

Question 1-11 are based on the following passage.

Poetry as a Profession

In an increasingly streamlined, technological, and competitive world of professional employment, a career in writing poetry may seem like an impractical choice. While the challenge of developing a professional writing career cannot be denied, **1** perspiring poets can look to their successful twentieth and twenty-first century counterparts for models of sustainable career paths. These examples demonstrate that one of the best ways to "be" a poet **2** are to be many other things as well: **3** when writing computer code, an individual is cultivating the same precision and attention to detail that is required to write poetry.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) respiring
- C) inspiring
- D) aspiring

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) is
- C) were
- D) have been

3

Which choice best helps establish the reasons provided in support of the passage's main argument?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) a supplemental career provides the necessary financial support for poets to support themselves in today's competitive economy.
- C) in addition to offering financial support, supplemental careers can provide artistic inspiration and a valuable breadth of experience.
- D) by focusing on an alternative career instead of writing, individuals can learn that poetry is better considered a hobby than a career.

Many successful contemporary poets pursue other forms of employment, considering these jobs not as obstacles

4 but instead of sources of inspiration. W. S. Di Piero, an Italian-American poet, also works as a translator; when discussing the relationship between translation and poetry, he identified them both as a “quest for recognitions,” noting that

5 “a translation needs a cultural entourage.” The supplemental career does not even need to be directly related to writing in order to provide valuable inspiration. Consider,

6 for example, William Carlos Williams who worked as a physician for over forty years. Some of his most poignant poems were inspired by his patients. In his own words, a medical career was “the very thing which made it possible for me to write.”

4

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) instead as
- C) but rather as
- D) and

5

The writer wants to emphasize the usefulness of translation to the process of writing poetry. Which choice of the following quotations from Di Piero best accomplishes this goal?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) “a writer always has to deal with difficult people, but the translator encounters the worst ones.”
- C) “I was trying to earn my living as a writer and translator.”
- D) “the process of translation has helped me immensely.”

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) for example, William Carlos Williams;
- C) for example William Carlos Williams
- D) for example, William Carlos Williams,

7 Although they provide varying levels of financial support, supplemental careers also broaden the experience of individuals—and this breadth inevitably shapes their work. For instance, the famous poet Maya Angelou pursued diverse career paths as 8 a prose writer, producing, civil rights activist, and more. From “Caged Bird” to “On the Pulse of Morning,” some of her greatest poems are grounded by her own experience in the civil rights struggle. A poet’s experience, though, can also influence his or her writing in more subtle ways. Luci Tapahonso, the current poet laureate of the Navajo nation, is committed to serving her community on local, 9 state, and national levels, a strong sense of cultural identity pervades her work.

7 Which choice provides the best transition from the previous paragraph to this one?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) In addition to providing a source of inspiration,
- C) Considering the time constraints they impose on a poet,
- D) Regardless of the relationship between translation and poetry,

8

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) prose-writing, producing, a civil rights activist,
- C) a prose writer, producer, civil rights activist,
- D) writing prose, a producer, civil rights activist,

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) state and national levels,
- C) state; and national levels;
- D) state, and national levels;

Poetry composition is neither an easy nor an impossible career—it simply requires hard work, dedication, and the commitment to writing above all else. **10** Yet of all possible careers, perhaps writing poetry is one of the most necessary in our contemporary context. While coding languages and technology turn over with **11** ever-increasing, greater frequency, the words of Homer and Shakespeare remain; even when an entire culture disappears, writing is one of the few things that persists.

10

The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the writer make this deletion?

- A) Yes, because the sentence states an argument about the importance of writing poetry that is irrelevant to the writer’s main point.
- B) Yes, because the sentence gives a description of our contemporary context that repeats information from the introduction.
- C) No, because the sentence provides a smooth transition that sets up the author’s concluding point about the unique nature of poetry.
- D) No, because the sentence provides evidence for the passage’s central claim about why writing poetry is so important.

11

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) ever-increasing frequency,
- C) ever-increasing frequency and greater prevalence,
- D) frequency and greater prevalence