

**Critical Reading Tips:**

- For double completions, look for words like “but” and “and” that hint at the relationship between the two words. “But” would imply that they are opposites; “and” would imply that they are synonyms.
- Read in your spare time. Look for “familiar parts”/Latin roots of words.

1. Tantra paintings from India are not only beautiful but -----: in addition to their aesthetic value, they are used to facilitate meditation.

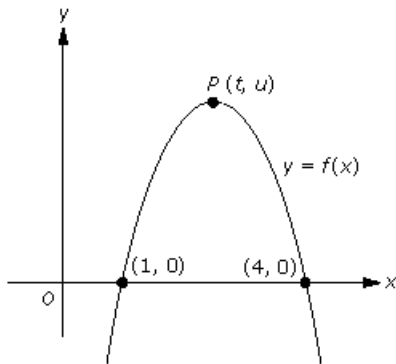
- A. garish
- B. valuable
- C. numerous
- D. ornate
- E. functional

2. The actor’s ----- decline in popularity was as striking and unexpected as his ----- rise to prominence had been.

- A. sudden . . . meteoric
- B. gradual . . . equivocal
- C. precipitous . . . obscure
- D. dazzling . . . secret
- E. inevitable . . . unpredictable

**Math Tips:**

- Read the questions carefully to make sure you are actually answering what they are asking you!
- If you don’t know how to solve an equation, plug in all the answer choices until you find the one that fits.
- Check your answer by plugging it into the original equation.



1. The quadratic function  $f$  is graphed in the  $xy$ -plane above. If  $f(x) \leq u$  for all values of  $x$ , which of the following could be the coordinates of point  $P$ ?

- A. (2, 3.5)
- B. (2.25, 3.25)
- C. (2.5, 3)
- D. (2.75, 4)
- E. (3, 2.5)

2. A list of 100 integers has the property that the average (arithmetic mean),  $a$ , of the integers is greater than the median,  $m$ , of the integers. Which of the following must be true?

- I. More of these integers are greater than  $a$  than are less than  $a$ .
- II. More of these integers are greater than  $m$  than are less than  $m$ .
- III. More of these integers are less than  $m$  than are greater than  $m$ .

- A. None
- B. I only
- C. II only
- D. I and II
- E. I and III

3. Three parallel lines in a plane are intersected by a fourth line, forming twelve angles. If one of the angles has measure  $28^\circ$ , how many of the other eleven angles have measure  $28^\circ$ ?

### Writing Tips:

- Beware of agreement between nouns and pronouns/verbs. Nouns like “family”, “committee”, etc. are collective and take singular pronouns/verbs.
- For improving sentence questions, choice A is always identical to the original sentence, so don't waste time reading it.
- In general, never pick a choice that rewrites the sentence in passive voice, i.e. “I kicked the ball” NOT “The ball was kicked.”

1. Originally a protest on conventional painting, the  
A B

Pre-Raphaelite movement exerted great influence on  
C

the art of its time. No error  
D E

3. Looking up from the base of the mountain, the trail seemed more treacherous than it really was.

- A. Looking up
- B. While looking up
- C. By looking up
- D. Viewing
- E. Viewed

2. After hours of futile debate, the committee has  
A

decided to postpone further discussion  
B

of the resolution until their next meeting. No error  
C D E

4. Underestimating its value, breakfast is a meal many people skip.

- A. Underestimating its value, breakfast is a meal many people skip.
- B. Breakfast is skipped by many people because of their underestimating its value.
- C. Many people, underestimating the value of breakfast, and skipping it.
- D. Many people skip breakfast because they underestimate its value.
- E. A meal skipped by many people underestimating its value is breakfast.

### Essay Tips:

- State your thesis clearly towards the beginning. It doesn't have to sound very elegant as long as it is clear and understandable.
- Give specific examples. Try to take them from different sources. If you can't think of one, make one up -- you are being graded on your writing ability, not on your historical or literary knowledge.
- Stick with a traditional five or four paragraph essay. This is not the time to be creative.
- If you are running out of time, jump to the conclusion and try to write at least a sentence or two.
- **MAKE YOUR ESSAY AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.** Try to fill up the two pages given. This will practically guarantee you a higher score.

My #1 tip for scoring 2400...

**ALWAYS CHECK YOUR ANSWERS!!!!**  
(if you have time)

If you have questions you can email me at [xelberethx@hotmail.com](mailto:xelberethx@hotmail.com)

ANSWERS: e, a, c, a, 5, a, d, e, d