

RC Session 1**The best RC passages for concept building**

The function of capital markets is to facilitate an exchange of funds among all participants, and yet in practice we find that certain participants are not on a par with others. Members of society have varying degrees of market strength in terms of information they bring to a transaction, as well as of purchasing power and creditworthiness, as defined by lenders.

For example, within minority communities, capital markets do not properly fulfill their functions; they do not provide access to the aggregate flow of funds in the United States. The financial system does not generate the credit or investment vehicles needed for underwriting economic development in minority areas. The problem underlying this dysfunction is found in a rationing mechanism affecting both the available alternatives for investment and the amount of financial resources. This creates a distributive mechanism penalizing members of minority groups because of their socioeconomic differences from others. The existing system expresses definite socially based investment preferences that result from the previous allocation of income and that influence the allocation of resources for the present and future. The system tends to increase the inequality of income distribution. And, in the United States economy, a greater inequality of income distribution leads to a greater concentration of capital in certain types of investment.

Most traditional financial-market analysis studies ignore financial markets' deficiencies in allocation because of analysts' inherent preferences for the simple model of perfect competition. Conventional financial analysis pays limited attention to issues of market structure and dynamics, relative costs of information, and problems of income distribution. Market participants are viewed as acting as entirely independent and homogeneous individuals with perfect foresight about capital-market behavior. Also, it is assumed that each individual in the community at large has the same access to the market and the same opportunity to transact and to express the preference appropriate to his or her individual interest. Moreover, it is assumed that transaction costs for various types of financial instruments (stocks, bonds, etc.) are equally known and equally divided among all community members.

- 1. The main point made by the passage is that**
 - (A) financial markets provide for an optimum allocation of resources among all competing participants by balancing supply and demand
 - (B) the allocation of financial resources takes place among separate individual participants, each of whom has access to the market
 - (C) the existence of certain factors adversely affecting members of minority groups shows that financial markets do not function as conventional theory says they function
 - (D) investments in minority communities can be made by the use of various alternative financial instruments, such as stocks and bonds
 - (E) since transaction costs for stocks, bonds, and other financial instruments are not equally apportioned among all minority-group members, the financial market is subject to criticism
- 2. The passage states that traditional studies of the financial market overlook imbalances in the allocation of financial resources because**
 - (A) an optimum allocation of resources is the final result of competition among participants
 - (B) those performing the studies choose an oversimplified description of the influences on competition
 - (C) such imbalances do not appear in the statistics usually compiled to measure the market's behavior
 - (D) the analysts who study the market are unwilling to accept criticism of their methods as biased
 - (E) socioeconomic difference form the basis of a rationing mechanism that puts minority groups at a disadvantage
- 3. The author's main point is argued by**
 - (A) giving examples that support a conventional generalization
 - (B) showing that the view opposite to the author's is self-contradictory
 - (C) criticizing the presuppositions of a proposed plan
 - (D) showing that omissions in a theoretical description make it inapplicable in certain cases
 - (E) demonstrating that an alternative hypothesis more closely fits the data

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For example, within minority communities, capital markets do not properly fulfill their functions; they do not provide access to the aggregate flow of funds in the United States. The financial system does not generate the credit or investment vehicles needed for underwriting economic development in minority areas. The problem underlying this dysfunction is found in a rationing mechanism affecting both the available alternatives for investment and the amount of financial resources. This creates a distributive mechanism penalizing members of minority groups because of their socioeconomic differences from others. The existing system expresses definite socially based investment preferences that result from the previous allocation of income and that influence the allocation of resources for the present and future. The system tends to increase the inequality of income distribution. And, in the United States economy, a greater inequality of income distribution leads to a greater concentration of capital in certain types of investment.

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4. Which of the following can be inferred about minority communities on the basis of the passage?

- (A) They provide a significant portion of the funds that become available for investment in the financial market.
- (B) They are penalized by the tax system, which increases the inequality of the distribution of income between investors and wage earners.
- (C) They do not receive the share of the amount of funds available for investment that would be expected according to traditional financial-market analysis.
- (D) They are not granted governmental subsidies to assist in underwriting the cost of economic development.
- (E) They provide the same access to alternative sources of credit to finance businesses as do majority communities.

5. According to the passage, a questionable assumption of the conventional theory about the operation of financial markets is that

- (A) creditworthiness as determined by lenders is a factor determining market access
- (B) market structure and market dynamics depend on income distribution
- (C) a scarcity of alternative sources of funds would result from taking socioeconomic factors into consideration
- (D) those who engage in financial-market transactions are perfectly well informed about the market
- (E) inequalities in income distribution are increased by the functioning of the financial market

6. According to the passage, analysts have conventionally tended to view those who participate in financial market as

- (A) judging investment preferences in terms of the good of society as a whole
- (B) influencing the allocation of funds through prior ownership of certain kinds of assets
- (C) varying in market power with respect to one another
- (D) basing judgments about future events mainly on chance
- (E) having equal opportunities to engage in transactions

Kazuko Nakane's history of the early Japanese immigrants to central California's Pajaro Valley focuses on the development of farming communities there from 1890 to 1940. The Issei (first-generation immigrants) were brought into the Pajaro Valley to raise sugar beets. Like Issei laborers in American cities, Japanese men in rural areas sought employment via the "boss" system. The system comprised three elements: immigrant wage laborers; Issei boardinghouses where laborers stayed; and labor contractors, who gathered workers for a particular job and then negotiated a contract between workers and employer. This same system was originally utilized by the Chinese laborers who had preceded the Japanese. A related institution was the "labor club," which provided job information and negotiated employment contracts and other legal matters, such as the rental of land, for Issei who chose to belong and paid an annual fee to the cooperative for membership.

When the local sugar beet industry collapsed in 1902, the Issei began to lease land from the valley's strawberry farmers. The Japanese provided the labor and the crop was divided between laborers and landowners. The Issei thus moved quickly from wage-labor employment to sharecropping agreements. A limited amount of economic progress was made as some Issei were able to rent or buy farmland directly, while others joined together to form farming corporations. As the Issei began to operate farms, they began to marry and start families, forming an established Japanese American community. Unfortunately, the Issei's efforts to attain agricultural independence were hampered by government restrictions, such as the Alien Land Law of 1913. But immigrants could circumvent such exclusionary laws by leasing or purchasing land in their American-born children's names.

Nakane's case study of one rural Japanese American community provides valuable information about the lives and experiences of the Issei. It is, however, too particularistic. This limitation derives from Nakane's methodology—that of oral history—which cannot substitute for a broader theoretical or comparative perspective. Future research might well consider two issues raised by her study: were the Issei of the Pajaro Valley similar to or different from Issei in urban settings, and what variations existed between rural Japanese American communities?

1. **The primary purpose of the passage is to**
 - (A) defend a controversial hypothesis presented in a history of early Japanese immigrants to California
 - (B) dismiss a history of an early Japanese settlement in California as narrow and ill constructed
 - (C) summarize and critique a history of an early Japanese settlement in California
 - (D) compare a history of one Japanese American community with studies of Japanese settlements throughout California
 - (E) examine the differences between Japanese and Chinese immigrants to central California in the 1890's
2. **Which of the following best describes a "labor club," as defined in the passage?**
 - (A) An organization to which Issei were compelled to belong if they sought employment in the Pajaro Valley
 - (B) An association whose members included labor contractors and landowning "bosses"
 - (C) A type of farming corporation set up by Issei who had resided in the Pajaro Valley for some time
 - (D) A cooperative association whose members were dues-paying Japanese laborers
 - (E) A social organization to which Japanese laborers and their families belonged
3. **Based on information in the passage, which of the following statements concerning the Alien Land Law of 1913 is most accurate?**
 - (A) It excluded American-born citizens of Japanese ancestry from landownership.
 - (B) It sought to restrict the number of foreign immigrants to California.
 - (C) It successfully prevented Issei from ever purchasing farmland.
 - (D) It was applicable to first-generation immigrants but not to their American-born children.
 - (E) It was passed under pressure from the Pajaro Valley's strawberry farmers.
4. **Several Issei families join together to purchase a strawberry field and the necessary farming equipment. Such a situation best exemplifies which of the following, as it is described in the passage?**
 - (A) A typical sharecropping agreement
 - (B) A farming corporation
 - (C) A "labor club"
 - (D) The "boss" system
 - (E) Circumvention of the Alien Land Law

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When the local sugar beet industry collapsed in 1902, the Issei began to lease land from the valley's strawberry farmers. The Japanese provided the labor and the crop was divided between laborers and landowners. The Issei thus moved quickly from wage-labor employment to sharecropping agreements. A limited amount of economic progress was made as some Issei were able to rent or buy farmland directly, while others joined together to form farming corporations. As the Issei began to operate farms, they began to marry and start families, forming an established Japanese American community. Unfortunately, the Issei's efforts to attain agricultural independence were hampered by government restrictions, such as the Alien Land Law of 1913. But immigrants could circumvent such exclusionary laws by leasing or purchasing land in their American-born children's names.

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5. **The passage suggests that which of the following was an indirect consequence of the collapse of the sugar beet industry in the Pajaro Valley?**
 - (A) The Issei formed a permanent, family-based community.
 - (B) Boardinghouses were built to accommodate the Issei.
 - (C) The Issei began to lease land in their children's names.
 - (D) The Issei adopted a labor contract system similar to that used by Chinese immigrants
 - (E) The Issei suffered a massive dislocation caused by unemployment.
6. **The author of the passage would most likely agree that which of the following, if it had been included in Nakane's study, would best remedy the particularistic nature of that study?**
 - (A) A statistical table comparing per capita income of Issei wage laborers and sharecroppers in the Pajaro Valley
 - (B) A statistical table showing per capita income of Issei in the Pajaro Valley from 1890 to 1940
 - (C) A statistical table showing rates of farm ownership by Japanese Americans in four central California counties from 1890 to 1940
 - (D) A discussion of original company documents dealing with the Pajaro Valley sugar beet industry at the turn of the century
 - (E) Transcripts of interviews conducted with members of the Pajaro Valley Japanese American community who were born in the 1920's and 1930's
7. **It can be inferred from the passage that, when the Issei began to lease land from the Valley's strawberry farmers, the Issei most probably did which of the following?**
 - (A) They used profits made from selling the strawberry crop to hire other Issei.
 - (B) They negotiated such agricultural contracts using the "boss" system.
 - (C) They paid for the use of the land with a share of the strawberry crop.
 - (D) They earned higher wages than when they raised sugar beets
 - (E) They violated the Alien Land Law.

Historians sometimes forget that history is continually being made and experienced before it is studied, interpreted, and read. These latter activities have their own history, of course, which may impinge in unexpected ways on public events. It is difficult to predict when “new pasts” will overturn established historical interpretations and change the course of history.

In the fall of 1954, for example, C. Vann Woodward delivered a lecture series at the University of Virginia which challenged the prevailing dogma concerning the history, continuity, and uniformity of racial segregation in the South. He argued that the Jim Crow laws of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries not only codified traditional practice but also were a determined effort to erase the considerable progress made by Black people during and after Reconstruction in the 1870’s. This revisionist view of Jim Crow legislation grew in part from the research that Woodward had done for the NAACP legal campaign during its preparation for *Brown v. Board of Education*. The Supreme Court had issued its ruling in this epochal desegregation case a few months before Woodward’s lectures.

The lectures were soon published as a book, *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*. Ten years later, in a preface to the second revised edition, Woodward confessed with ironic modesty that the first edition “had begun to suffer under some of the handicaps that might be expected in a history of the American Revolution published in 1776.” That was a bit like hearing Thomas Paine apologize for the timing of his pamphlet *Common Sense*, which had a comparable impact. Although *Common Sense* also had a mass readership, Paine had intended to reach and inspire: he was not a historian, and thus not concerned with accuracy or the dangers of historical anachronism. Yet, like Paine, Woodward had an unerring sense of the revolutionary moment, and of how historical evidence could undermine the mythological tradition that was crushing the dreams of new social possibilities. Martin Luther King, Jr., testified to the profound effect of *The Strange Career of Jim Crow* on the civil rights movement by praising the book and quoting it frequently.

1. The “new pasts” mentioned in the passage can best be described as the

- (A) occurrence of events extremely similar to past events
- (B) history of the activities of studying, interpreting, and reading new historical writing
- (C) change in people’s understanding of the past due to more recent historical writing
- (D) overturning of established historical interpretations by politically motivated politicians
- (E) difficulty of predicting when a given historical interpretation will be overturned

2. It can be inferred from the passage that the “prevailing dogma” held that

- (A) Jim Crow laws were passed to give legal status to well-established discriminatory practices in the South
- (B) Jim Crow laws were passed to establish order and uniformity in the discriminatory practices of different southern states
- (C) Jim Crow laws were passed to erase the social gains that Black people had achieved since Reconstruction
- (D) the continuity of racial segregation in the South was disrupted by passage of Jim Crow laws
- (E) the Jim Crow laws of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were passed to reverse the effect of earlier Jim Crow laws

3. Which of the following is the best example of writing that is likely to be subject to the kinds of “handicaps” referred to in the passage?

- (A) A history of an auto manufacturing plant written by an employee during an auto-buying boom
- (B) A critique of a statewide school-desegregation plan written by an elementary school teacher in that state
- (C) A newspaper article assessing the historical importance of a United States President written shortly after the President has taken office
- (D) A scientific paper describing the benefits of a certain surgical technique written by the surgeon who developed the technique
- (E) Diary entries narrating the events of a battle written by a soldier who participated in the battle

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4. The passage suggests that C. Vann Woodward and Thomas Paine were similar in all of the following ways EXCEPT:

- (A) Both had works published in the midst of important historical events.
- (B) Both wrote works that enjoyed widespread popularity.
- (C) Both exhibited an understanding of the relevance of historical evidence to contemporary issues.
- (D) The works of both had a significant effect on events following their publication.
- (E) Both were able to set aside worries about historical anachronism in order to reach and inspire.

5. The attitude of the author of the passage toward the work of C. Vann Woodward is best described as one of

- (A) respectful regard
- (B) qualified approbation
- (C) implied skepticism
- (D) pointed criticism
- (E) fervent advocacy

6. Which of the following best describes the new idea expressed by C. Vann Woodward in his University of Virginia lectures in 1954?

- (A) Southern racial segregation was continuous and uniform.
- (B) Black people made considerable progress only after Reconstruction.
- (C) Jim Crow legislation was conventional in nature.
- (D) Jim Crow laws did not go as far in codifying traditional practice as they might have.
- (E) Jim Crow laws did much more than merely reinforce a tradition of segregation.

Woodrow Wilson was referring to the liberal idea of the economic market when he said that the free enterprise system is the most efficient economic system. Maximum freedom means maximum productiveness; our "openness" is to be the measure of our stability. Fascination with this ideal has made Americans defy the "Old World" categories of settled possessiveness *versus* unsettling deprivation, the cupidity of retention *versus* the cupidity of seizure, a "status quo" defended or attacked. The United States, it was believed, had no *status quo ante*. Our only "station" was the turning of a stationary wheel, spinning faster and faster. We did not base our system on property but opportunity—which meant we based it not on stability but on mobility. The more things changed, that is, the more rapidly the wheel turned, the steadier we would be. The conventional picture of class politics is composed of the Haves, who want a stability to keep what they have, and the Have-Nots, who want a touch of instability and change in which to scramble for the things they have not. But Americans imagined a condition in which speculators, self-makers, runners are always using the new opportunities given by our land. These economic leaders (front-runners) would thus be mainly agents of change. The nonstarters were considered the ones who wanted stability, a **strong referee** to give them some position in the race, a regulative hand to calm manic speculation; an authority that can call things to a halt, begin things again from compensatorily staggered "starting lines."

"Reform" in America has been sterile because it can imagine no change except through the extension of this metaphor of a race, wider inclusion of competitors, **"a piece of the action,"** as it were, for the disenfranchised. There is no attempt to call off the race. Since our only stability is change, America seems not to honor the quiet work that achieves social interdependence and stability. There is, in our legends, no heroism of the office clerk, no stable industrial work force of the people who actually make the system work. There is no pride in being an employee (Wilson asked for a return to the time when everyone was an employer). There has been no boasting about our social workers—they are merely signs of the system's failure, of opportunity denied or not taken, of things to be eliminated. We have no pride in our growing interdependence, in the fact that our system can serve others, that we are able to help those in need; empty boasts from the past make us ashamed of our present achievements, make us try to forget or deny them, move away from them. There is no honor but in the Wonderland race we must all run, all trying to win, none winning in the end (for there is no end).

1. **The primary purpose of the passage is to**
 - (A) criticize the inflexibility of American economic mythology
 - (B) contrast "Old World" and "New World" economic ideologies
 - (C) challenge the integrity of traditional political leaders
 - (D) champion those Americans whom the author deems to be neglected
 - (E) suggest a substitute for the traditional metaphor of a race
2. **The author sets off the word "Reform" with quotation marks in order to**
 - (A) emphasize its departure from the concept of settled possessiveness
 - (B) show his support for a systematic program of change
 - (C) underscore the flexibility and even amorphousness of United States society
 - (D) indicate that the term was one of Wilson's favorites
 - (E) assert that reform in the United States has not been fundamental
3. **It can be inferred from the passage that the author most probably thinks that giving the disenfranchised "a piece of the action" is**
 - (A) a compassionate, if misdirected, legislative measure
 - (B) an example of Americans' resistance to profound social change
 - (C) an innovative program for genuine social reform
 - (D) a monument to the efforts of industrial reformers
 - (E) a surprisingly "Old World" remedy for social ills
4. **It can be inferred from the passage that Woodrow Wilson's ideas about the economic market**
 - (A) encouraged those who "make the system work"
 - (B) perpetuated traditional legends about America
 - (C) revealed the prejudices of a man born wealthy
 - (D) foreshadowed the stock market crash of 1929
 - (E) began a tradition of presidential proclamations on economics
5. **Which of the following best expresses the author's main point?**
 - (A) Americans' pride in their jobs continues to give them stamina today.
 - (B) The absence of a status quo ante has undermined United States economic structure.
 - (C) The free enterprise system has been only a useless concept in the United States.
 - (D) The myth of the American free enterprise system is seriously flawed.
 - (E) Fascination with the ideal of "openness" has made Americans a progressive people.

The Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1868, prohibits state governments from denying citizens the "equal protection of the laws." Although precisely what the framers of the amendment meant by this equal protection clause remains unclear, all interpreters agree that the framers' immediate objective was to provide a constitutional warrant for the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which guaranteed the citizenship of all persons born in the United States and subject to United States jurisdiction. This declaration, which was echoed in the text of the Fourteenth Amendment, was designed primarily to counter the Supreme Court's ruling in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* that Black people in the United States could be denied citizenship. The act was vetoed by President Andrew Johnson, who argued that the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery, did not provide Congress with the authority to extend citizenship and equal protection to the freed slaves. Although Congress promptly overrode Johnson's veto, supporters of the act sought to ensure its constitutional foundations with the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The broad language of the amendment strongly suggests that its framers were proposing to write into the Constitution not a laundry list of specific civil rights but a principle of equal citizenship that forbids organized society from treating any individual as a member of an inferior class. Yet for the first eight decades of the amendment's existence, the Supreme Court's interpretation of the amendment betrayed this ideal of equality. In the *Civil Rights Cases* of 1883, for example, the Court invented the "state action" limitation, which asserts that "private" decisions by owners of public accommodations and other commercial businesses to segregate their facilities are insulated from the reach of the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of equal protection under the law.

After the Second World War, a judicial climate more hospitable to equal protection claims culminated in the Supreme Court's ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education* that racially segregated schools violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Two doctrines embraced by the Supreme Court during this period extended the amendment's reach. First, the Court required especially strict scrutiny of legislation that employed a "suspect classification," meaning discrimination against a group on grounds that could be construed as racial. This doctrine has broadened the application of the Fourteenth Amendment to other, nonracial forms of discrimination, for while some justices have refused to find any legislative classification other than race to be constitutionally disfavored, most have been receptive to arguments that at least some nonracial discriminations, sexual discrimination in particular, are "suspect" and deserve this heightened scrutiny by the courts. Second, the Court relaxed the state action limitation on the Fourteenth Amendment, bringing new forms of private conduct within the amendment's reach.

1. Which of the following best describes the main idea of the passage?

- (A) By presenting a list of specific rights, framers of the Fourteenth Amendment were attempting to provide a constitutional basis for broad judicial protection of the principle of equal citizenship.
- (B) Only after the Supreme Court adopted the suspect classification approach to reviewing potentially discriminatory legislation was the applicability of the Fourteenth Amendment extended to include sexual discrimination.
- (C) Not until after the Second World War did the Supreme Court begin to interpret the Fourteenth Amendment in a manner consistent with the principle of equal citizenship that it expresses.
- (D) Interpreters of the Fourteenth Amendment have yet to reach consensus with regard to what its framers meant by the equal protection clause.
- (E) Although the reluctance of judges to extend the reach of the Fourteenth Amendment to nonracial discrimination has betrayed the principle of equal citizenship, the Supreme Court's use of the state action limitation to insulate private activity from the amendment's reach has been more harmful.

2. The passage suggests that the principal effect of the state action limitation was to

- (A) allow some discriminatory practices to continue unimpeded by the Fourteenth Amendment
- (B) influence the Supreme Court's ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*
- (C) provide expanded guidelines describing prohibited actions
- (D) prohibit states from enacting laws that violated the intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1866
- (E) shift to state governments the responsibility for enforcement of laws prohibiting discriminatory practices

3. The author implies that the Fourteenth Amendment might not have been enacted if

- (A) Congress' authority with regard to legislating civil rights had not been challenged
- (B) the framers had anticipated the Supreme Court's ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*
- (C) the framers had believed that it would be used in deciding cases of discrimination involving non-racial groups
- (D) most state governments had been willing to protect citizens' civil rights
- (E) its essential elements had not been implicit in the Thirteenth Amendment

Some modern anthropologists hold that biological evolution has shaped not only human morphology but also human behavior. The role those anthropologists ascribe to evolution is not of dictating the details of human behavior but one of imposing constraints—ways of feeling, thinking, and acting that “come naturally” in archetypal situations in any culture. Our “frailties”—emotions and motives such as rage, fear, greed, gluttony, joy, lust, love—may be a very mixed assortment, but they share at least one immediate quality: we are, as we say, “in the grip” of them. And thus they give us our sense of constraints.

Unhappily, some of those frailties—our need for ever-increasing security among them—are presently maladaptive. Yet beneath the overlay of cultural detail, they, too, are said to be biological in direction, and therefore as natural to us as are our appendixes. We would need to comprehend thoroughly their adaptive origins in order to understand how badly they guide us now. And we might then begin to resist their pressure.

- 1. The primary purpose of the passage is to present**
 - (A) a position on the foundations of human behavior and on what those foundations imply
 - (B) a theory outlining the parallel development of human morphology and of human behavior
 - (C) a diagnostic test for separating biologically determined behavior patterns from culture-specific detail
 - (D) a practical method for resisting the pressures of biologically determined drives
 - (E) an overview of those human emotions and motives that impose constraints on human behavior
- 2. The author implies that control to any extent over the “frailties” that constrain our behavior is thought to presuppose**
 - (A) that those frailties are recognized as currently beneficial and adaptive
 - (B) that there is little or no overlay of cultural detail that masks their true nature
 - (C) that there are cultures in which those frailties do not “come naturally” and from which such control can be learned
 - (D) a full understanding of why those frailties evolved and of how they function now
 - (E) a thorough grasp of the principle that cultural detail in human behavior can differ arbitrarily from society to society
- 3. It can be inferred that in his discussion of maladaptive frailties the author assumes that**
 - (A) evolution does not favor the emergence of adaptive characteristics over the emergence of maladaptive ones
 - (B) any structure or behavior not positively adaptive is regarded as transitory in evolutionary theory
 - (C) maladaptive characteristics, once fixed, make the emergence of other maladaptive characteristics more likely
 - (D) the designation of a characteristic as being maladaptive must always remain highly tentative
 - (E) changes in the total human environment can outpace evolutionary change

In 1977 the prestigious Ewha Women's University in Seoul, Korea, announced the opening of the first women's studies program in Asia. Few academic programs have ever received such public attention. In broadcast debates, critics dismissed the program as a betrayal of national identity, an imitation of Western ideas, and a distraction from the real task of national unification and economic development. Even supporters underestimated the program; they thought it would be merely another of the many Western ideas that had already proved useful in Asian culture, akin to airlines, electricity, and the assembly line. The founders of the program, however, realized that neither view was correct. They had some reservations about the applicability of Western feminist theories to the role of women in Asia and felt that such theories should be closely examined. Their approach has thus far yielded important critiques of Western theory, informed by the special experience of Asian women.

For instance, like the Western feminist critique of the Freudian model of the human psyche, the Korean critique finds Freudian theory culture-bound, but in ways different from those cited by Western theorists. The Korean theorists claim that Freudian theory assumes the universality of the Western nuclear, male-headed family and focuses on the personality formation of the individual, independent of society. An analysis based on such assumptions could be valid for a highly competitive, individualistic society. In the Freudian family drama, family members are assumed to be engaged in a Darwinian struggle against each other—father against son and sibling against sibling. Such a concept projects the competitive model of Western society onto human personalities. But in the Asian concept of personality there is no ideal attached to individualism or to the independent self. The Western model of personality development does not explain major characteristics of the Korean personality, which is social and group-centered. The "self" is a social being defined by and acting in a group, and the well-being of both men and women is determined by the equilibrium of the group, not by individual self-assertion. The ideal is one of interdependency.

In such a context, what is recognized as "dependency" in Western psychiatric terms is not, in Korean terms, an admission of weakness or failure. All this bears directly on the Asian perception of men's and women's psychology because men are also "dependent." In Korean culture, men cry and otherwise easily show their emotions, something that might be considered a betrayal of masculinity in Western culture. In the kinship-based society of Korea, four generations may live in the same house, which means that people can be sons and daughters all their lives, whereas in Western culture, the roles of husband and son, wife and daughter, are often incompatible.

1. **It can be inferred from the passage that the broadcast media in Korea considered the establishment of the Ewha women's studies program:**
(A) praiseworthy (B) insignificant
(C) newsworthy (D) imitative
(E) incomprehensible
2. **Which of the following conclusions about the introduction of Western ideas to Korean society can be supported by information contained in the passage?**
 - a) Except for technological innovations, few Western ideas have been successfully transplanted into Korean society.
 - b) The introduction of Western ideas to Korean society is viewed by some Koreans as a challenge to Korean identity.
 - c) The development of the Korean economy depends heavily on the development of new academic programs modeled after Western programs.
 - d) The extent to which Western ideas must be adapted for acceptance by Korean society is minimal.
 - e) The introduction of Western ideas to Korean society accelerated after 1977.
3. **Which of the following best summarizes the content of the passage?**
 - (A) A critique of a particular women's studies program
 - (B) A report of work in social theory done by a particular women's studies program
 - (C) An assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of a particular women's studies program
 - (D) An analysis of the philosophy underlying women's studies programs
 - (E) An abbreviated history of Korean women's studies programs

Since the early 1970's, historians have begun to devote serious attention to the working class in the United States. Yet while we now have studies of working-class communities and culture, we know remarkably little of worklessness. When historians have paid any attention at all to unemployment, they have focused on the Great Depression of the 1930's. The narrowness of this perspective ignores the pervasive recessions and joblessness of the previous decades, as Alexander Keyssar shows in his recent book. Examining the period 1870-1920, Keyssar concentrates on Massachusetts, where the historical materials are particularly rich, and the findings applicable to other industrial areas.

The unemployment rates that Keyssar calculates appear to be relatively modest, at least by Great Depression standards: during the worst years, in the 1870's and 1890's, unemployment was around 15 percent. Yet Keyssar rightly understands that a better way to measure the impact of unemployment is to calculate unemployment frequencies—measuring the percentage of workers who experience any unemployment in the course of a year. Given this perspective, joblessness looms much larger.

Keyssar also scrutinizes unemployment patterns according to skill level, ethnicity, race, age, class, and gender. He finds that rates of joblessness differed primarily according to class: those in middle-class and white-collar occupations were far less likely to be unemployed. Yet the impact of unemployment on a specific class was not always the same. Even when dependent on the same trade, adjoining communities could have dramatically different unemployment rates. Keyssar uses these differential rates to help explain a phenomenon that has puzzled historians—the startlingly high rate of geographical mobility in the nineteenth-century United States. But mobility was not the dominant working-class strategy for coping with unemployment, nor was assistance from private charities or state agencies. Self-help and the help of kin got most workers through jobless spells.

While Keyssar might have spent more time developing the implications of his findings on joblessness for contemporary public policy, his study, in its thorough research and creative use of quantitative and qualitative evidence, is a model of historical analysis.

1. The passage suggests that before the early 1970's, which of the following was true of the study by historians of the working class in the United States?

- A. The study was infrequent or superficial, or both.
- B. The study was repeatedly criticized for its allegedly narrow focus.
- C. The study relied more on qualitative than quantitative evidence.
- D. The study focused more on the working-class community than on working-class culture.
- E. The study ignored working-class joblessness during the Great Depression.

2. Which of the following statements about the unemployment rate during the Great Depression can be inferred from the passage?

- A. It was sometimes higher than 15 percent.
- B. It has been analyzed seriously only since the early 1970's.
- C. It can be calculated more easily than can unemployment frequency.
- D. It was never as high as the rate during the 1870's.
- E. It has been shown by Keyssar to be lower than previously thought.

Measuring more than five feet tall and ten feet long, the Javan rhinoceros is often called the rarest large mammal on earth. None exist in zoos. Like the Indian rhino, the Javan has only one horn; African and Sumatran rhinos have two. While the Javan rhino habitat once extended across southern Asia, now there are fewer than one hundred of the animals in Indonesia and under a dozen in Vietnam. Very little is known about Javan rhinos because they lead secretive and solitary lives in remote jungles. Until recently, scientists debated whether females even have horns, and most scientific work has had to rely on DNA garnered from dung.

The near extinction of the Javan rhino is the direct result of human actions. For centuries, farmers, who favored the same habitat, viewed them as crop eating pests and shot them on sight. During the colonial period, hunters slaughtered thousands. Now, human efforts to save them may well prove futile. The Vietnamese herd is probably doomed, as too few remain to maintain the necessary genetic variation. Rhinos from Java cannot supplement the Vietnamese numbers because in the millions of years since Indonesia separated from the mainland, the two groups have evolved into separate sub-species. In Indonesia, the rhinos are protected on the Ujung Kulon peninsula, which is unsettled by humans, and still have sufficient genetic diversity to have a chance at survival. Ironically, however, the lack of human disturbance allows mature forests to replace the shrubby vegetation the animals prefer. Thus, human benevolence may prove little better for these rhinos than past human maltreatment.

1. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- a) Javan rhinos are one of the most endangered animals on the planet.
- b) More is known about the genetics of the Javan rhino than is known about its mating patterns.
- c) Hunters killed more Javan rhinos in Vietnam than in Indonesia.
- d) Most animal extinctions are the result of human actions.
- e) Genetic diversity is the most important factor for the survival of a species.

For years, U.S. employers have counted on a steady flow of labor from Mexico willing to accept low-skilled, low paying jobs. These workers, many of whom leave economically depressed villages in the Mexican interior, are often more than willing to work for wages well below both the U.S. minimum wage and the poverty line. However, thanks to a dramatic demographic shift currently taking place in Mexico, the seemingly inexhaustible supply of workers migrating from Mexico to the United States might one day greatly diminish if not cease.

Predictions of such a drastic decrease in the number of Mexican immigrants, both legal and illegal, are driven by Mexico's rapidly diminishing population growth. As a result of a decades-long family planning campaign, most Mexicans are having far fewer children than was the norm a generation ago. The campaign, organized around the slogan that "the small family lives better," saw the Mexican government establish family-planning clinics and offer free contraception. For nearly three decades, the government's message concerning population hasn't wavered. In fact, the Mexican Senate recently voted to extend public school sex education programs to kindergarten.

The result of Mexico's efforts to stem population growth is nothing short of stunning. In 1968, the average Mexican woman had just fewer than seven children; today, the figure is slightly more than two. For two primary reasons, Mexico's new demographics could greatly impact the number of Mexicans seeking work in the U.S. First, smaller families by their nature limit the pool of potential migrants. Second, the slowing of Mexico's population growth has fostered hope that Mexico will develop a healthy middle class of people content to make their livelihoods in their home country.

Though the former of these factors is all but assured, the growth of a healthy middle class is far from a foregone conclusion. The critical challenge for Mexico is what it does with the next 20 years. Mexico must invest in education, job training, and infrastructure, as well as a social-security system to protect its aging population. If Mexico is willing to step forward and meet this challenge, America may one day wake up to find that, like cheap gasoline, cheap Mexican labor has become a thing of the past.

1. Which of the following statements can NOT be inferred from the passage?

- a) Due to the government's family planning campaign, Mexico's population is currently diminishing.
- b) On average, Mexican women are having approximately one-third the number of children that they had in 1968.
- c) Many Mexicans still migrate to the United States in search of work.
- d) As a result of declining birth rates, Mexico's population is aging.
- e) A healthy middle class in Mexico has not yet fully developed.

2. Which of the following can be inferred about U.S. employers of Mexican immigrants?

- a) Most of these employers pay Mexican immigrants less money than they pay American citizens.
- b) Some of these employers violate wage laws.
- c) Many of these employers work in the agricultural industry.
- d) Without Mexican immigrants, some of these employers would be forced to close their businesses.
- e) The majority of these employers show no concern for the welfare of their workers.

A major tenet of the neurosciences has been that all neurons (nerve cells) in the brains of vertebrate animals are formed early in development. An adult vertebrate, it was believed, must make do with a fixed number of neurons: those lost through disease or injury are not replaced, and adult learning takes place not through generation of new cells but through modification of connections among existing ones.

However, new evidence for neurogenesis (the birth of new neurons) has come from the study of canary song. Young canaries and other songbirds learn to sing much as humans learn to speak, by imitating models provided by their elders. Several weeks after birth, a young bird produces its first rudimentary attempts at singing; over the next few months the song becomes more structured and stable, reaching a fully developed state by the time the bird approaches its first breeding season. But this repertoire of song is not permanently learned. After each breeding season, during late summer and fall, the bird loses mastery of its developed "vocabulary," and its song becomes as unstable as that of a juvenile bird. During the following winter and spring, however, the canary acquires new songs, and by the next breeding season it has developed an entirely new repertoire.

Recent neurological research into this learning and relearning process has shown that the two most important regions of the canary's brain related to the learning of songs actually vary in size at different times of the year. In the spring, when the bird's song is highly developed and uniform, the regions are roughly twice as large as they are in the fall. Further experiments tracing individual nerve cells within these regions have shown that the number of neurons drops by about 38 percent after the breeding season, but by the following breeding season, new ones have been generated to replace them. A possible explanation for this continual replacement of nerve cells may have to do with the canary's relatively long life span and the requirements of flight. Its brain would have to be substantially larger and heavier than might be feasible for flying if it had to carry all the brain cells needed to process and retain all the information gathered over a lifetime.

Although the idea of neurogenesis in the adult mammalian brain is still not generally accepted, these findings might help uncover a mechanism that would enable the human brain to repair itself through neurogenesis. Whether such replacement of neurons would disrupt complex learning processes or long-term memory is not known, but songbird research challenges scientists to identify the genes or hormones that orchestrate neurogenesis in the young human brain and to learn how to activate them in the adult brain.

1. It can be inferred from the passage that the author would most likely describe the current understanding of neurogenesis as

- (A) Exhaustive (B) progressive
- (C) incomplete (D) Antiquated (E) incorrect

2. Information in the passage suggests that the author would most likely regard which one of the following as LEAST important in future research on neurogenesis in humans?

- (A) research on possible similarities between the neurological structures of humans and canaries
- (B) studies that compare the ratio of brain weight to body weight in canaries to that in humans
- (C) neurological research on the genes or hormones that activate neurogenesis in the brain of human infants
- (D) studies about the ways in which long-term memory functions in the human brain
- (E) research concerning the processes by which humans learn complicated tasks

The single-celled parasite known as *Toxoplasma gondii* infects more than half of the world's human population without creating any noticeable symptoms. Once inside the human body, *Toxoplasma* rapidly spreads to the heart and other organs. It can even penetrate the tight barrier that normally protects the brain from most pathogens. Yet, the blood of infected persons carries very few free-floating *Toxoplasma* cells. Scientists have long been puzzled by this ability of *Toxoplasma* to parasitize the human body without triggering an immune response and without an appreciable presence in the bloodstream. Recent research, however, has shed light on the ways in which *Toxoplasma* achieves its remarkable infiltration of the human body.

Though there are few individual *Toxoplasma* cells coursing freely in the blood of an infected person, scientists have discovered that the parasite is quite common in certain cells, known as dendritic cells, involved in the human immune system. Dendritic cells are found in the digestive tract and frequently come into contact with the various pathogens that enter the human body through food and water. When the dendritic cells encounter pathogens, they travel to lymph nodes and relay this information to other immune cells that then take action against the reported pathogen. Scientists have found, however, that *Toxoplasma* is capable of hijacking dendritic cells, forcing them from their usual activity and using them as a form of transportation to infect the human body quickly. Without this transport mechanism, *Toxoplasma* could not reach the better-protected areas of the body.

Toxoplasma invades the human body through consumption of the undercooked meat of infected animals, primarily pigs and chickens. Other animals, such as cats, can become infected as well. In fact, cats are a necessary component in the reproductive cycle of *Toxoplasma*, since the animal's intestines are the parasite's sole breeding ground. *Toxoplasma* creates egg-like cysts, known as oocysts, in the cats' intestines. These oocysts are shed in the cats' droppings and contaminate ground water and soil, eventually finding their way into the food chain. Because *Toxoplasma* must somehow find its way into a new host cat in order to reproduce, it cannot kill its current host. Instead, it waits for the host, usually a small rodent, to be eaten by a cat, thus providing *Toxoplasma* the opportunity to reproduce.

1. It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following statements is true of dendritic cells in the human body?

- A. They are produced by the lymphatic system.
- B. They are more numerous in the digestive tract than in any other part of the human body.
- C. Most dendritic cells of persons infected with *Toxoplasma* carry the parasite.
- D. They are the only cells capable of being infected by *Toxoplasma*.
- E. They are able to penetrate the membranes surrounding the brain.

The Pan-American land bridge, or isthmus, connecting North and South America was formed volcanically long after dinosaurs became extinct. The isthmus cleaved populations of marine organisms, creating sister species. These twin species, called "gemmates," then evolved independently. Scientists observe, for example, that Pacific pistol shrimp no longer mate with those from the Atlantic Ocean. Yet the two oceans had already begun to form their distinctive personalities long before the isthmus was fully formed. As the seabed rose, Pacific waters grew cooler, their upswelling currents carrying rich nutrients, while the Atlantic side grew shallower, warmer, and nutrient poor. In fact, it was these new conditions, and not so much the fully-formed isthmus, that spawned changes in the shrimp population.

For terrestrial life, the impact of the isthmus was more immediate. Animals traversed the newly formed bridge in both directions, although North American creatures proved better colonizers—more than half of South America's mammals trace direct lineage to this so-called Great American Biotic Exchange. Only three animals—the armadillo, opossum, and hedgehog—survive as transplants in the north today.

1. Which of the following statements finds the LEAST support in the passage?

- A. Population divergences resulting from the formation of the Pan-American isthmus were more a process than an event.
- B. The divergence in ocean temperature during the formation of the Pan-American isthmus resulted in a divergence in the ocean's nutrient value.
- C. Genetic differences among pistol shrimp have grown to the point that there are now at least two distinct species of these shrimp.
- D. The part of ocean which is now the Pacific grew deeper due to the geologic forces that created the Pan-American isthmus.
- E. Not until the Pan-American isthmus was fully formed did geminate marine organisms begin to develop in that area of the ocean.

2. Which of the following statements is most readily inferable from the information in the passage?

- A. Species of marine organisms in the Atlantic Ocean number fewer today than before the formation of the Pan-American isthmus.
- B. The number of terrestrial animal species in South America today exceeds the number prior to the formation of the Pan-American isthmus.
- C. Of the indigenous North American species that migrated south across the Pan-American isthmus, more than three survive to this day.
- D. Since the formation of the Pan-American isthmus, fewer terrestrial animals have traveled north across the isthmus than south.
- E. As the Pan-American isthmus began to form, most pistol shrimp migrated west to what is now the Pacific Ocean.

Nearly a century ago, biologists found that if they separated an invertebrate animal embryo into two parts at an early stage of its life, it would survive and develop as two normal embryos. This led them to believe that the cells in the early embryo are undetermined in the sense that each cell has the potential to develop in a variety of different ways. Later biologists found that the situation was not so simple. It matters in which plane the embryo is cut. If it is cut in a plane different from the one used by the early investigators, it will not form two whole embryos. A debate arose over what exactly was happening. Which embryo cells are determined, just when do they become irreversibly committed to their fates, and what are the "morphogenetic determinants" that tell a cell what to become? But the debate could not be resolved because no one was able to ask the crucial questions in a form in which they could be pursued productively. Recent discoveries in molecular biology, however, have opened up prospects for a resolution of the debate. Now investigators think they know at least some of the molecules that act as morphogenetic determinants in early development. They have been able to show that, in a sense, cell determination begins even before an egg is fertilized.

Studying sea urchins, biologist Paul Gross found that an unfertilized egg contains substances that function as morphogenetic determinants. They are located in the cytoplasm of the egg cell; i.e., in that part of the cell's protoplasm that lies outside of the nucleus. In the unfertilized egg, the substances are inactive and are not distributed homogeneously. When the egg is fertilized, the substances become active and, presumably, govern the behavior of the genes they interact with. Since the substances are unevenly distributed in the egg, when the fertilized egg divides, the resulting cells are different from the start and so can be qualitatively different in their own gene activity. The substances that Gross studied are maternal messenger RNA's—products of certain of the maternal genes. He and other biologists studying a wide variety of organisms have found that these particular RNA's direct, in large part, the synthesis of histones, a class of proteins that bind to DNA. Once synthesized, the histones move into the cell nucleus, where sections of DNA wrap around them to form a structure that resembles beads, or knots, on a string. The beads are DNA segments wrapped around the histones; the string is the intervening DNA. And it is the structure of these beaded DNA strings that guides the fate of the cells in which they are located.

- 1. It can be inferred from the passage that the morphogenetic determinants present in the early embryo are**
 - A. located in the nucleus of the embryo cells
 - B. evenly distributed unless the embryo is not developing normally
 - C. inactive until the embryo cells become irreversibly committed to their final function
 - D. identical to those that were already present in the unfertilized egg
 - E. present in larger quantities than is necessary for the development of a single individual
- 2. It can be inferred from the passage that the initial production of histones after an egg is fertilized takes place**
 - A. in the cytoplasm
 - B. in the maternal genes
 - C. throughout the protoplasm
 - D. in the beaded portions of the DNA strings
 - E. in certain sections of the cell nucleus
- 3. It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following is dependent on the fertilization of an egg?**
 - A. Copying of maternal genes to produce maternal messenger RNA's
 - B. Synthesis of proteins called histones
 - C. Division of a cell into its nucleus and the cytoplasm
 - D. Determination of the egg cell's potential for division
 - E. Generation of all of a cell's morphogenetic determinants

In a 1984 book, Claire C. Robertson argued that, before colonialism, age was a more important indicator of status and authority than gender in Ghana and in Africa generally. British colonialism imposed European-style male-dominant notions upon more egalitarian local situations to the detriment of women generally, and gender became a defining characteristic that weakened women's power and authority.

Subsequent **research** in Kenya convinced Robertson that she had overgeneralized about Africa. Before colonialism, gender was more salient in central Kenya than it was in Ghana, although age was still crucial in determining authority. In contrast with Ghana, where women had traded for hundreds of years and achieved legal majority (not unrelated phenomena), the evidence regarding central Kenya indicated that women were legal minors and were sometimes treated as male property, as were European women at that time. Factors like strong patrilinearity and patrilocality, as well as women's inferior land rights and lesser involvement in trade, made women more dependent on men than was generally the case in Ghana. However, **since age apparently remained the overriding principle of social organization in central Kenya**, some senior women had much authority. Thus, Robertson revised her hypothesis somewhat, arguing that in determining authority in precolonial Africa age was a primary principle that superseded gender to varying degrees depending on the situation.

1. **The passage indicates that Robertson's research in Kenya caused her to change her mind regarding which of the following?**
 - A. Whether age was the prevailing principle of social organization in Kenya before colonialism
 - B. Whether gender was the primary determinant of social authority in Africa generally before colonialism
 - C. Whether it was only after colonialism that gender became a significant determinant of authority in Kenyan society
 - D. Whether age was a crucial factor determining authority in Africa after colonialism
 - E. Whether British colonialism imposed European-style male-dominant notions upon local situations in Ghana
2. **The passage suggests that after conducting the research mentioned in the highlighted text, but not before, Robertson would have agreed with which of the following about women's status and authority in Ghana?**
 - A. Greater land rights and greater involvement in trade made women in precolonial Ghana less dependent on men than were European women at that time.
 - B. Colonialism had a greater impact on the status and authority of Ghanaian women than on Kenyan women.
 - C. Colonialism had less of an impact on the status and authority of Ghanaian women than it had on the status and authority of other African women.
 - D. The relative independence of Ghanaian women prior to colonialism was unique in Africa.
 - E. Before colonialism, the status and authority of Ghanaian women was similar to that of Kenyan women.
3. **The author of the passage mentions the status of age as a principle of social organization in precolonial central Kenya in the highlighted text most likely in order to**
 - A. indicate that women's dependence on men in precolonial Kenya was not absolute
 - B. contrast the situation of senior women to that of less senior women in precolonial Kenyan society
 - C. differentiate between the status and authority of precolonial Kenyan women and that of precolonial Ghanaian women
 - D. explain why age superseded gender to a greater extent in precolonial Kenya than it did elsewhere in Africa
 - E. identify a factor that led Robertson to revise her hypothesis about precolonial Africa