



HESI A2

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Practice Questions

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1. What is the average of the given expenditures, which are \$79.84, \$278.99, \$342.16, \$466.25, \$111.39, \$502.47, and \$98.12?

- A. \$354.22
- B. \$278.99
- C. \$317.54
- D. \$268.46

2. Max planted 35 tomato plants. If 20% of Max's tomato plants died as a result of harsh weather conditions, how many plants died?

- A. 20
- B. 15
- C. 28
- D. 7

3. Which number is represented by the Roman numeral XXVII?

- A. 32
- B. 47
- C. 72
- D. 27

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4. A store is pricing four lamps of different styles. Each one will be marked up differently. The cost of each lamp to the store and the desired markups are: Lamp 1 (\$60) will be marked up 15% Lamp 2 (\$80) will be marked up 20% Lamp 3 (\$110) will be marked up 25% Lamp 4 (\$150) will be marked up 30% The total price for all four lamps once they are marked up is which of the following?

- A. \$497.50
- B. \$380
- C. \$505.50
- D. \$480

5. The adductor muscle serves to `_____`, whereas the abductor muscle serves to `_____`.

- A. pull a body part away from the body's midline; pull a body part toward the body's midline
- B. relax after contractions; contract after relaxations
- C. pull a body part toward the body's midline; pull a body part away from the body's midline
- D. contract after relaxations; relax after contractions

6. During which stage of cell division do chromosomes align their centromeres?

- A. Prophase
- B. Telophase
- C. Anaphase
- D. Metaphase

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7. Which of the following is **NOT** a portion of the small intestine?

- A. jejunum
- B. duodenum
- C. ileum
- D. diverticulum

8. An opportunistic pathogen is what?

- A. An airborne pathogen that lives in moist, warm environments.
- B. An pathogen that is transmitted via mucous membrane contact.
- C. A pathogen that invades the body from the outside when its resistance is low.
- D. A pathogen that inhabits the human body at all times, and only causes illness when the body's defenses are weakened.



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9. What organelle holds the cell's DNA?

- A. Cytoplasm
- B. Lysosomes
- C. Nucleus
- D. Peroxisome

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10. What are the components of DNA and RNA, which are the nucleic acid building blocks?

- A. Oxygen
- B. Hydrogen
- C. Carbon
- D. Nitrogen

11. Which of the following statements does NOT align with Darwin's theory of natural selection?

- A. Disease, competition, and other environmental forces tend to eliminate the individuals in a population that are less adapted to their environment.
- B. Genetic variation exists among individuals in a population.
- C. Early settlers saved seed only from the most productive crop plants to plant the following year.
- D. The size of most populations remains relatively constant, even though more offspring are produced than are needed to maintain it.

12. A genetic counsellor creates a pedigree analysis for a couple to determine the couple's chances of giving birth to a child with cystic fibrosis (CF), which is a recessive disorder. If the counsellor finds that neither the woman's grandmother nor her grandfather had the disorder but one of their children did, which of the following conclusions can the counsellor make?

- A. The grandfather only was a carrier of the CF gene.
- B. The grandmother only was a carrier of the CF gene.
- C. The grandparents were both carriers of the CF gene.
- D. The woman has two copies of the CF gene.

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13. Which of the following is responsible for secondary growth in woody plants?

- A. Xylem
- B. Mesophyll
- C. Phloem
- D. Vascular cambium

14. Which of the following statements about taxonomic levels is correct?

- A. Family is more specific than order
- B. Species is the most general
- C. Kingdom is the most specific
- D. Class is less specific than phylum

15. The author's main purpose in providing the anecdote in the first paragraph is to

- A. create a sense of drama that highlights the importance of the topic.
- B. cause the reader to feel pity and to care about the topic.
- C. demonstrate the ethical issues that surround the topic.
- D. show the history of the topic before discussing the present day.

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16. If the author wanted to expand the passage, which of the following options would NOT be a factual addition?

- A. Studies have shown that the stress response is slightly more pronounced in women than men.
- B. Insomnia and chronic headaches are two ailments commonly correlated with frequent stress.
- C. Most people do not know how to handle their stressors and it shows.
- D. The close link between cortisol and the three stages of GAS can leave the body feeling jittery, hot, sweaty, or even nauseous following a stress response.

17. Which of the following is not one of the 'more common' fears a person might have when negotiating?

- A. Fear of missing out
- B. Fear of being out negotiated
- C. Fear of dressing inappropriately
- D. Fear of messing up



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**18. The author points out that the cathedral has served different functions throughout its history.

What point of irony seems obvious concerning its uses?**

- A. It is the seat for the Anglican Bishop of Durham.
- B. It serves as a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture.
- C. It served as a House of God and also as a prison where 1700 POW's lost their lives due to inhumane conditions endured during their imprisonment.
- D. It is the location for daily Church of England services.

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19. What is the greatest ally of con men according to this author?

- A. Wealth
- B. Fear
- C. Greed
- D. Ego

20. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true of a code of ethics?

- A. it is written
- B. it should cover every situation
- C. it should outline uniform policies and standards
- D. it can go a long way towards encouraging ethical behavior

21. Which of these is a water-soluble vitamin?

- A. vitamin K
- B. vitamin E
- C. vitamin D
- D. vitamin C

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22. Which of the following elements are closest in atomic size?

- A. H and Na
- B. Al and Cl
- C. La and Hf
- D. Be and F



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23. A particle with a negative or positive charge is referred to as `_____`.

- A. an ion
- B. a neutron
- C. an isotope
- D. a proton

24. What form(s) the skeletons of most organic molecules?

- A. Cellulose.
- B. Oxygen.
- C. Polymers.
- D. Carbon chains.

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25. What is the heat released per minute when a voltage of 10 V is applied across a resistor of 10Ω ?

- A. 60 kJ
- B. 10 kJ
- C. 600 J
- D. 100KJ

26. A subatomic particle is `_____` in relation to an atom.

- A. denser
- B. smaller
- C. faster
- D. bigger

27. `_____` confident that with enough study they can easily pass the final exam.

- A. There
- B. They have
- C. They're
- D. Their

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28. The United States has `<code>_____</code>` states than Europe has countries; there are only 47 European countries, but there are 50 states in America.

- A. most
- B. the more
- C. more
- D. many

29. Which of the following words is most similar in meaning to "Magnetic"?

- A. Dull
- B. Uninteresting
- C. Captivating
- D. Lacking charm

30. The more medically specific term for the neck region of the spine is the

- A. sacral.
- B. cervical.
- C. lumbar.
- D. thoracic.



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Answer Key & Explanations

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1. D — \$268.46

To calculate the average, we add up all the expenditures and divide the sum by the number of expenditures.
Sum of the given expenditures = $\$79.84 + \$278.99 + \$342.16 + \$466.25 + \$111.39 + \$502.47 + \$98.12 = \1879.22
Number of expenditures = 7
Average = Sum of expenditures / Number of expenditures = $\$1879.22 / 7 = \268.46
Therefore, the correct answer is B) \$268.46.
Analysis of the wrong answer choices:
A) \$278.99 - This is one of the given expenditures, so it is not the average.
C) \$354.22 - This is not the correct average of the given expenditures.
D) \$317.54 - This is not the correct average of the given expenditures.
The wrong answer choices (A, C, and D) do not accurately represent the average of the given expenditures.

2. D — 7

20% of 35 is $0.20(35) = 7$.

3. D — 27

In Roman numerals, an “X” represents the number 10, a “V” represents 5, and “I” is representative of the number 1. In this problem we have 2 X’s, 1 V, and two I’s, which means we have two 10’s (20), one 5, and two 1’s (2). Written mathematically, $20 + 5 + 2 = 27$.

4. A — \$497.50

The total sales price of the four lamps will be \$497.50.
Lamp 1 (\$60) will be marked up 15% (\$9) = sales price of \$69
Lamp 2 (\$80) will be marked up 20% (\$16) = sales price of \$96
Lamp 3 (\$110) will be marked up 25% (\$27.50) = sales price of \$137.50
Lamp 4 (\$150) will be marked up 30% (\$45) = sales price of \$195
Total sales price is $\$69 + \$96 + \$137.50 + \$195 = \$497.50$.

5. C — pull a body part toward the body’s midline; pull a body part away from the body’s midline

Adductor muscles are those that move a body part toward the body’s midline. This can be remembered by learning that the prefix **ad-** means to or toward.
Contrastingly, **abductor** muscles are those that move a body part away from the body’s midline. This can be remembered by learning that the prefix **ab-** means away from.

6. D — Metaphase

Mitosis is the process of cell division. Metaphase is the second stage of mitosis. During this stage, chromosomes align their centromeres at the midpoint. Prophase (choice A) is the first stage of cell division. Anaphase (choice C) is the fourth phase of mitosis where each pair of chromosomes is separated into two identical and independent chromosomes.

7. D — diverticulum

The pylorus is in the distal region of the stomach leading into the small intestine. The three portions in order are the duodenum, the jejunum, and the ileum. Diverticulum is a saclike bulge in the large intestine wall and is not part of the small intestine.



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8. D — A pathogen that inhabits the human body at all times, and only causes illness when the body's defenses are weakened.

About one half of all human disease is caused by pathogenic prokaryotes that invade the body from the outside, avoid internal defense systems in the body, and reproduce effectively enough to cause harm. Opportunistic pathogens are normal inhabitants of the body, that at most times cause no ill effect and only cause illness when the body's defenses are weakened.

9. C — Nucleus

The nucleus is the most important organelle in eukaryotic cells because it hosts the genetic material.

10. A — Oxygen

The building blocks of DNA and RNA, nucleic acids, consist of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and phosphorous.

11. C — Early settlers saved seed only from the most productive crop plants to plant the following year.

This is an illustration of artificial selection rather than natural selection. Preferring only the most productive plants results in the promotion of traits preferred by the selectors, but these traits may not be the most advantageous to the species as a whole in its natural habitat. Opting for solely the most productive plants often results in the sacrifice of other beneficial traits, such as disease resistance and drought tolerance.

12. C — The grandparents were both carriers of the CF gene.

The woman's grandparents had a child with CF, so both individuals must have been carriers of the CF gene (heterozygous) since the disease is recessive and neither had the disease. There is no indication that the woman has CF, and there is no way to conclude whether the woman is a carrier who will pass on the gene to a child based on the information provided.

13. D — Vascular cambium

The vascular cambium consists of meristematic tissue that divides laterally to increase growth in width of woody plants (secondary growth).

14. A — Family is more specific than order

The levels of classification he used are: kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species.

15. D — show the history of the topic before discussing the present day.

The anecdote discusses a historical example of a doctor performing an experiment and finding a connection between mood and the stomach. "Beaumont noticed that St. Martin's mood seemed to affect how quickly he digested food." Just after providing the story, the author states: "These early observations provided the first clues of crosstalk between the brain and the gut." This means the author explicitly states why they have used this anecdote, which is to set up the idea that doctors have noticed a brain-gut connection before diving into more current research on the topic.

16. C — Most people do not know how to handle their stressors and it shows.

Facts can be checked and verified as true. Choice C states an opinion – there is no way to verify it as true.

17. C — Fear of dressing inappropriately

Choice B is the correct answer because it is not directly mentioned in the list. Choices A, C and D



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are each listed as common fears of negotiating, making them incorrect choices.

18. C — It served as a House of God and also as a prison where 1700 POW's lost their lives due to inhumane conditions endured during their imprisonment.

Because the incongruity between a House of God and a prison makes it ironic that the building was used for both purposes. B is incorrect because being the seat for the Anglican Bishop has no sense of irony. C is not a good answer choice because serving as a location for daily worship does not have any ironic undertones. D is not a correct answer because the Romanesque architecture has no connection with irony.

19. C — Greed

Fear and ego are each mentioned as one of the key vulnerabilities, but are not the one he cited as the greatest ally of a con man, making those choices incorrect. Wealth is not mentioned at all and is not correct. Greed is the vulnerability that he cites as the greatest ally of a con man and is the correct answer.

20. B — it should cover every situation

Lines 16-18 state that it is not possible for any code to cover every possible situation.

21. D — vitamin C

B and C vitamins are soluble, meaning they are not stored by the body and must be replaced each day.

22. C — La and Hf

Atomic radius increases down the periodic table and decreases from left to right across the periodic table. With increasing quantum number, however, this trend is not as apparent. This phenomenon, known as the lanthanide contraction, results in elements La and Hf being practically the same size.

23. A — an ion

Ions have a different number of electrons and protons, which makes them have either a positive or negative charge.

24. D — Carbon chains.

Carbon chains form the skeletons of most organic molecules. It is the variation in carbon skeletons that contributes to the diversity of most organic molecules.

25. C — 600 J

The power dissipated by a resistor is $P = I^2 R = V^2 / R$. In this case, power = $(10 \text{ Volts})^2 / 10 \text{ Ohm} = 10 \text{ Watts} = 10 \text{ Joule/second}$. To get the heat dissipated per minute, multiply $10 \text{ Joule/second} \times 60 \text{ seconds/minute} = 600 \text{ Joules}$ or 0.6 KJ .

26. B — smaller

Subatomic particles (which include neutrons, protons, and electrons) are much smaller than atoms.

27. C — They're

The contraction "They're" has the same meaning as "They are" and is the correct phrase to complete the sentence.

28. C — more

Based on the context of the second clause, we know that there must be MORE states than European countries. When comparing two items, we use the comparative word, "more." If we were comparing three or more items, we'd use the superlative form "most."



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29. C — Captivating

Magnetic is often used to describe something that attracts or holds attention, just like a magnet. Similarly, captivating means holding attention or interest in an irresistible or enchanting way. Both words convey the idea of something that is attractive and draws you in. Therefore, captivating is the word that is most similar in meaning to magnetic.

30. B — cervical.

Cervical means "of or relating to the neck." The cervical region consists of seven bones that are separated from one another by intervertebral discs. The thoracic region (choice A) is the part of the vertebrate body between the neck and the abdomen. Thoracic vertebrae have limited movement, provide support to the rib cage, and protect the lungs and heart. The lumbar region (choice C) consists of vertebrae in the lower back that support the weight of the body. The sacral region (choice D) connects the vertebral column to the hip bones and form the pelvic girdle.



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