

I. Vocabulary (20%): Match the underlined word(s) with a synonym from the box.

A. poise	B. race	C. pace	D. backed up	E. nurtured
F. spare	G. weakened	H. proficient	I. miss a beat	
J. companion	K. camaraderie	L. civility		

1. The whole music community supported Roberta Guaspari when she needed funding for her violin program.
2. These celebrated musicians gave her the feeling of friendship that exists among members of the music community.
3. They did not hesitate at all when they were asked to come to her aid.
4. She nourished a love of music in the hearts and minds of her elementary school students.
5. Her students had become skilled violinists.
6. She had the kind of composure that assured her success.
7. The notice of the Board of Education to close down her very successful music program wore down her spirit.
8. She could not afford a moment of hesitation.
9. The courtesy of her fellow human beings has taken on a new meaning for her.
10. The plans are being carried at a very rapid speed.

II. Reading comprehension (20%): Choose one correct answer based on the following passages.

As the only African-American soloist dancing with the world-famous American Ballet Theater, Misty Copeland is an inspiration to anyone who has ever had a dream. In her autobiography, *A Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina*, she asks her readers to close their eyes and imagine a ballerina. "What does she look like?" Against all the expectations of "white swans" Copeland dedicates her book "to all the little brown girls" like her who, with her example, may break down the barriers of tradition.

Growing up with five siblings and without a lot of money in San Pedro, California, Misty's family moved often and had many difficult times. When Misty was 13, she began to learn ballet at the Boys and Girls Club after school. There, she met a wonderful teacher who always backed her, and she truly found freedom in motion. Discovered at the Club and given a scholarship, Copeland's rise was rapid. She became proficient after long hours of practice and discipline until she was chosen to dance the famous and challenging role of the Firebird.

On stage, during this great moment in her career, Copeland was transformed. "All the training, all the practice, all the nurturing came together." She fluttered and darted, her movements poised and controlled, yet full of passion and strength. The applause was so loud that at times, she could barely hear the music. When the dance ended, many in the audience had tears in their eyes.

Today, Misty Copeland is helping others, she has inspired Ballet Theater's Project File, which brings professional dancers to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Harlem and elsewhere across the United States to search for talent, expose all communities to the joys of ballet, and offer scholarships to promising young people.

1. Which sentence means the same as "All the training, all the practice, all the nurturing came together?"
A. After years of preparation, she had a lot of support from friends and family.
B. All the years of training prepared her adequately, but she was still very nervous. C. All the years of training didn't prepare her well enough, and she needed to change some of her ideas about dance. D. After years of

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- preparation, things worked well and she danced beautifully.
2. Which means the same as "proficient" in the sentence "She became proficient after long hours of practice and discipline?"
A. motivated B. inspired C. expert D. professional
 3. There is ___ African-American soloist dancing for the Ballet Theatre now.
A. more than one B. not only one C. only one D. not even one
 4. What is the main idea of these passages?
A. Misty Copeland is lucky to be a success in a difficult field. B. Misty Copeland broke down racial barriers in American ballet. C. Misty Copeland has traveled a long way from her beginnings. D. Misty Copeland always dreamed about becoming a ballet dancer.
 5. The key word in paragraph 1 is ____.
A. inspiration B. tradition C. soloist D. autobiography
 6. Misty Copeland dedicates her book "to all the little brown girls" because ____.
A. She wants to help and inspire others like her. B. She wants to criticize ballet training and the arts. C. She is a very political person outside her career. D. She wants to avoid "white swans."
 7. What does the word "rise" in the sentence, "Copeland's rise was rapid," most probably mean?
A. fame B. success C. raise D. professionalism
 8. What does "promising" mean in "promising young people?"
A. honest B. optimistic C. hopeful D. hard-working
 9. What does "against all the expectations" mean in the first paragraph?
A. the same expectations B. greater expectations C. different expectations D. less expectations
 10. What does "siblings" in the second paragraph mean?
A. brothers and sisters B. brothers C. sisters D. youngsters

III. Cloze (10%): Choose one correct answer to complete each sentence and the passage.

Still one of the world's most vibrant cities despite astronomical living costs, it's no surprise London is the world's second most visited destination. So what's the first? The emphatic answer, says market researcher *Euromonitor International*, is Hong Kong. Attracting an impressive 27.77 million international tourists in the space of a year, the Asian city (1) London's popularity to the tune of 10 million people. The influx, chiefly (2) for by mainland Chinese visitors, kept Hong Kong (3) the forefront of *Euromonitor's* annual Top 100 City Destinations survey for the fifth year (4) succession. London, which last (5) the list in 2009, pulled in a mere 17.38 million, just ahead of Singapore at 17.09 million. *Euromonitor's* list is compiled from data from 57 "core" countries, using national statistics and info from airports, hotels and other tourism industry sources.

1. A. outstripped B. outgrew C. outstood D. outside
2. A. accounted B. explained C. numbered D. visited
3. A. of B. for C. at D. on
4. A. to B. at C. of D. in
5. A. climbed B. crowned C. crowded D. clubbed

- IV. Writing (50%): Booker T. Washington, who was born into slavery and after emancipation became a great American educator and leader, wrote, "I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which one has had to overcome while trying to succeed." Do you agree or disagree? If not, explain the reasons. If so, name one person, living or dead, who has overcome many obstacles to achieve success to illustrate. Answer the question by writing a paragraph or more in 500 to 600 words.

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