PRACTICE TEST 49

Passage 1

The first jazz musicians played in New Orleans during the early 1900's. After 1917. many of the New Orleans musicians moved to the south side of Chicago. where they continued to play their style of jazz. Soon Chicago was the new-center for jazz.

Several outstanding musicians emerged as leading jazz artists in Chicago. Daniel Lotus "Satchmo" Armstrong, born in New Orleans in 1900, was one. Another leading musician was Joseph king Oliver. who is also credited with having discovered Armstrong, when they were both in New Orleans. While in Chicago. Oliver asked Armstrong, who was in New Orleans, to join his band. In 1923 King Oliver's Creole Jazz Band made the first important set of recordings by a Hot Five and Hot Seven bands under Louis Armstrong also made recordings of special note.

Although Chicago's South Side was the main jazz center, some musicians in New York were also demanding attention in jazz circles. In 1923 Fletcher Henderson already had a ten - piece band that played jazz. During the early 1930's, the number of players grew to sixteen. Henderson' s band was considered a leader in what some people have called the Big Band Era. By the 1930's. big dance bands were the rage. Large numbers of people went to ballrooms to dance to jazz music played by big bands.

One of the most popular and also a very famous jazz band was the Duke Eilington band. Edward "Duke" Ellington was born in Washington, D.C., in 1899 and died in New York City in 1974. He studied the piano as a young boy and later began writing original musical compositions. The first of Ellington's European tours came in 1933. He soon received international fame for his talent as a band leader, composer. and arranger. Ten years later, Ellington began giving annual concerts at Carnegic Hall in New York City. People began to listen to jazz in the same way, that they had always listened to classical music.

1. It can be inferred from the passage that Louis Armstrong went to Chicago for which of the following reasons?

(A) To form his own band
(B) To learn to play Chicago - style jazz
(C) To play in Joseph Oliver's band
(D) To make recordings with the Hot Five

2. According to the passage, which of the following Black bands was the first to make a significant set of jazz recordings?

(A) The Hot Seven band
(B) Fletcher Henderson's band
(C) The Red Hot Peppers band
(D) King Oliver's Creole jazz Band

3. As used in line 12, the word "note" could best be replaced by which of the following?

(A) distinction (B) memorandum (C) mood (D) song

4. The nickname "Duke" belonged to which of the following bandleaders?

(A) Louis Armstrong
(B) Joseph Oliver
(C) Edward Ellington
(D) Fletcher Henderson

5. The passage supports which of the following conclusions?

(A) By the 1930's jazz was appreciated by a wide audience
(B) Classical music had a great impact on jazz
(C) jazz originated in New Orleans in the early nineteenth century

(D) jazz band were better known in, Europe than in the United States

6. Which of the following cities is NOT mentioned in the passage as a center of jazz?

(A) New York
(B) Washington, D.C.
(C) Chicago
(D) New Orleans

Passage 2

The modern age is an age of electricity. People are so used to electric lights, radio, televisions, and telephones that it is hard to imagine what life would be like without them. When there is a power failure, people grope about in flickering candlelight. Cars hesitate in the streets because there are no traffic lights to guide them, and food spoils in silent refrigerators.

Yet, people began to understand how electricity works only a little more than two centuries ago. Nature has apparently been experimenting in this field for millions of years. Scientists are discovering more and more that the living world may hold many interesting secrets of electricity that could benefit humanity.

All living cells sent out tiny pulses of electricity. As the heart beats. it send out pulses of recorded electricity; they form an electrocardiogram, which a doctor can study to determine how well the heart is working. The brain, too, sends out brain waves of electricity, which can be recorded in an electroencephalogram. The electric currents generated by most living cells are extremely small-of-ten so small that sensitive instruments are needed to record them. But in some animals, certain muscle cells have become so specialized as electrical generators that they do not work as muscle cells at all. When large numbers of these cells are linked together, the effects can be astonishing.

The electric eel is an amazing storage battery. It can send a jolt of as much as eight hundred volts of electricity through the water in which it lives. An electric house current is only one hundred twenty volts.) As many as four fifths of all the cells in the electric eel's body are specialized for generating electricity, and the strength of the shock it can deliver corresponds roughly to the length of its body.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

(A) Electric eels are potentially dangerous
(B) Biology and electricity appear to be closely related
(C) People would be at a loss without electricity
(D) Scientists still have much to discover about electricity

2. The author mentions all of the following as results of a blackout EXCEPT

(A) refrigerated food items may go bad
(B) traffic lights do not work
(C) people must rely on candlelight
(D) elevators and escalators do not function

3. Why does the author mention electric eels?

(A) To warn the reader to stay away from them
(B) To compare their voltage to that used in houses
(C) To give an example of a living electrical generator
(D) To describe a new source of electrical power

4. How many volts of electricity can an electric eel emit?

(A) 1,000 (B) 800 (C) 200 (D) 120

5. It can be inferred from the passage that the longer an eel is the

(A) more beneficial it will be to science (B) more powerful will be its electrical charge

(C) easier it will be to find (D) tougher it will be to eat