

12. C: Tense

As a general rule, verbs in the simple past should be paired with verbs in the present conditional, and that is the case here. The beginning of the sentence contains two verbs in the simple past (*received, featured*). The missing verb then describes a situation that, from the perspective of the past, is still in the future. The present conditional (*would characterize*) is thus required, making (C) correct.

13. D: Comparison

The passage compares *Today's neuroscientists* to the blank, so the correct completion of the comparison must refer to neuroscientists, plural, from the past. (A) and (B) incorrectly refer to a time period only, so they can be eliminated. (C) does not work either because it uses the singular pronoun "that." (D) correctly uses the plural pronoun "those" to replace the noun and create an equivalent construction.

14. B: Subject-Verb Agreement

The subject of the verb in the blank is *so few reliable sources*, plural, so a plural verb (no -s) is required. Only (B) contains a plural verb ("exist"), so it is correct. The different tenses in various answer choices are just a distraction—the question is really testing subject-verb agreement only.

15. C: Dangling Modifier

What [*consists*] of *watercolor applied to freshly laid plaster?* Frescoes. So *frescoes*, the subject, must appear at the beginning of the correct answer choice. Only (C) fits.

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1. D: Transition

The first sentence indicates that the conflict between sustainability and urban life is very old, and the sentence begun by the blank illustrates that idea by citing a specific ancient city that transformed its environment. "For example" is the only transition that serves to introduce an example, making (D) correct.

2. B: Transition

The first sentence states that Samuel Adams was an outlaw, and the statement begun by the blank reiterates or emphasizes that idea. "Indeed" conveys emphasis, so (B) is correct. "Nevertheless" and "on the other hand" both indicate contrast and have similar meanings, so (C) and (D) can be eliminated automatically. Be careful with (A): the second sentence does provide specific examples of Adams' outlaw-like behavior, but the transition introduces the statement before the examples, not the examples themselves.

3. D: Transition

The first and second sentences convey opposing ideas (cats are programmed to be independent vs. their ability to form social relationships), so a contradictor is required. "Still" is the only contradictor, so it must be correct by default. "Moreover" is a continuer; "accordingly" is a cause-and-effect word; and "for instance" introduces an example.

4. C: Dashes

If you back up and read the sentence with the blank from the beginning, you can see that it contains a dash. That immediately suggests that a second dash will be used, so (C) is the most likely answer. When you plug that answer into the sentence, it fits: when the information between the dashes is removed, the sentence still makes sense (*Recent research suggests that short-term training in self-regulation...can have long-term effects for children*). The other options simply serve as distractions.

5. A: Pronoun Agreement

The preservation of what's original surface paint? The only noun to which the pronoun in the blank could logically refer is the plural noun *works*, which corresponds to the pronoun "their." (A) is thus correct.