

Question 1-11 are based on the following passage.

### The Relevance of *Linguae Latinae*

In a world where languages evolve further every day, it seems logical to question the relevance of learning a ‘dead’ language such as Latin. However, this language is still a vital area of study: through their influence on English syntax and vocabulary, Latin principles continue to determine the way we use words and express our thoughts. In addition, studying Latin allows us to maintain the connection we have with the many culturally significant texts that **1** are originally written in Latin.

**2** Many principles of both English and Italian grammar only make sense when their relationship to Latin is taken into account. Consider, for example, the hotly contested issue of a split infinitive—“they tried *to* quietly *leave*.” (In this example, “to leave” is the infinitive.) Because in Latin the infinitive is only one word and cannot be divided, some conservative grammarians admonish that splitting the English infinitive is **3** confused. The English language, however, *can* accommodate the syntactical division of “to” and “leave.” Studying Latin helps illuminate the origins of this convention. The same principle can also be used to explain many other English conventions, including some grammarians’ prohibition against ending a sentence with a preposition. **4**

However, learning Latin roots can be especially useful for understanding medical terms. For instance, the word ‘persistent’ is a combination of the prefix ‘per’ and the verb ‘to stop or stand’—literally translated, ‘to stand through.’

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) were
- C) will be
- D) would be

2

Which choice most effectively establishes the main topic of the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) The study of Latin helps generate a new appreciation for the many poets and philosophers who originally wrote in this language.
- C) The original meanings of many English words are illuminated by a knowledge of their Latin roots.
- D) The study of Latin exposes the logic behind many issues of English grammar and vocabulary.

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) false.
- C) amoral.
- D) incorrect.

4

Which choice provides the most effective transition between the ideas in the preceding sentence and the one that follows?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) In addition, some English words can be explained in terms of their Latin roots.
- C) As is the case with many closely related languages, the actual spellings of Latin and Greek words are also exceptionally similar.
- D) Furthermore, many Latin phrases have survived as both professional and colloquial expressions.

[1] The Latin language is also **5** central: to a rich philosophical and literary tradition that has shaped Western culture. [2] While many excellent translations are available, it is impossible to convey the force of Virgil's carefully metered lines of poetry in English idiom without sacrificing the original structure. [3] In the same way, the simple elegance of Augustine's syntax and the depth of meaning in his word choice often **6** is lost in translation. [4] The influence of both these writers and many others can be traced across history to contemporary writing and **7** philosophy, to understand this context is a prerequisite to authentically engaging with these texts. [5] From the Roman poet Virgil to the philosopher Augustine of Hippo, many great writers penned their immortal works in Latin. **8**

**5**

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) central; to
- C) central to
- D) central to:

**6**

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) was
- C) has been
- D) are

**7**

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) philosophy, understanding
- C) philosophy to understand
- D) philosophy; understanding

**8**

To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 5 should be placed

- A) where it is now.
- B) before sentence 1.
- C) after sentence 1.
- D) after sentence 2.

Although relatively few people speak Latin today, this language is still a highly relevant area of study. If we want to understand and explain our own language, we need to understand its linguistic ancestry; **9** in order to understand our contemporary context, we must first grasp our historical context. **10** The ‘dead’ language of Latin lives on in its connections **11** from modern languages, literature, and philosophical traditions. Perhaps its influence can best be summarized by the inversion of a familiar maxim: *ex uno, plures* (from one, many).

9

Which choice most closely maintains the stylistic pattern established in the first part of the sentence?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) if we want to understand our contemporary context,
- C) understanding our contemporary context requires that
- D) our contemporary context, if we wish to understand it, requires that

10

At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence.

There are other “dead languages” in addition to Latin, such as Middle English, Sanskrit, Coptic, and Akkadian.

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because the conclusion should reiterate the passage’s central claim that Latin is not the only dead language.
- B) Yes, because this addition would provide a clear transition to the discussion of the contemporary importance of learning Latin.
- C) No, because whether or not there are multiple dead languages is largely irrelevant to the main argument of the passage.
- D) No, because the existence of multiple dead languages has already been discussed in the passage.

11

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) to
- C) for
- D) in