

Questions 18-31. Read the following passage carefully before you choose your answers.

(This passage is a translation into English of material written in the nineteenth century.)

Line
(5) Fetters and headsmen were the coarse instruments
that tyranny formerly employed; but the civilization of
our age has perfected despotism itself, though it seemed
to have nothing to learn. Monarchs had, so to speak,
(10) materialized oppression; the democratic republics of the
present day have rendered it as entirely an affair of the
mind as the will which it is intended to coerce. Under the
absolute sway of one man the body was attacked in
order to subdue the soul; but the soul escaped the blows
(15) which were directed against it and rose proudly superior.
Such is not the course adopted by tyranny in democratic
republics; there the body is left free, and the soul is
enslaved. The master no longer says: "You shall think as
I do or you shall die"; but he says: "You are free to
(20) think differently from me and to retain your life, your
property, and all that you possess; but you are hence-
forth a stranger among your people. You may retain
your civil rights, but they will be useless to you, for you
will never be chosen by your fellow citizens if you solicit
(25) their votes; and they will affect to scorn you if you ask
for their esteem. You will remain among men, but you
will be deprived of the rights of mankind. Your fellow
creatures will shun you like an impure being; and even
those who believe in your innocence will abandon you,
(30) lest they should be shunned in their turn. Go in peace! I
have given you your life, but it is an existence worse
than death."

(30) Absolute monarchies had dishonored despotism; let
us beware lest democratic republics should reinstate it
and render it less odious and degrading in the eyes of the
many by making it still more onerous to the few.

(35) Works have been published in the proudest nations of
the Old World expressly intended to censure the vices
and the follies of the times: La Bruyère inhabited the
palace of Louis XIV when he composed his chapter
upon the Great, and Molière criticized the courtiers in
the plays that were acted before the court. But the ruling
power in the United States is not to be made game of.
(40) The smallest reproach irritates its sensibility, and the
slightest joke that has any foundation in truth renders it
indignant; from the forms of its language up to the solid
virtues of its character, everything must be made the
subject of encomium. No writer, whatever be his
(45) eminence, can escape paying this tribute of adulation to
his fellow citizens. The majority lives in the perpetual
utterance of self-applause, and there are certain truths
which the Americans can learn only from strangers or
from experience.

18. In context, "headsmen" (line 1) is best understood to mean
- (A) censors
 - (B) courtiers
 - (C) monarchs
 - (D) executioners
 - (E) philosophers
19. In the context of the passage, "coarse" (line 1) is best interpreted as
- (A) cruel
 - (B) crude
 - (C) improper
 - (D) common
 - (E) ribald
20. All of the following are evident in lines 1-13 EXCEPT
- (A) overstatement
 - (B) generalization
 - (C) parallel construction
 - (D) balanced sentence structure
 - (E) citations from well-known authorities
21. The "master" quoted in lines 14-27 refers to
- (A) an appointed judge
 - (B) a modern headsmen
 - (C) a contemporary absolute monarch
 - (D) the ruling power of a democratic republic
 - (E) the benevolent despot in an ideal society
22. The tone of lines 25-27 ("Go in peace! . . . worse than death") is best described as
- (A) skeptical
 - (B) remorseful
 - (C) ominous
 - (D) empathetic
 - (E) resigned

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE 

23. It can be inferred that the “existence” mentioned in line 26 will be characterized primarily by
- (A) corruption
 - (B) triviality
 - (C) alienation
 - (D) self-doubt
 - (E) physical hardship
24. The function of the quoted sentences (lines 13-27) is to
- (A) illustrate an assertion
 - (B) characterize rulers in general
 - (C) contrast the ideal with the historical
 - (D) depict a view that contradicts the speaker’s view
 - (E) portray historical background in a colorful manner
25. The phrase “let us beware” (lines 28-29) helps establish the speaker as
- (A) critical of monarchical political systems
 - (B) defensive about newly formed democratic republics
 - (C) concerned about potential abuses of power within democratic republics
 - (D) skeptical of the ability of a democratic republic to control the individual
 - (E) respectful of the power inherent in absolute monarchies
26. It can be inferred that “the few” (line 31) refers most specifically to
- (A) tyrants
 - (B) courtiers
 - (C) monarchs
 - (D) dissenters
 - (E) foreign observers
27. The primary function of the second paragraph is to
- (A) introduce exceptions to earlier generalizations
 - (B) caution the reader that statements in the first paragraph may be misleading
 - (C) recapitulate ideas in the first paragraph and provide a transition to the third paragraph
 - (D) shift the focus from personal experience to objective analysis
 - (E) expand the generalizations introduced in paragraph one to include various other forms of government
28. The speaker cites La Bruyère and Molière as evidence that writers in powerful European monarchies
- (A) were able to stimulate reforms in the regimes they served
 - (B) had traditionally assumed that their primary function was to expose corruption
 - (C) were able to condemn the foolishness that they discovered within their societies
 - (D) had more substantive ideas than do writers in democratic republics
 - (E) justified in their commentaries the magnificence of their courts
29. By “the ruling power in the United States” (lines 37-38), the speaker means the
- (A) majority of voters
 - (B) legal system
 - (C) influential writers
 - (D) critics of the government
 - (E) wealthiest landowners
30. The use of the phrase “certain truths” (line 46) has the effect of
- (A) characterizing the speaker as intentionally deceptive
 - (B) forcing the reader to infer from earlier material what the phrase means
 - (C) repeating the earlier references to “encomium” (line 43) and “adulation” (line 44)
 - (D) clarifying the meaning of “self-applause” (line 46)
 - (E) exposing the speaker’s uncertainty about his judgment of the American political system
31. The argument used by the speaker demonstrates the truth inherent in the paradox that
- (A) pain can be pleasurable
 - (B) freedom can enslave
 - (C) falsehoods can be true
 - (D) enmity can be a form of admiration
 - (E) a person can feel more alienated at home than abroad

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE 