

GED Language Arts 2014

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage, read each question, and choose the **best** answer.

PREPARING FOR THE PARTY

1 “Good morning,” she said, copying her mother’s voice. But that sounded so fearfully affected that she was ashamed, and stammered like a little girl, “Oh—er— have you come— is it about the marquee [sign]?”

2 His smile was so easy, so friendly that Laura recovered. ... And now she looked at the others

3 “Cheer up, we won’t bite,” their smile seemed to say. How very nice workmen were! And what a beautiful morning! She mustn’t mention the morning; she must be business-like...

4 “Well, what about the lily-lawn? ...”

5 “I don’t fancy it,” said he. “Not conspicuous enough. You see, with a thing like a marquee...you want to put it somewhere where it’ll give you a bang slap in the eye, if you follow me.”

6 Laura’s upbringing made her wonder for a moment whether it was quite respectful of a workman to talk to her of bangs slap in the eye. But she did quite follow him.

7 “A corner of the tennis court,” she suggested. “But the band’s going to be in one corner.”

8 “H’m, going to have a band, are you?” said another of the workmen. He was pale. He had a haggard look as his dark eyes scanned the tennis-court. What was he thinking?

9 “Only a small band,” said Laura gently. Perhaps he wouldn’t mind so much if the band was quite small. But the tall fellow interrupted.

10 “Look here, miss, that’s the place. Against those trees. Over there. That’ll do fine.”

11 Against the karakas. Then the karaka-trees would be hidden. And they were so lovely, with their broad, gleaming leaves, and their clusters of yellow fruit. They were like the trees you imagined growing on a desert island, proud, solitary, lifting their leaves and fruits to the sun in a kind of silent splendour. Must they be hidden by the marquee?

12 They must. Already the men had shouldered their staves and were making for the place. Only the tall fellow was left. He bent down, pinched a sprig of lavender, put his thumb and forefinger to his nose and snuffed up the smell. When Laura saw that gesture she forgot all about

the karakas in her wonder at him caring for things like that— caring for the smell of lavender. How many men that she knew would have done such a thing? Oh, how extraordinarily nice workmen were, she thought. Why couldn’t she have workmen for friends rather than the silly boys she danced with and who came to Sunday night supper? She would get on much better with men like these.

1. Which situation is **most** similar to the workman’s (paragraph 12)?
 - a. While walking to the courtroom, a busy lawyer stops to watch an artist at work.
 - b. A band manager has to decide where to put a sign promoting her band.
 - c. While planning a new flower bed, a gardener sees a child pick one of the newly planted flowers.
 - d. A factory worker spends his lunch hour walking in the park.
2. Laura likely would be **most** comfortable
 - a. On a camping trip.
 - b. Working on a farm.
 - c. At a country club.
 - d. Selling garden supplies.
3. Which statement is the **most** likely prediction of how Laura would react if the workmen did a poor job in completing their work?
 - a. She would refuse to pay them.
 - b. She would demand that they complete the job to her satisfaction.
 - c. She would make excuses for them.
 - d. She would be unlikely to notice.
4. On the basis of the information in the passage, which is the **most** likely prediction about the plot of this story. The plot will involve
 - a. A band hired to play at the party
 - b. Laura’s attraction to the workman.
 - c. Laura’s mother’s affectations.
 - d. The boys with whom Laura dances.

The GED Essay:

Read the following passage and respond to the prompt.

Passage 1:

Eight to ten thousand years ago, raw and fermented milk products began to replace animal bones as a major source of minerals in many cultures. These raw dairy products were known to increase strength, fertility and general health. Present-day cultures whose diets are high in cultured raw dairy products tend to be extremely healthy, long-lived people. (The culturing of raw milk breaks down the lactose, and predigests the milk proteins.) Raw milk that is still warm from the animal has traditionally been used through the centuries for various wasting diseases...

Pasteurizing milk kills off all bacteria, including the health-giving lactobacilli. This allows milk to putrefy with bad bacteria over time, rather than sour or ferment from good lactobacilli. Pasteurization also destroys vitamins, especially C, B6 and B12, and denatures fragile milk proteins. It destroys 20% of the iodine, and makes insoluble the major part of the calcium content."

Aug. 15, 2011 - Linda Melos, ND

Passage 2:

Symptoms of illness caused by various bacteria commonly found in raw milk may include vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, headache and body ache. Most healthy individuals recover quickly from illness caused by raw milk. However, some people may have more severe illness, and the harmful bacteria in raw milk can be especially dangerous for pregnant women, the elderly, infants, young children and people with weakened immune systems.

Since 1987, the FDA has required all milk packaged for human consumption to be pasteurized before being delivered for introduction into interstate commerce. Pasteurization, a process that heats milk to a specific temperature for a set period of time, kills bacteria responsible for diseases, such as listeriosis, salmonellosis, campylobacteriosis, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, diphtheria and brucellosis...

Proponents of drinking raw milk often claim that raw milk is more nutritious than pasteurized milk and that raw milk is inherently antimicrobial, thus making pasteurization unnecessary. There is no meaningful nutritional difference between pasteurized and raw milk, and raw milk does not contain compounds that will kill harmful bacteria."

July 16, 2011 - US Food and Drug Administration

The articles present arguments from both supporters and critics of milk pasteurization who disagree about the practice's impact on public health.

In your response, analyze both positions presented in the article to determine which one is best supported. Use relevant and specific evidence from the article to support your response.