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**QUESTION 1**

People, being prisoners of _____, have made failing a basic metaphor for failure, from the fall of the stock market to the fall of government.

- A. politics
- B. gravity
- C. greed
- D. turbulence
- E. emotion

Correct Answer: B

The author says that the use of the word "fall", as a metaphor to represent "failure", arises out of the people being prisoners of something. Among the given choices, it is "gravity" that is the best choice, because it is gravity that brings every physical object from a higher (success) to a lower (failure) level. So, "gravity" is the answer.

QUESTION 2

"The \$100 Bill" is an example of what type of writing?

"The \$100 Bill" Samantha pedaled quickly, glancing down at her watch as often as her balance would allow. The clock's face read 10:57, sending a spike of panic shooting up her spine. She bent further over her bike, willing her legs to go faster. She screeched to a stop in front of a large restaurant bearing a bright blue, neon sign, her ears ringing, sweat breaking out on her skin. She hurriedly locked her bike to the lone pole positioned in front of the building, before pushing her way through the heavy glass front doors. "You're late." Samantha stopped short, turning to face her boss. She was greeted with a stern face, her boss's lips a thin line. She shook her head in apology. "I'm sorry, Paul. My bike's tires were flat, and I forgot my I.D. badge, so I had to turn back?" Paul held up his hand, cutting her off. "Just don't let it happen again." Samantha threw her hair into a ponytail, hoping her shift would prove more successful as the day wore on. She nearly ran to her first table of the day, plastered a smile on her face, and greeted her first customers of the day. She responded to their questions politely, though her mind was still occupied by Paul's disappointed expression as she ran in the door. Despite her initial mistakes, Samantha worked hard to remain chipper and upbeat, answering her customers' questions to the best of her ability, forcing herself to smile when her eyes began to glaze over with tears. As her first customers left, she caught the eye of the elderly gentleman with the group. He winked, and walked through the doors. Confused, Samantha began to gather the dishes from the table and there, staring up at her, was a crisp \$100 bill. She let a tear roll down her cheek. Her day had just gotten better.

- A. narrative
- B. educational
- C. biography
- D. essay

Correct Answer: A

**QUESTION 3**

In her crusade to make public servants accountable to voters, she _____ the nation's unscrupulous and self-indulgent politicians.

- A. exposed
- B. dramatized
- C. accepted
- D. foreshadowed
- E. promoted

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 4

Passage 1 "It is obvious that the legal driving age in the United States needs to be adjusted. Although the driving age has been sixteen for many years, studies show that kids of such a young age are not yet capable of understanding the deep responsibility that comes with operating a motor vehicle. Sixteen-year-olds, while old enough to see R-rated movies, are still children in many ways. Psychologists agree that people of this age do not have the cognitive awareness to make major life decisions, yet operating a vehicle on the road forces them to do just that. If the driving age were to be raised to eighteen, there would be far fewer accidents and casualties on the American roadways. People must understand that sixteen-year-old drivers are a danger to themselves and others when allowed to drive unsupervised."

Passage 2 "The legal driving age in the United States has remained the same for many years for one primary reason: it is fair and reasonable. While young, sixteen-year-olds are certainly old enough to undertake the responsibility of driving alone. Because these teenagers are made to practice for a year with a learner's permit and then to pass a test proving their skills, there is no reason to suggest that they cannot handle a motor vehicle effectively. Those that assume that sixteen is too young to drive often forget to consider the large number of responsibilities teenagers already handle on a day-to-day basis in today's world. Things like homework, after-school activities, family responsibilities, and social events all must be carefully maintained in order to make life work. If a sixteen-year-old can handle these daily responsibilities, they can certainly handle driving a car. The legal driving age is fair and should not be negotiated, now or ever."

Which statement best evaluates the author's point of view in the second passage?

- A. It would be best to lower the legal driving age.
- B. The best age at which a person can drive should be decided on a case-by-case basis.
- C. The current legal driving age is adequate.
- D. It would be best to raise the legal driving age.

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 5

Aralee is visiting Seattle for the first time. She hopes to check out local art and history.



What book will serve Aralee's needs best?

- A. A comprehensive atlas of Seattle and the surrounding areas
- B. Seattle: A Novel
- C. Seattle: A Brief History
- D. A comprehensive guide to Seattle's sights and attractions

Correct Answer: D

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