

Bronx. Strangers smiled and took pains not to crush the flowers, even when the train jerked to a halt. <sup>14</sup> I got off at an elevated station and, lifting the splendid bouquet, rushed down to my mother, feeling delighted that I'd brought the blooms all the way from Brooklyn on the subway train.

14. If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, this paragraph would primarily lose a statement that:
- F. provides physical descriptions of people on the subway train.
  - G. supports the opening sentence of the essay.
  - H. provides evidence that people can be friendly on the subway train.
  - J. gives an explanation for the narrator's actions.

Question 15 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

15. Suppose the writer had intended to write a brief essay persuading readers that the subway system is New York City's most economical means of public transportation. Would this essay fulfill the writer's goal?
- A. Yes, because the essay supplies evidence of the large number of people using the subways.
  - B. Yes, because the essay describes people who are able to give to the needy because they have extra money in their pockets.
  - C. No, because the essay focuses on the kinds of people riding the subways, not on how inexpensive the subways are to ride.
  - D. No, because the essay focuses on the writer's love of all public transportation, not just the subways.

## PASSAGE II

### Navajo Code Talkers

During World War II, a group of Navajo soldiers developed a code that became one of the most successful in U.S. military history. This group,<sup>16</sup> known as the Navajo code talkers, took part in every assault the U.S. Marines conducted in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945, transmitting information,<sup>17</sup> on tactics, troop movements, orders, and other vital communications over telephones and radios.

American military officials have<sup>18</sup> been using cumbersome<sup>19</sup> machines to encode and relay information during battles. In preliminary tests under simulated combat

16. F. NO CHANGE  
G. group which was  
H. group was  
J. group
17. A. NO CHANGE  
B. transmitting information on:  
C. transmitting information on  
D. transmitting: information on
18. F. NO CHANGE  
G. had  
H. would have  
J. will have
19. A. NO CHANGE  
B. thorny  
C. strenuous  
D. gawky



conditions, the Navajo encoded, transmitted, and decoded a three-line message in twenty seconds as the machines required thirty minutes to perform the same job.

Nevertheless, these tests convinced the

officials of the value, of using the Navajo language in a code.

The Navajo language is complex, with a structure and sounds that makes them unintelligible to anyone without

extensive exposure to it. Outside Navajo communities,

such exposure is rare, which greatly contributed to

it's success.

The Navajo developed and memorized the code. Since their language did not have words for common U.S. military equipment, they turned to nature. They named planes after birds and ships after fish. Dive bombers became *gini* (chicken hawk) and destroyers were called *ca-lo* (shark). The skilled Japanese code breakers remained baffled by the Navajo language. The code was never broken.

Unfortunately, the code talkers sometimes faced dangerous peril from their own side. Many code talkers needed bodyguards to protect them from other American soldiers, some of whom mistook the Navajo for Japanese

20. F. NO CHANGE  
G. seconds so  
H. seconds,  
J. seconds, whereas
21. A. NO CHANGE  
B. Similarly, these  
C. Still, these  
D. These
22. F. NO CHANGE  
G. officials, of the value  
H. officials of the value  
J. officials, of the value,
23. A. NO CHANGE  
B. makes it  
C. make it  
D. make them
24. F. NO CHANGE  
G. from  
H. with  
J. of
25. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?  
A. rare; this  
B. rare this  
C. rare. This  
D. rare, a factor that
26. F. NO CHANGE  
G. that  
H. this  
J. the Navajo code's
27. A. NO CHANGE  
B. The Navajo, who were various heights and weights,  
C. Being of various heights and weights, the Navajo  
D. The Navajo of different sizes
28. F. NO CHANGE  
G. hazardous  
H. risky  
J. OMIT the underlined portion.

soldiers. Regardless, the Navajo were resolute and served their country courageously.

The Navajo code remained classified after the war that was later used, along with codes made from other <sup>29</sup>American Indian languages, in the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. Now that the Navajo code is no longer used, the code talkers, whose secret work <sup>30</sup>saved American lives, can finally receive public recognition for their actions.

29. A. NO CHANGE  
 B. and which  
 C. and  
 D. OMIT the underlined portion.
30. F. NO CHANGE  
 G. hush-hush actions  
 H. concealed, hidden efforts  
 J. doings, kept under wraps,

### PASSAGE III

#### An American Griot

[1] When storyteller Mary Carter

Smith practices her art and everybody listens. <sup>31</sup>

[2] Wearing a brightly colored African dress, a large turban, and bracelets, the seventy-eight-year-old Smith seems to inhabit each of the different characters she describes. [3] Her voice changes with each emotion she wants to evoke. [4] Her gestures fit the pace of the narrative. [5] And though many of the stories are intended to make the audience laugh, Smith is fully aware of the other values of storytelling. [6] Indeed, <sup>32</sup>she identifies strongly with the griots of West Africa—those village storytellers where they <sup>33</sup>use songs, poems, and narration to help preserve and transmit culture and history. [7] Clearly others recognize her as a valuable resource. [8] Smith is the official griot of both the city of Baltimore and the state of Maryland; <sup>34</sup>she has served as griot-in-residence at

31. A. NO CHANGE  
 B. Smith, practices her art  
 C. Smith, practices her art,  
 D. Smith practices her art,
32. F. NO CHANGE  
 G. Well,  
 H. However,  
 J. At once,
33. A. NO CHANGE  
 B. who  
 C. whom  
 D. that they
34. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?  
 F. Maryland. She  
 G. Maryland, and she  
 H. Maryland and  
 J. Maryland, she