

PASSAGE I

The Lincoln Lawyer

Many have lived interesting lives, and perhaps none more so than the 16th **1** President of the United States: Abraham Lincoln. The biography **2** of the life of Abraham Lincoln is, indeed, a story of endurance, dedication, and **3** working hard. Raised by a poor family in rural Illinois, **4** many thought that Abraham Lincoln stood little chance at making much of an impact on the world. Despite the adversity he faced as a child, Lincoln overcame many obstacles and obtained the education necessary for greatness **5** Indeed, Lincoln succeeded in not only going to law school, but also in building a successful law practice.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) President of the United States; Abraham Lincoln.
- C) President of the United States. Abraham Lincoln.
- D) President of the United States Abraham Lincoln.

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) of the lifestyle
- C) of the livelihood
- D) DELETE the underlined portion

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) hard working.
- C) hard work.
- D) laborious.

4

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) many think that Abraham Lincoln
- C) Abraham Lincoln was widely believed to have
- D) a lot of people thought Lincoln

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) However,
- C) On the contrary,
- D) Regardless,

As an attorney, Lincoln's case load **6** as a lawyer dealt mostly with debt issues, but he did represent clients on a range of other issues as well. **7** These cases, dealing with matters of contracts, criminal defense, and even real estate, were his focus throughout his legal career. Some scholars, both past and present, argue Lincoln handled so many debt cases due to the poverty he faced as a child; others assert that his firm simply handled the work that came **8** their way.

While it is hard to dispute the latter argument, there may be some merit to the childhood argument as well. It is widely known that Lincoln's father, Thomas, largely shaped young Abraham's beliefs (he was strongly against slavery), but what is less well known is that Thomas Lincoln was riddled with debt. In fact, many think the Lincolns moved from Kentucky to Illinois to avoid debt collectors.

Regardless of the reasons for assuming the cases that he did, Lincoln worked over 5,000 cases and labored tirelessly to represent his **9** client's interests. The huge

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) when he was a lawyer
- C) in being a lawyer
- D) DELETE the underlined portion

7

At this point, the writer is thinking about adding the following true statement:

The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act was passed on September 20, 1977, and since then has helped protect millions of Americans from aggressive debt collectors.

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because it adds relevant details to the debt-related laws that Lincoln addressed as a lawyer.
- B) Yes, because it helps the reader better understand debt law in the United States.
- C) No, because it is inconsistent with the tone and style of the essay.
- D) No, because it blurs the focus of the essay.

8

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) its'
- C) its
- D) it's

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) clients' interest's
- C) clients' interests
- D) clients interests'

number of cases that he and his partners argued before local, state, and federal courts is a testament to the devotion these men felt towards their work.

Lincoln and his partners, many of **10** which were of modest means as he was, usually charged between \$5 and \$20 for their legal fees. The reasonable fees combined with the debt-related nature of most cases suggest that these men of modest means aimed to help others facing financial hardship as a point of principal as much as one of business model. Through choosing to defend debtors at reasonable rates, Lincoln's compassion towards others makes itself apparent. This same compassion towards others drove not only his law practice, but arguably many of the policies he crafted as President.

[1] This interest has now led to researchers and scholars alike reviewing the cases Lincoln argued.

[2] Many today only think of Abraham Lincoln as being the 16th President of the United States, but, like any President, he simply did not appear from nowhere. [3] Lincoln held a job for years prior to taking the oath of office, and the accomplishments he had in office further add to the interest in his legal career. [4] Their hope is to find clues that, in hindsight, foretell Lincoln's positions and actions while in The Oval Office. **11**

- 10**
- A) NO CHANGE
 - B) whom
 - C) who
 - D) that

- 11**
- To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 1 should be placed
- A) where it is now.
 - B) after sentence 2.
 - C) after sentence 3.
 - D) after sentence 4.

PASSAGE II

A Day at the Ballpark

This past January, my Dad took me to a football game, and it was, by far, the most interesting “game” we have ever seen. We believed that we were adequately prepared for what we would see on gameday, but there was one factor we never **12** considered the ice.

Arriving a full hour before kick-off, we saw that the stadium was already filled **13** to capacity. Interestingly, we also saw that the field was completely frozen over. It had not snowed or iced the night before, but pipes in the underground sprinkler system had burst in the cold weather and water covered the field, freezing over as it did and more or less turning the football field into an ice skating rink. In addition to the field being covered in ice, a few of the stadium steps were also **14** covered; the ice made it very dangerous to walk to our seats (no clue why they were icy).

Once we safely reached our seats, the real show began. We watched as the field maintenance crews used power brushes, shovels, and brooms in an attempt to clear the field; **15** as a result, nothing seemed to work. A few of the players took the field for their

12

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) considered: the ice.
- C) considered. The ice.
- D) considered; the ice.

13

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) completely
- C) fully
- D) DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.

14

- Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?
- A) NO CHANGE
 - B) covered, and the ice that was covering the steps
 - C) covered, and, in effect, this ice
 - D) covered, which, because the steps were covered, the ice

15

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) in other words,
- C) regardless,
- D) as such,

pregame warm-up. The **16** guy whose job it was to kick the ball attempted to warm-up on the field, but he couldn't seem to find the proper footing.

Eventually, the players on the team **17** was ready to take the field as well. As they came out of the tunnel, they looked more like amateurs trying to ice skate than talented athletes.

Meanwhile, the groundskeepers made zero progress on the inches of thick ice. The game clearly wasn't taking place, but the official on the sidelines was not ready to cancel the game. The head referee was ready to let the game begin, but not all agreed with him. The two line **18** judges - referees responsible for everything that happens near the sidelines, protested that they would be unable to do their jobs without a clear view of the sideline. Unable to reach a consensus, no decision was made.

As the delay grew longer, the **19** fans' anger began to show. One angry fan began throwing drinks, food, and anything else he could find on the field. **20** This did not make the jobs of the field maintenance crew any easier.

- 16**
- A) NO CHANGE
 - B) player deemed responsible for all of the team's kicking duties
 - C) kicker
 - D) one who was attempting to strike the ball with his foot

- 17**
- A) NO CHANGE
 - B) is
 - C) are
 - D) were

- 18**
- A) NO CHANGE
 - B) judges, referees
 - C) judges are referees
 - D) judges; referees

- 19**
- A) NO CHANGE
 - B) fan's
 - C) fans's
 - D) crowds'

20 At this point, the writer is considering adding the following true statement:

The throwing of any objects on a field either before, during, or after the course of play is strictly prohibited.

- Should the writer add this sentence here?
- A) Yes, because it is relevant to the essay's focus.
 - B) Yes, because this information adds needed context to the fan's actions.
 - C) No, because it blurs the focus of this paragraph.
 - D) No, because this information is previously mentioned in the essay.

After two hours of delay, the head referee officially called off the game. Obviously, the fans were not too pleased with the decision, but the teams decided to give the fans their money's worth and "play" the game anyway. They lined-up and attempted to scrimmage each other, sliding all over the field and seeming to have plenty of fun in the process. I have to admit, it was fun to watch. In the end, the home team seemed extremely proud of **21** its performance, even if the real game never happened. **22** In the future, my Dad and I plan to return to the stadium to see another game.

21

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) his or her
- C) their
- D) there

22

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) One day,
- C) Eventually,
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.



PASSAGE III

A Farmer's Friend

[1]

Every year, mice, rats and other rodents annually inflict corn crop damage costing in the tens of millions of dollars. Whether **23** it eats the corn while it is growing or once it has been harvested and is in storage, rodents find corn irresistible. To combat these creatures, many farmers set traps or leave out poisons to prevent rodent-related crop losses. **24** In doing so, they may be overlooking an all-natural, safer option: corn snakes.

[2]

The mistaken belief that corn snakes consume corn has, oftentimes, led to farmers unnecessarily killing creatures that, in reality, may be their best friends. The name "corn snake" is actually a bit of misnomer. Corn snakes do not **25** eat corn. Rather, it is widely believed that corn snakes received their name due to one of two **26** factors: the checkered pattern on their undercarriage, which largely resembles Indian corn, or their close proximity to structures that hold corn.

23

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) its eating
- C) they eat
- D) it's eating

24

If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, the paragraph would primarily lose:

- A) Details helpful in understanding how rodents typically behave.
- B) Information necessary to understanding how people in agriculture typically deal with rodents.
- C) An opinion regarding the various techniques of rodent extermination employed by farmers.
- D) Commentary regarding the relationship between rodents and crop losses.

25

At this point, the writer is considering adding the following:

- contrary to popular belief –

Given that this is true, would this be a relevant addition to make here?

- A) Yes, because it helps to establish the wide misconception people have about corn snakes
- B) Yes, because it clarifies the preferred diet of the corn snake.
- C) No, because the beliefs that people hold about corn snakes are irrelevant to this paragraph.
- D) No, because the amount of corn eaten by corn snakes is irrelevant to this paragraph.

26

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) factors: the
- C) factors the
- D) factors, the

[3]

27 The corn snake diet is primarily composed of mice and, in larger adult snakes, rats. Copperheads, like corn snakes, also feed primarily on mice, but other snakes, such as cottonmouths and water moccasins, prefer to feed on fish and frogs due to the aquatic environments in which they live. **28** Like any creature, corn snakes prefer to live in close proximity to their food supply. Knowing this, it should be no surprise that corn snakes are often seen around farms, which have an abundance of mice. Though they are there to eat pests, **29** many farmers mistakenly see corn snakes as a nuisance and kill them on sight.

[4]

Why do some view corn snakes with such hostility? The reasons are varied, and they tend to be based more on perception than science. First, there is the belief that all snakes are harmful. Some fear corn snakes because of their “poisonous bite,” but corn snakes are not venomous. In fact, they’re constrictors (i.e. they wrap around their prey and

27

Which of the following sentences provides the most effective transition from paragraph 2 to paragraph 3?

- A) While it’s true that corn snakes are frequent visitors to corn fields and storage silos, it’s not corn that interests them: it’s the rodents that are interested in the corn that interest them.
- B) The checkered pattern on a corn snake’s belly is white with alternating patches of black.
- C) In fact, corn storage silos can hold upwards of 200 tons of corn.
- D) Knowing this, corn snakes are often misunderstood due to their name.

28

The writer is considering deleting the previous sentence. Should it be kept or deleted?

- A) Keep, because it speaks of the corn snake’s diet and places it in the context of what other snakes eat.
- B) Keep, because it adds details relevant to the essays focus on corn snakes’ eating habits.
- C) Delete, because it lacks specific details regarding the diets of various snake species.
- D) Delete, because it is blurs the focus of the essay by introducing a loosely-related detail.

29

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) the pests are viewed
- C) corn snakes are seen by many farmers
- D) they are seen

strangle it). Others, **30** who know they are constrictors, fear being strangled by a corn snake, but that, too, is irrational because, unlike the Burmese python, which can grow greater than 20 feet, the average corn snake grows to a length of only 3 – 5 **31** feet thus limiting its diet to creatures no larger than a rat. Corn snakes are not only harmless to humans, but they are also friendly and docile **32** serpents. Because of this friendliness, corn snakes are one of the most popular snakes kept as pets.

[5]

Eating an average of two mice per week, corn snakes should be embraced by farmers, not feared. Even though corn snakes are largely nocturnal and, therefore, largely unseen, spotting a corn snake on a farm should be a point of pleasure for farmers everywhere. Unlike cats, which kill mice but also require feeding and veterinary bills, corn snakes are a cost-effective, all-natural way to control the rodent population and, consequently, protect corn crops from predatory rodents as well. **33**

30

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) which know they are constrictors -
- C) whom know they are constrictors
- D) who know they are constrictors -

31

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) feet; thus
- C) feet: thus,
- D) feet, thus

32

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) serpent's
- C) serpents'
- D) DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.

33

Suppose the writer had intended to write an essay that argues the position that corn snakes are potentially useful creatures to farmers. Would this essay successfully accomplish the writer's goal?

- A) Yes, because the author argues that corn snakes are effective at performing many farm tasks.
- B) Yes, because the author argues that snakes can fix a problem farmers typically encounter.
- C) No, because the essay focuses too much on mice.
- D) No, because the essay fails to address the dangers posed by corn snakes.

PASSAGE IV

Mary Eliza Mahoney

African Americans' feats are now taught in schools more than at any point in our **34** nation's history, individuals such as George Washington Carver, Rosa Parks, and Thurgood Marshall are now standard elements in US History curriculum and not simply relegated to being taught in February. **35** In other words, despite this notable progress, critics assert that parity in curricular focus has not yet been achieved by minority groups, with the regular omission of people such as Jean Baptiste Point du **36** Sable, founder of Chicago, and Lewis Latimer, an assistant to Thomas Edison whose work on filaments made light bulbs last longer than a few days. In this same sense, there is yet another African American whose contribution to American society is regularly missed in US History **37** classes, and that person is commonly known to most as Mary Eliza Mahoney.

34

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) nations history; individuals
- C) nation's history individuals
- D) nation's history; individuals

35

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) However,
- C) Therefore,
- D) Hence,

36

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Sable founder of Chicago and
- C) Sable, founder of Chicago – and
- D) Sable, founder of Chicago, and,

37

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) classes, and she is the lady who many historians know as Mary Eliza Mahoney.
- C) classes; Mary Eliza Mahoney.
- D) classes; Mary Eliza Mahoney is, in fact, this person.

[1] Ms. Mahoney’s accomplishments are numerous: she was both the first African American woman accepted into nursing school and **38** she registered as the first woman to vote in Boston, Massachusetts. [2] Given all of these accomplishments, one must ask, “Why is it that so few have even heard of Mary Mahoney?” [3] Not only that, but Ms. Mahoney was also the cofounder of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses. [4] In fact, the American Nurses Association still annually awards the Mary Mahoney Medal **39** each year to a nurse who makes a significant contribution to interracial relations. **40**

38

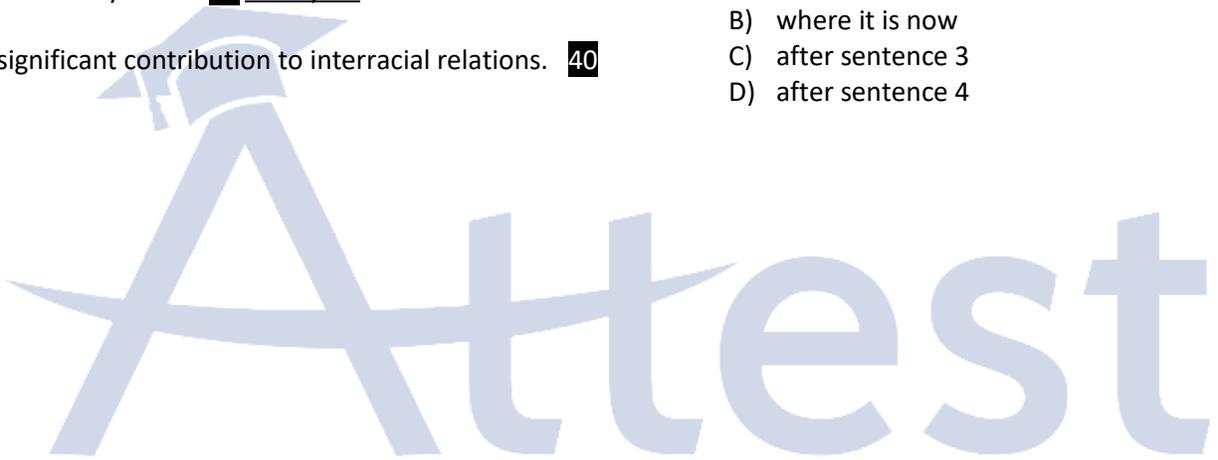
- A) NO CHANGE
- B) the first woman who registered to vote
- C) her voter registration was the first completed by a woman
- D) she voted in an election as the first woman who registered to vote

39

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) each year
- C) once every 12 months
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.

40 To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 2 should be placed

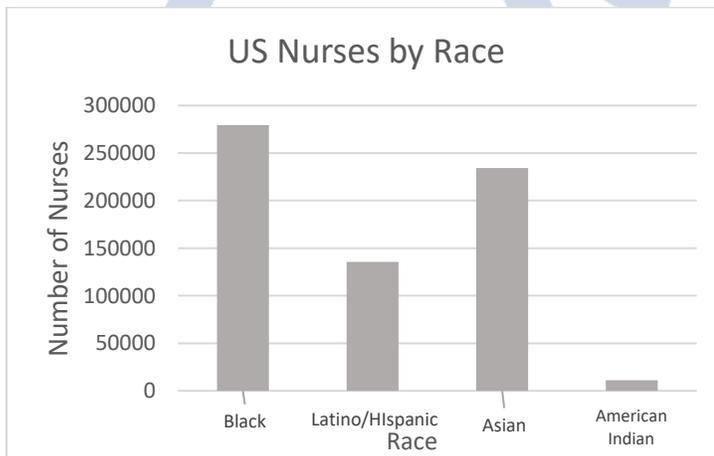
- A) before sentence 1
- B) where it is now
- C) after sentence 3
- D) after sentence 4



Attest

A textbook’s omission of a person who has been inducted into both the American Association of Nurses Hall of Fame as well as the National Women’s Hall of Fame is questionable at best and upsetting at worst. **41** The real question that **42** must be asked, if we are willing to even face it is “how many Mary Eliza Mahoneys have lived whose existence we do not know?”

Regardless of whether or not Mary Eliza Mahoney ever does become a household name, her impact is unquestionable: today, there are approximately 280,000 black nurses in the United States. **43** Ultimately, its the responsibility of not just historians, but everyone to discover the Mary Eliza Mahoneys of the world and make **44** there accomplishments known.



41 At this point, the author is considering adding the following true statement:

Textbook sales in the United States alone were approximately \$7.85 billion in 2020.

Should the author make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because it clarifies the importance of textbooks to the nursing profession.
- B) Yes, because it adds important context to the main topic of the paragraph.
- C) No, because it blurs the focus of the paragraph.
- D) No, because it contradicts the passage’s main argument about Mary Eliza Mahoney’s accomplishments.

42

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) must be asked - if we are willing to even face it, is
- C) must be asked if we are willing to even face it is
- D) must be asked - if we are willing to even face it - is

43

Which choice provides accurate information from the graph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) 140,000
- C) 11,000
- D) 240,000

44

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) their
- C) they’re
- D) its