

Text Completions Practice Set

Answers can be found in Part V.

1 of 10

With global interconnectedness on the rise, the conviction of the United States to remain neutral in World War I seemed ever more _____.

presumptuous
futile
contemptuous
pragmatic
admirable

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Upon visiting the Middle East in 1850, Gustave Flaubert was so _____ belly dancing that he wrote, in a letter to his mother, that the dancers alone made his trip worthwhile.

overwhelmed by
enamored of
taken aback by
beseached by
flustered by

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The human race is a very (i) _____ species, as the facade of calm that covers our anxiety and (ii) _____ is flimsy and effortlessly ruptured.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
fragile	terror
purposeful	vulnerability
daring	humor

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The practice of purchasing books was primarily a (i) _____ of the well-to-do until the late 1800s, when the increased popularity of dime novels, the expansion in the number of bookstores, and the introduction of the paperback made books (ii) _____ the average man.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
conduit	dislikable to
prerogative	excitable to
plight	attainable by

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Increasingly, the boundaries of congressional seats are drawn in order to protect incumbents, as legislators engineer the demographics of each district such that those already in office can coast to (i) _____ victory. Of course, there is always the possibility that the incumbent will face a challenge from within his or her own party. Nevertheless, once the primary is over, the general election is (ii) _____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
an ineluctable	seldom nugatory
an invidious	remarkably contentious
a plangent	merely denouement

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While more (i) _____ professors continue to insist that video games will never be a proper object of study, the rising generation of more heterodox academics is inclined to view such talk as positively (ii) _____ .

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
pedantic	antediluvian
progressive	pusillanimous
erudite	jejune

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Political predictions generally prove fairly accurate when the presumption that the future will be similar to the past is (i) _____. In periods with substantial (ii) _____ in the political world, however, predictions can be (iii) _____ wrong.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
disproved	upswings	thoughtfully
stipulated	insurgencies	perilously
fulfilled	changes	carelessly

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Water is one of the few molecules that is less (i) _____ as a solid than as a (ii) _____ ; if you need (iii) _____ , just look at the floating ice in your water glass.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
intriguing	vapor	an illustration
dense	plasma	an imbibement
aqueous	liquid	a discordance

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As Molly was (i) _____ Spanish with her friends before their trip to Chile, she discovered that although she could comprehend her friends, she could not (ii) _____ her thoughts in the (iii) _____ language.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
mastering	acknowledge	inherent
disregarding	articulate	objective
practicing	disencumber	unfamiliar

10 of 10

People accustomed to thinking that the human lifespan (i) _____ the outer bounds of animal longevity tend to dismiss tales of musket balls being found in the shells of living turtles. Samantha Romney, however, argues that while such stories may be (ii) _____ , some turtles do indeed exhibit a phenomenon known as “negligible (iii) _____ ,” showing no signs of aging even as they pass the two-century mark.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
belies	apocryphal	rejuvenation
demarcates	authentic	superannuation
antedates	heresy	senescence