.
c. Prepositional phrase followed by an adverb
d. Nonrestrictive relative clause
50. The researchers made sure to carefully check every figure they cited before the report was released.
a. Predicate adjective
b. A conjunctive adverb clause followed by a gerund phrase
c. Appositive that includes adjective clause
d. Split infinitive followed by an adjective clause

Margery Kempe was a medieval English woman best known as the author of her autobiography, The Book of Margery Kempe around the year 1400. It details her internal, spiritual experiences and devotion to Christian life. In the passage below, Kempe is on

## trial by an Archbishop for traveling and talking with members of his community. Read the following selection from her book, and answer the questions in items 51-60.

1 Then said the Archbishop to her, "You shall swear that you shall neither teach nor challenge the people in my diocese." "Nor, sir, I shall not swear," she said, "for I shall speak of God and reprove those who swear great oaths wheresoever I go unto the time that the pope and holy church have ordained that no man shall be so hardy to speak of God, for God almighty forbids not, sir, that we shall speak of him. And also the gospel makes mention that, when the woman had heard our Lord preach, she came before him with a loud voice and said, 'Blessed be the womb that bore you and the teats that gave you suck.' Then our Lord said again to her, 'Forsooth so are they blessed that hear the word of God and keep it.' And therefore, sir, I think that the gospel gives me leave to speak of God."
"Ah, sir," said the clerks, "here know we well that she has a devil within her, for she speaks of the gospel."
Immediately a great clerk brought forth a book and laid Saint Paul for his part against her that no woman should preach. She, answering thereto, said, "I preach not, sir, I go in no pulpit. I use but communication and good words, and that will I do while I live."
51. In what grammatical person is this passage composed?
a. First person
b. Second person
c. Third person
d. It does not have a person
52. What technique does Kempe use to rebuff the Archbishop's accusations?
a. Emotional appeals
b. Biblical exegesis
c. Aristotelian logic
d. Logical fallacies
53. What is Kempe's main issue with the people of the Archbishop's diocese?
a. They wear flashy clothing
b. They do not attend Mass on Sundays
c. They do not believe that Kempe receives real visions
d. They swear oaths
54. Kempe was a writer of the
a. Medieval period
b. Early modern period
c. Classical period
d. Antiquity
55. According to Kempe, how does God feel about people speaking about him?
a. He wants only clerks to speak about him
b. He wants people to speak about him
c. He does not want to be discussed by mortals
d. He does not want to be discussed by men
56. In lines $15-16$, why do the clerks claim that Kempe is possessed by a devil?
a. They do not understand why she will not convert
b. They hate the Christian religion and gospel
c. They are shocked to see a woman discussing the gospel
d. They are offended that she talks with a loud voice
57. What is the best description of Kempe's mindset at the end of the passage?
a. Determined
b. Frightened
c. Grateful
d. Angry
58. What is the best synonym for "ordained" in Line 5?
a. Ignored
b. Tagged
c. Disallowed
d. Ordered
59. Why does Kempe tell the story present in Lines 7-12?
a. She believes it shows that Christ hated women
b. She believes it shows that Christ was interested in speaking with women
c. She believes it shows that Christ had a mother
d. She believes it shows that Christ had a wife
60. What is Kempe's main point in Lines 19-21?
a. She is breaking no rules
b. She alone is permitted to break the rules
c. Since she is not Christian, she can preach
d. Since she is related to the Archbishop, she can preach

Alexander Pope was an $18^{\text {th }}$-century English poet, well-known for his satirical writing. His poem "Rape of the Lock" was published in 1712 tells the tale of a stolen lock of hair. In the passage below, the heroine, Belinda, and her maid Betty, prepare for the arrival of guests. Read the following selection from the poem and answer questions in items 61-70.

1 And now, unveil'd, the Toilet stands display'd,
2 Each silver vase in mystic Order laid.
3 First, rob'd in White, the Nymph intent adores
4 With Head uncover'd, the Cosmetic Pow'rs.
5 A heav'nly Image in the Glass appears,

6 To that she bends, to that her Eyes she rears;
7 Th'inferior Priestess, at her Altar's side,
8 Trembling, begins the sacred Rites of Pride.
9 Unnumber'd Treasures ope at once, and here
10 The various Off'rings of the World appear;
11 From each she nicely culls with curious Toil,
12 And decks the Goddess with the glitt'ring Spoil.
13 This Casket India's glowing Gems unlocks,
14 And all Arabia breaths from yonder Box.
15 The Tortoise here and Elephant unite,
16 Transform'd to Combs, the speckled and the white.
17 Here Files of Pins extend their shining Rows,
18 Puffs, Powders, Patches, Bibles, Billet-doux.
19 Now awful Beauty puts on all its Arms;
20 The fair each moment rises in her Charms,
21 Repairs her Smiles, awakens ev'ry Grace,
22 And calls forth all the Wonders of her Face . . .
61. The poem is composed in
a. lambic tetrameter
b. Dactylic hexameter
c. Heroic couplets
d. Blank verse
62. The tone of this poem is
a. Mocking
b. Callous
c. Pragmatic
d. Obsequious
63. This poem's genre is most likely
a. Doggerel
b. Traditional epic
c. Meditative
d. Burlesque
64. What is the closest meaning of the word "Toilet" in Line 1?
a. The gilded chamber-pot
b. An array of objects and materials relating to maquillage
c. A garderobe, or closet-style toilet in a medieval castle
d. A decorative sculpture meant to be kept in a bedroom
65. The poem draws heavily on conventions from which literary tradition?
a. Germanic epic poetry
b. Classical epic poetry
c. Modernist poetry
d. Nature poetry of the Romantic poets
66. Which emotional reaction is this poem meant to elicit?
a. Laughter
b. Tears
c. Discomfort
d. Confusion
67. What is the best synonym for the word "awful" as it appears in Line 19 ?
a. Terrible
b. Adorable
c. Awe-inspiring
d. Baffling
68. Who is the figure whose "heav'nly image" appears in Line 5?
a. Betty
b. The goddess Venus
c. The goddess Diana
d. Belinda
69. Who is the "priestess" of Line 7 ?
a. Betty
b. The oracle of Delphi
c. The seer Cassandra
d. Belinda
70. Why do Lines 15 and 16 feature references to animals?
a. Animals march in a procession by Belinda's manor
b. As a goddess, Belinda can command any creature to do her bidding
c. Belinda owns objects made from animals
d. Belinda's wealth is dependent upon her family's farm

Robert Louis Stevenson, a British author who lived 1850-1894, is best known for his books Treasure Island and The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. However, he also composed essays throughout his career as a celebrity author. Read the following selection from his 1888 essay "A Chapter on Dreams" and answer questions in items 7180.

The past is all of one texture-whether feigned or suffered-whether acted out in three dimensions, or only witnessed in that small theatre of the brain which we keep brightly lighted all night long, after the jets are down, and darkness and sleep reign undisturbed in the remainder of the body. There is no distinction on the face of our experiences; one is vivid indeed, and one dull, and one pleasant, and another agonising to remember; but which of them is what we call true, and which a dream, there is not one hair to prove. The past stands on a precarious footing; another straw split in the field of metaphysic, and behold us robbed of it. There is scarce a family that can count four generations but lays a claim to some dormant title or some castle and estate: a claim not prosecutable in any court of law, but flattering to the fancy and a great alleviation of idle hours. A man's claim to his own past is yet less valid.

12 A paper might turn up (in proper story-book fashion) in the secret drawer of an old ebony secretary, and restore your family to its ancient honours, and reinstate mine in a certain West Indian islet (not far from St Kitt's, as beloved tradition hummed in my young ears) which was once ours, and is now unjustly some one else's, and for that matter (in the state of the sugar trade) is not worth anything to anybody. I do not say that these revolutions are likely; only no man can deny that they are possible; and the past, on the other hand, is lost for ever: our old days and deeds, our old selves, too, and the very world in which these scenes were acted, all brought down to the same faint residuum as a last night's dream, to some incontinuous images, and an echo in the chambers of the brain.
71. Stevenson wrote in the
a. Victorian period
b. Medieval period
c. Early modern period
d. Restoration period
72. What is the piece's central thesis?
a. That authors should use their dreams to inspire their writing
b. That the human mind experience dreams and reality the same way
c. That nightmares are symptoms of mental illness
d. That dreams expose a person's deepest, truest desires
73. The phrase "small theatre of the brain which we keep brightly lighted all night long" (Lines 2-3) depends upon what kind of figurative language?
a. Oxymoron
b. Simile
c. Foreshadowing
d. Metaphor
74. What does Stevenson think about families who try to find their own regal or royal geneologies?
a. They are overweening and vain
b. They are adventurous and bold
c. They are academic and studious
d. They are sympathetic and moving
75. What is the best synonym for the word "suffered" in Line 1?
a. Deteriorated
b. Languished
c. Degraded
d. Experienced
76. What does Stevenson's family have to do with St Kitt's?
a. They own a sugar plantation there
b. They used to manufacture ebony goods there
c. They believe they are rightful heirs to a sugar plantation there
d. Stevenson dreamt that he traveled there
77. Why does Stevenson discuss family inheritances in the context of dreams?
a. He says that traditional family stories are more likely to be true than a person's own memories
b. Many people dream that they inherit large properties
c. He once dreamt that his family's sugar plantation went bankrupt
d. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining records regarding family history, so that inheritances and special memories can be passed on
78. Lines 19-20 suggest that
a. Dreams ought to be expunged from memories in order to prevent confusion
b. In memories, dreams and experiences have no perceptible differences
c. Dreams are detritus of the mind
d. Dreams are inherited memories
79. What is the best interpretation of the phrase "The past stands on a precarious footing; another straw split in the field of metaphysic, and behold us robbed of it" (Lines 7-8)?
a. A remarkable series of coincidences are responsible for our pasts
b. It takes nothing but minute shifts to make us forget our pasts
c. Philosophical inquiry shows that we are not ethically responsible for our past decisions
d. Philosophical inquiry shows that temporal goods should not be pursued too vigorously
80. The passage uses the words "hair" and "straw" in Line 7 to indicate
a. The split between elements of an individual's personality
b. The split between good and evil
c. The split between good/evil and memory/forgetfulness, respectively
d. The split between dreams/memories and memory/forgetfulness, respectively

