

Question 1-11 are based on the following passage.

The Case for Independent Bookselling

In the age of online purchases and electronic books, physical bookstores might seem on the brink of extinction. Borders declared bankruptcy in 2011, and Barnes and Noble recently **1** suffering store closures around the United States. However, **2** considering the intimidating economic climate, now might be the perfect time to enter a career in independent bookselling. Even as the world of virtual shopping expands, the loss of bookstores has helped remind customers of what the internet cannot **3** provide. The internet cannot provide face-to-face interaction with other people.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) will suffer
- C) would suffer
- D) has suffered

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) despite
- C) in view of
- D) thanks to

3

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

- A) provide, given that it cannot provide
- B) provide:
- C) provide; what it can't provide is
- D) provide, and that thing is

[1]The possibility of success in independent bookselling has been proven by the Tennessee novelist Ann Patchett.[2] She grew up with a beloved local bookstore that eventually went out of business; after becoming a successful writer, Patchett decided to revive the local bookstore as a community resource. [3] Together with her business partners, publishing sales representatives Karen Hayes and Mary Grey James, Patchett opened Parnassus Books in 2011. [4] Patchett attributes this unexpected success in part to the importance of human interaction in the discovery of good books: [4] “there are a lot of small stores that can really thrive in this environment.” [5] The store is now a fixture for Nashville readers and a testament to the truth of this vision. [5]

4

The writer would like to include a quotation that supports the point made in the first part of the sentence. Which of the following quotations from Patchett best accomplishes this goal?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) “when Karen and I first opened the store, people went out of their way to tell us we were crazy.”
- C) “I’m never lonely when I’m around books.”
- D) “reading is a solitary act, but the transmission of books contains an aspect of joyful sociability.”

5

The writer would like to add the following sentence to the paragraph.

Although there were many predictions to the contrary, hard work and collaboration has turned this store into a profitable enterprise.

The best placement for the sentence is

- A) after sentence 1.
- B) after sentence 2.
- C) after sentence 3.
- D) after sentence 5.

Other statistical trends suggest that public support for local bookstores **6** is increasing nationwide. In 2013, about 2,000 independent bookstores were American Bookseller Association members, **7**. The following year, California bookstores launched a statewide Bookstore Day, during which booksellers sold limited-edition merchandise and hosted author readings. Participating stores **8** reported: a subsequent increase in sales. These statistics help show that the human element of book buying is still key; author visits and personalized staff recommendations lend the vital element of community to the experience of reading.

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) are
- C) were
- D) have been

7

At this point, the writer is considering inserting the following information.

a 20 percent jump from 2009

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because it adds context that helps illustrate the significance of the data provided earlier in the sentence.
- B) Yes, because it provides support for the writer's claim that people need to support their local bookstores.
- C) No, because it introduces an unrelated detail about the increase in American Bookseller Association members.
- D) No, because it implies that before 2009, independent bookstores were not members of the American Bookseller Association.

8

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) reported, a
- C) reported a
- D) reported a:

Although the convenience and **9** brevity of buying books online cannot be denied, the rise of this purchasing model does not necessitate the extinction of physical bookstores. **10** Patchett's emphasis on human interaction highlights an important difference that results in a competitive advantage: providing this interaction can translate into both profit and community benefit. Many people thought her project was absurd, but Patchett's success begs to differ— **11** and it highlights the importance of community support in the effort to revive a local business.

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) efficiency
- C) velocity
- D) resourcefulness

10

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Patchett's emphasis
- C) Patchett emphasis's
- D) Patchett's emphasis

11

Which choice best concludes the passage with a restatement of the passage's main argument?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) having the courage to pursue a vision—even in the face of criticism—is an important characteristic for entrepreneurs.
- C) collaboration between just a few talented people can generate truly unexpected results.
- D) and it also suggests that for bibliophiles, a dream career in books could become a reality.