Test-Wiseness Clues

These test-wiseness clues are to help you obtain the correct answer on objective tests.

The most general alternative is often the correct one.

1. The lungs
   A. are solid and immobile and located within the chest.
   B. are the only organs that produce insulin.
   C. function primarily in respiration.
   D. possess the sphincter of Oddi.

The longest alternative may be the correct one.

2. One of the main reasons for Custer’s defeat at Little Big Horn was the fact that
   A. he split his troops into three groups, making each group too small to effectively fight many Indians.
   B. the weather was too hot.
   C. he had short horses.
   D. he wanted to be president.

The correct alternative is usually of middle value.

3. The mature human being has how many teeth?
   A. 15
   B. 32
   C. 54
   D. 7

If there are two alternatives with similar meaning, choose neither of them.

4. The treaty of Brest Litovsk was ratified by Moscow because:
   A. Tsar Alexander I wanted to prevent Napoleon’s invasion of Russia.
   B. Russia was unable to keep up with the armament manufacture of Austria.
   C. Russia could not keep pace with the military production of Austria.
   D. Nicolai Lenin wanted to get the Soviet Union out of World War I.

If there are two alternatives with opposite meanings, choose either.

5. The planarian has:
   A. an anterior brain.
   B. three legs.
   C. red eyes.
   D. a posterior brain.
Watch for grammatical agreement between the stem (the “question”) and the correct alternative.

6. A biologist who specializes in the study of the relationships of an organism to its environment is known as an:
   A. ecologist.
   B. structuralist.
   C. taxonomist.
   D. Naturalist.

7. Important in feeling pain are:
   A. bone
   B. ear
   C. muscle
   D. Nerves

Look for word association between the correct alternative and the stem.

8. The Strong Vocational Interest Blank is used to measure:
   A. Aptitudes
   B. Interest
   C. Achievement
   D. Adjustment

9. Charles Dickens’s Hard Times deals with:
   A. the difficult life of a factory worker.
   B. the politics of the French Chateau country.
   C. the court of King Edward’s existentialism

Examine the number of blanks provided for fill-in-the-blank items.

10. A popular song during World War I was __________ ____________.
    A. Over the Hill
    B. Over There
    C. Why the Kaiser
    D. Adolph

Specific determiners: Certain words are often associated with correct and incorrect statement.

LIST 1 - usually make an item false.
- always
- all
- never
- none
- only
- impossible
- necessarily
- invariably
- must

LIST 2 - may make an item true OR false
- often
- generally
- seldom
- may
- perhaps
- usually
- sometimes
11. It is always sunny during the winter in LaCrosse.
   A. True
   B. False

12. July is always a summer month.
   A. True
   B. False

13. The compensation of a skilled worker often exceeds that of a laborer.
   A. True
   B. False

14. Operas are invariably sung in Italian.
   A. True
   B. False

15. Insurance sometimes serves as a protection against income interruption.
   A. True
   B. False

Caution: These guidelines should be used only when the answer is not known.

Answer key:

1. C  9. A
5. A 13. A
7. D 15. A
8. B