

Question 1-11 are based on the following passage.

The Political Power of the First Ladies

A high-profile, unelected official with the political resources to influence domestic policy, the **1** President of the United States has a wife, known as the “First Lady,” occupies a unique position. Many First Ladies, not content with simply playing the role of demure wife and social hostess, have take an active role in the political sphere. Even though her power comes by way of marriage, rather than from the electorate or the Constitution, the First Lady (or First Gentleman) has a responsibility to capitalize on her situation and attempt to create significant, lasting change. **2** If the President of the United States is female, her husband’s title would be “First Gentleman.” Throughout US history, there have been a number of influential, politically engaged First Ladies from whom future First Ladies or Gentlemen can take inspiration.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) United States has a president whose wife,
- C) United States’ President has a wife,
- D) wife of the President of the United States,

2

The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the sentence be kept or deleted?

- A) Kept, because it provides a transition from the paragraph’s discussion of the role of the First Gentleman to the role of the First Lady.
- B) Kept, because it offers further clarification of why the husband of a female president would be called “First Gentleman.”
- C) Deleted, because it interrupts the introduction of the passage’s main argument with a loosely related detail.
- D) Deleted, because it weakens the passage’s emphasis on the importance of the work done by several influential First Ladies.

Abigail Adams, the second First Lady in American History, was the first to assume **3** a protruding role in the political sphere. Unlike her predecessor, Martha Washington, Adams was outspoken, well-educated, and quickly developed the reputation of a staunch partisan defender after openly criticizing Congress for not declaring war on France in 1798. Her influence **4** is so well-known that opponents claimed the President refused to make any appointments “without her approbation,” and aspiring politicians sought her endorsement. **5** In recent years, Adams has become a popular topic for biographers because of her thoughts on gender, slavery, and politics.

3

Which choice is most consistent with the writer’s position as established in the passage?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) an obtrusive
- C) a prominent
- D) an ostentatious

4

A) NO CHANGE

- B) was
- C) has been
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.

5

Which choice most effectively concludes the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) In a period of limited female autonomy, Adams demonstrated that the First Lady could substantially influence politics in the United States.
- C) A major component of Adams’ legacy is a collection of more than 1,100 letters written between Adams and her husband.
- D) Abigail Adams was not only the wife of the second US president but also the mother of the sixth US president, John Quincy Adams.

From 1933 to 1945, Eleanor Roosevelt was intimately involved in her husband’s domestic policies during the tumultuous Great Depression. For example, she spearheaded the establishment of **6** Arthurdale. Arthurdale was a resettlement community that combined subsistence farming and simple industry for impoverished mine workers. After convincing her husband to bring the project under federal authority, Roosevelt became the unofficial project director and supported the community through regular visits and budgetary oversight. **7** However, she became beloved by the American people, who admired her commitment to helping those Americans most in need.

Two decades later, Claudia “Lady Bird” Johnson pushed further into the political sphere than had any previous First Lady. She attended legislative strategy sessions and directly interacted with Congress to garner support for her environmental legislation. **8** Johnson established her legacy by using her political leverage to influence the passage of nearly two hundred environmental laws.

6

Which option most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

- A) Arthurdale, and it was
- B) Arthurdale,
- C) Arthurdale; it was
- D) Arthurdale, this being the name of

7

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) For instance,
- C) In keeping with this tradition,
- D) As a result of these efforts,

8

At this point, the writer wants to provide an example of the legislation mentioned in the previous sentence. Which choice most effectively accomplishes this goal?

- A) One such legislative effort, the Beautification Act of 1965 (fondly referred to as “Lady Bird’s Bill”), improved the environment surrounding America’s highways by eliminating billboards and junkyards and adding scenic landscaping.
- B) After her husband signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Johnson went on two solo, multi-state speaking tours in southern states to advocate for her husband and advance his policies.
- C) Lady Bird’s “beautification” directive had begun when she formed the First Lady’s Committee for a More Beautiful Capital which focused on urban decay and planted millions of flowers and trees around the capital.
- D) In support of the government’s “See America First” campaign, Johnson undertook a series of trips to national parks, scenic areas, and historic sites to highlight the natural beauty of the American outdoors and promote ecotourism.

Despite the important contributions these First Ladies made to American society, **9** her activism often **10** resulted in scathing critiques: Adams was mockingly called “Mrs. President,” Roosevelt was ridiculed in newspapers, and a Montana billboard read “Impeach Lady Bird.” **11** Yet, as Barbara Bush, aptly noted, “The First Lady is going to be criticized no matter what she does.” First Ladies have a responsibility to ignore the inevitable criticism; they should use the position to create invaluable social and political change —as they have for centuries.

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) their
- C) they’re
- D) there

10

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) resulted: in scathing critiques,
- C) resulted in: scathing critiques,
- D) resulted, in scathing critiques:

11

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Yet as, Barbara Bush, aptly noted
- C) Yet, as Barbara Bush aptly noted,
- D) Yet as Barbara Bush, aptly noted