

PASSAGE THREE (Questions 5–6)

Dekanawida's role as a supreme lawgiver in the Iroquois tribe has given him the status of demigod within the Indian nation. Born into the Huron tribe, Dekanawida caused great fear in his parents, who tried to drown him in his youth after a prophecy was made indicating that he would bring great sorrow to the Huron nation. Dekanawida was to survive this attempted drowning but later left his parents' home and tribe to live among the Iroquois.

One of his achievements with the Iroquois was the institution of a law among the Iroquois that virtually ended blood feuds among the nation's families. Wampum, strings of beads made of polished shells, was a valued commodity in the Iroquois culture; according to policies established by Dekanawida, wampum had to be paid to the family of a murder victim by the family of the killer. Since the killer was also put to death, the family of the killer had to pay the victim's family in wampum for two deaths, the death of the murder victim and the death of the killer. These strict policies implemented by Dekanawida helped to establish him as a wise lawgiver and leader of the Iroquois nation.

5. According to the passage, Dekanawida was NOT

- (A) a lawmaker
- (B) a Huron by birth
- (C) a near deity
- (D) drowned when he was young

6. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage about wampum?

- (A) It was used extensively by the Huron.
- (B) It had a high value to the Iroquois.
- (C) It was given to a murder victim's family.
- (D) It was made of polished shells.

SKILL 5: FIND PRONOUN REFERENTS

In the reading section of both the paper TOEFL test and the computer TOEFL test, you will sometimes be asked to determine to which noun a pronoun refers. Pronoun reference questions are worded a bit differently on the paper TOEFL test and the computer TOEFL test; on the paper test, pronoun reference questions are multiple-choice questions, while on the computer test, pronoun reference questions are click-on questions.

Either type of pronoun reference question tests the same language skill. In a pronoun reference question, it is important to understand that a noun is generally used first in a passage, and the pronoun that refers to it comes after. Whenever you are asked which noun a pronoun refers to, you should look *before* the pronoun to find the noun.

Look at a multiple-choice example of a pronoun reference question from the paper TOEFL test.

Example from the Paper TOEFL Test **The passage:**

Carnivorous plants, such as the sundew and the Venus-flytrap, are generally found in humid areas where there is an inadequate supply of nitrogen in the soil. In order to survive, these plants have developed mechanisms to trap insects within their foliage. **They** have digestive fluids to obtain the necessary nitrogen from the insects. These plants trap the insects in a variety of ways. The sundew has sticky hairs on its leaves; when an insect lands on these leaves, it gets caught up in the sticky hairs, and the leaf wraps itself around the insect.

(10) The leaves of the Venus-flytrap function more like a trap, snapping suddenly and forcefully shut around an insect.


The question:

The pronoun **They** in line 5 *refers* to

- (A) humid areas
- (B) these plants
- (C) insects
- (D) digestive fluids

This question asks about the *referent* for the pronoun *they*. To answer this question, you should look before the pronoun *they* for plural nouns that the pronoun could refer to. *Humid areas*, *insects*, and *these plants* come before the pronoun, so they are possible answers; *digestive fluids* comes after the pronoun, so it is probably not the correct answer. Then you should try the three possible answers in the sentence in place of the pronoun. You should understand from the context that *these plants* have *digestive fluids* to obtain the necessary nitrogen from the insects, so the best answer to this question is answer (B).

Now look at a click-on example of a pronoun reference question from the computer TOEFL test.

Example from the Computer TOEFL Test 







ReadIn

Carnivorous plants, such as the sundew and the Venus-flytrap, are generally found in humid areas where there is an inadequate supply of nitrogen in the soil. In order to survive, these plants have developed mechanisms to trap insects within their foliage. They have digestive fluids to obtain the necessary nitrogen from the insects. These plants trap the insects in a variety of ways. The sundew has sticky hairs on its leaves; when an insect lands on these leaves, it gets caught up in the sticky hairs, and the leaf wraps itself around the insect. The leaves of the Venus-flytrap function more like a trap, snapping suddenly and forcefully shut around an insect.

Look at the word it in the passage. Click on the word or phrase that it refers to.

This question asks you to find the *referent* for the pronoun *it*. To answer this question, you should look before the pronoun *it* for singular nouns that the pronoun could refer to. *A variety*, *the sundew*, and *an insect* come before the pronoun, so they are possible answers. Next you should try the three possible answer in the sentence in place of the pronoun. *An insect gets caught up in the sticky hairs*, while a *variety* or *sundew* does not, so *insect* is the best answer to this question. You should click on *insect* to answer this question.

The following chart outlines the key information that you should remember about pronoun referents:

PRONOUN REFERENTS  		
HOW TO IDENTIFY THE QUESTION	on paper test only 	<i>The pronoun "..."</i> in line X refers to which of the following?
	on computer test only 	Look at the word X. Click on the word or phrase that X refers to.
WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWER	on paper test only 	The line where the pronoun is located is given in the question. The noun that the pronoun refers to is generally found <i>before</i> the pronoun.
	on computer test only 	The pronoun is highlighted in the passage. The noun that the pronoun refers to is generally found <i>before</i> the pronoun.
HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate the pronoun in the passage. 2. Look <i>before</i> the pronoun for nouns that agree with the pronoun. 3. Try each of the nouns in the context in place of the pronoun. 4. Eliminate any definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices. 	

TOEFL EXERCISE 5: Study each of the passages and choose the best answers to the questions that follow.

PASSAGE ONE (Questions 1–2)

The full moon that occurs nearest the equinox of the Sun has become known as the harvest moon. It is a bright moon which allows farmers to work late into the night for several nights; they can work when the moon is at its brightest to bring in the fall harvest. The harvest moon, of course, occurs at different times of the year in the northern and southern hemispheres. In the northern hemisphere, the harvest moon occurs in September at the time of the autumnal equinox. In the southern hemisphere, the harvest moon occurs in March at the time of the vernal equinox.

Line
(5)

1. The pronoun “It” in line 2 refers to
 - (A) the equinox
 - (B) the Sun
 - (C) the harvest moon
 - (D) the night
2. Look at the word they in the passage. Click on the word or phrase that they refers to.

PASSAGE TWO (Questions 3–4)

Mardi Gras, which means “Fat Tuesday” in French, was introduced to America by French colonists in the early eighteenth century. From that time it has grown in popularity, particularly in New Orleans, and today it is actually a legal holiday in several southern states. The Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans begins well before the actual Mardi Gras Day. Parades, parties, balls, and numerous festivities take place throughout the week before Mardi Gras Day; tourists from various countries throughout the world flock to New Orleans for the celebration, where they take part in a week of nonstop activities before returning home for some much-needed rest.

Line
(5)

3. The pronoun “it” in line 2 refers to
 - (A) Mardi Gras
 - (B) French
 - (C) that time
 - (D) New Orleans
4. Look at the word they in the passage. Click on the word or phrase that they refers to.

PASSAGE THREE (Questions 5–6)

The financial firm Dow Jones and Company computes business statistics every hour on the hour of each of the business days of the year, and these statistics are known as the Dow Jones averages. They are based on a select group of stocks and bonds that are traded on the New York Stock Exchange. The Dow Jones averages are composed of four different types of averages: the average price of the common stock of thirty industrial firms, the average price of the common stock prices of twenty transportation companies, the average price of the common stock prices of fifteen utility companies, and an overall average of all the sixty-five stocks used to compute the first three averages. Probably the average that is the most commonly used is the industrial average; it is often used by an investor interested in checking the state of the stock market before making an investment in an industrial stock.

Line
(5)

(10)

5. The pronoun “They” in line 3 refers to
- (A) the business days
 - (B) these statistics
 - (C) stocks and bonds
 - (D) four different types
6. Look at the word **it** in the passage. Click on the word or phrase that it refers to.

TOEFL EXERCISE (Skills 3–5): Study each of the passages and choose the best answers to the questions that follow.

PASSAGE ONE (Questions 1–5)

Line (5) The United States does not have a national university, but the idea has been around for quite some time. George Washington first recommended the idea to Congress; he even selected an actual site in Washington, D.C., and then left an endowment for the proposed national university in his will. During the century following the Revolution, the idea of a national university continued to receive the support of various U.S. presidents, and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie pursued the cause at the beginning of the present century. Although the original idea has not yet been acted upon, it continues to be proposed in bills before Congress.

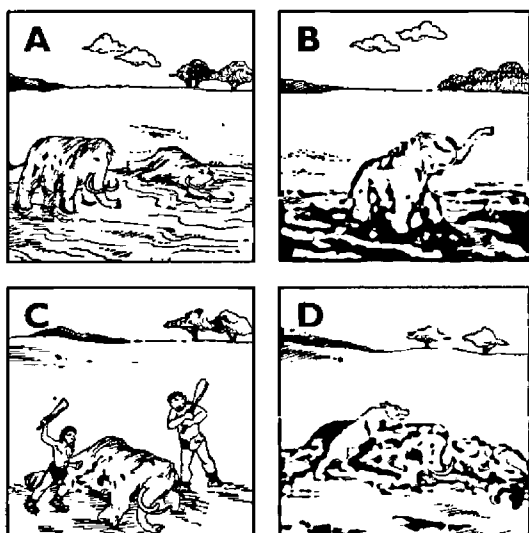
1. According to the passage, the national university of the United States
 - (A) has been around for a while
 - (B) does not exist
 - (C) is a very recent idea
 - (D) is an idea that developed during the present century
2. Look at the word **he** in the passage. Click on the word or phrase that **he** refers to.
3. The passage indicates that George Washington did NOT do which of the following?
 - (A) He suggested the concept for a national university to Congress.
 - (B) He chose a location for the national university.
 - (C) He left money in his will for a national university.
 - (D) He succeeded in establishing a national university.
4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage about Andrew Carnegie?
 - (A) He was interested in doing charity work and good deeds for the public.
 - (B) He was a member of Congress.
 - (C) He was interested in the idea of a national university.
 - (D) He was active in the early twentieth century.
5. The pronoun “it” in line 7 refers to
 - (A) the cause
 - (B) the beginning of the present century
 - (C) the original idea
 - (D) Congress

PASSAGE TWO (Questions 6–11)

Line
(5) The La Brea tarpits, located in Hancock Park in the Los Angeles area, have proven to be an extremely fertile source of Ice Age fossils. Apparently, during the period of the Ice Age, the tarpits were covered by shallow pools of water; when animals came there to drink, they got caught in the sticky tar and perished. The tar not only trapped the animals, leading to their death, but it also served as a remarkably effective preservative, allowing near-perfect skeletons to remain hidden until the present era.

(10) In 1906, the remains of a huge prehistoric bear discovered in the tarpits alerted archeologists to the potential treasure lying within the tar. Since then thousands and thousands of well-preserved skeletons have been uncovered, including the skeletons of camels, horses, wolves, tigers, sloths, and dinosaurs.

6. Which of the following is NOT true about the La Brea tarpits?
- (A) They contain fossils that are quite old.
 - (B) They are found in Hancock Park.
 - (C) They have existed since the Ice Age.
 - (D) They are located under a swimming pool.
7. The pronoun “they” in line 3 refers to
- (A) the La Brea tarpits
 - (B) Ice Age fossils
 - (C) shallow pools of water
 - (D) animals
8. Click on the drawing that shows how the Ice Age animals mentioned in the passage died at the La Brea tarpits.
9. Look at the word *it* in paragraph 1. Click on the word or phrase that it refers to.
10. When did archeologists become aware of the possible value of the contents of the tarpits?
- (A) During the Ice Age
 - (B) Thousands and thousands of years ago
 - (C) Early in the twentieth century
 - (D) Within the past decade
11. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an example of a skeleton found in the tarpits?
- (A) A bear
 - (B) A sloth
 - (C) A horse
 - (D) A snake



PASSAGE THREE (Questions 12–17)

Line (5) When the president of the United States wants to get away from the hectic pace in Washington, D.C., Camp David is the place to go. Camp David, in a wooded mountain area about 70 miles from Washington, D.C., is where the president goes to find solitude. It consists of living space for the president, the first family, and the presidential staff as well as sporting and recreational facilities.

Camp David was established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1942. He found the site particularly appealing in that its mountain air provided relief from the summer heat of Washington and its remote location offered a more relaxing environment than could be achieved in the capital city.

(10) When Roosevelt first established the retreat, he called it Shangri-La, which evoked the blissful mountain kingdom in James Hilton’s novel *Lost Horizon*. Later, President Dwight David Eisenhower renamed the location Camp David after his grandson David Eisenhower.

(15) Camp David has been used for a number of significant meetings. In 1943 during World War II, President Roosevelt met there with Great Britain’s Prime Minister Winston Churchill. In 1959 at the height of the Cold War, President Eisenhower met there with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev; in 1978 President Jimmy Carter sponsored peace talks between Israel’s Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egypt’s President Anwar el-Sadat at the retreat at Camp David.

12. Which of the following is NOT discussed about Camp David?
- (A) Its location
(B) Its cost
(C) Its facilities
(D) Its uses
13. Look at the word **It** in paragraph 1. Click on the word or phrase that **It** refers to.
14. According to the passage, who founded Camp David?
- (A) George Washington
(B) The first family
(C) Franklin Delano Roosevelt
(D) Dwight David Eisenhower
15. The pronoun “he” in line 10 refers to
- (A) Camp David
(B) Roosevelt
(C) James Hilton
(D) President Dwight David Eisenhower
16. Which of the following is NOT true about President Eisenhower?
- (A) He had a grandson named David.
(B) He attended a conference with Nikita Khrushchev.
(C) He named the presidential retreat Shangri-La.
(D) He visited Camp David.
17. Khrushchev was at Camp David in
- (A) 1942
(B) 1943
(C) 1959
(D) 1978

TOEFL REVIEW EXERCISE (Skills 1–5): Study each of the passages and choose the best answers to the questions that follow.

PASSAGE ONE (Questions 1–5)

Lincoln's now famous Gettysburg Address was not, on the occasion of its delivery, recognized as the masterpiece that it is today. Lincoln was not even the primary speaker at the ceremonies, held at the height of the Civil War in 1863, to dedicate the battlefield at Gettysburg. The main speaker was orator Edward Everett, whose two-hour speech was followed by Lincoln's shorter remarks. Lincoln began his small portion of the program with the words that today are immediately recognized by most Americans: "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." At the time of the speech, little notice was given to what Lincoln had said, and Lincoln considered his appearance at the ceremonies rather unsuccessful. After his speech appeared in print, appreciation for his words began to grow, and today it is recognized as one of the all-time greatest speeches.

1. The main idea of this passage is that
 - (A) the Gettysburg Address has always been regarded as a masterpiece
 - (B) at the time of its delivery the Gettysburg Address was truly appreciated as a masterpiece
 - (C) it was not until after 1863 that Lincoln's speech at Gettysburg took its place in history
 - (D) Lincoln is better recognized today than he was at the time of his presidency
2. Which of the following is NOT true about the ceremonies at Gettysburg during the Civil War?
 - (A) Everett was the main speaker.
 - (B) Everett gave a two-hour speech.
 - (C) Lincoln was the closing speaker of the ceremonies.
 - (D) Lincoln's speech was longer than Everett's.
3. According to the passage, when Lincoln spoke at the Gettysburg ceremonies,
 - (A) his words were immediately recognized by most Americans
 - (B) he spoke for only a short period of time
 - (C) he was enthusiastically cheered
 - (D) he was extremely proud of his performance
4. When did Lincoln's Gettysburg Address begin to receive public acclaim?
 - (A) After it had been published
 - (B) Immediately after the speech
 - (C) Not until the present day
 - (D) After Lincoln received growing recognition
5. Look at the word *it* in the passage. Click on the word or phrase that it refers to.

PASSAGE TWO (Questions 6–12)

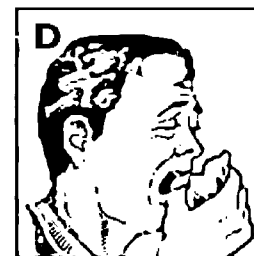
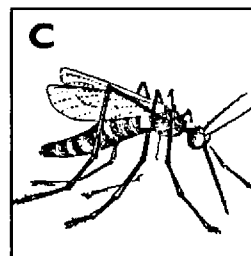
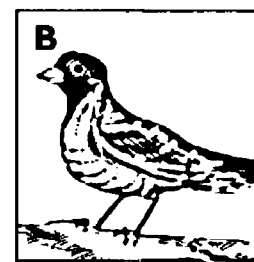
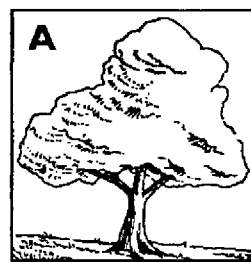
Hay fever is a seasonal allergy to pollens. The term “hay fever,” however, is a less than adequate description since such an attack can be brought on by sources other than hay-producing grasses and since an attack of this allergy does not incur fever.

Line (5) The causes of hay fever can be quite varied. Hay fever is generally caused by air-borne pollens, particularly ragweed pollen. The amount of pollen in the air is largely dependent on geographical location, weather, and season. In the eastern section of the United States, for example, there are generally three periods when pollen from various sources can cause intense hay fever suffering: in the springtime months of March and April, when pollen from trees is prevalent, in the summer months of June and July, when grass pollen fills the air, and at the end of August, when ragweed pollen is at its most concentrated levels.

(10) What results from an attack of hay fever is not a fever. Instead, a person with hay fever will suffer symptoms such as red and itching eyes, a swollen and runny nose, and repeated bouts of sneezing.

6. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?
- (A) The Relationship between Season and Allergies
 (B) Misconceptions and Facts about Hay Fever
 (C) Hay Fever in the Eastern United States
 (D) How Ragweed Causes Hay Fever
7. According to the passage, which of the following helps to explain why the term “hay fever” is somewhat of a misnomer?
- (A) A strong fever occurs after an attack.
 (B) The amount of pollen in the air depends on geographical location.
 (C) Hay fever is often caused by ragweed pollen.
 (D) Grass pollen is prevalent in June and July.
8. Which of the following is NOT discussed in the passage as a determining factor of the amount of pollen in the air?
- (A) Place
 (B) Climate
 (C) Time of year
 (D) Altitude

9. Which of the following is NOT true about hay fever in the eastern United States?
- (A) Suffering from hay fever is equally severe year-round.
 (B) Pollen from trees causes hay fever suffering in the spring.
 (C) Grass pollen fills the air earlier in the year than ragweed pollen.
 (D) Ragweed pollen is most prevalent at the end of the summer.
10. Click on the drawing that represents a potential cause of hay fever.



11. Which of the following is NOT a symptom of hay fever?
- (A) A high fever
 (B) A runny nose
 (C) Red eyes
 (D) Persistent sneezing
12. Click on the paragraph that outlines how, when, and where hay fever develops.

PASSAGE THREE (Questions 13–19)

Theories about the movement of the continents have evolved over time as the ability to conduct scientific study of the continents has improved. Thus, today's theory of plate tectonics, rather than contradicting its predecessor, had its roots in the older theory of continental drift.

Line (5) According to the theory of continental drift, the continents are not fixed in position but instead move slowly across the surface of the earth, constantly changing in position relative to one another. This theory was first proposed in the eighteenth century when mapmakers noticed how closely the continents of the earth fit together when they were matched up. It was suggested then that the present-day continents had once been one large continent that had broken up into pieces which drifted apart.

(10) Today the modern theory of plate tectonics has developed from the theory of continental drift. The theory of plate tectonics suggests that the crust of the earth is divided into six large, and many small, tectonic plates that drift on the lava that composes the inner core of the earth. These plates consist of ocean floor and continents that quite probably began breaking up and moving relative to one another more than 200 million years ago.

13. The topic of this passage is
 - (A) continental drift
 - (B) the theory of plate tectonics
 - (C) the development of ideas about the movement of the earth's surface
 - (D) eighteenth-century mapmakers
14. The passage states that the theory of continental drift developed as a result of
 - (A) the fixed positions of the continents
 - (B) the work of mapmakers
 - (C) the rapid movement of continents
 - (D) the fit of the earth's plates
15. Look at the word they in paragraph 2. Click on a word or phrase that they refers to.
16. Which of the following is NOT true about the theory of plate tectonics?
 - (A) It is not as old as the theory of continental drift.
 - (B) It evolved from the theory of continental drift.
 - (C) It postulates that the earth's surface is separated into plates.
 - (D) It was proposed by mapmakers.
17. According to the passage, what constitutes a tectonic plate?
 - (A) Lava
 - (B) Only the continents
 - (C) The inner core of the earth
 - (D) The surface of the land and the floor of the oceans
18. Which of the following best describes the organization of the passage?
 - (A) Two unrelated theories are presented.
 - (B) Two contrasting opinions are stated.
 - (C) A theory is followed by an example.
 - (D) One hypothesis is developed from another.
19. Click on the paragraph that describes the earlier theory.