

PASSAGE III: Bill Williams Brings America Home to Dinner

The following paragraphs may or may not be in the most logical order. Each paragraph is numbered in brackets, and question 45 will ask you to choose where Paragraph 1 should most logically be placed.

[1]

You have to admire the honesty of a company who's ³¹ slogan is "Just About the Best." Glory Foods' president, and founder Bill Williams, ³² explains the unusual slogan by admitting that while he knows that his foods can't beat the taste of real home cooking, it does ³³ come very close.

[2]

Even as a child, Williams loved to prepare food, and as a young adult, he refined his cooking skills ³⁴ at the prestigiously acclaimed ³⁵ Culinary Institute of America. In 1989, he came up with his idea for a line of Southern-inspired cuisine, ³⁶ a time when there were no convenience foods designed for African American consumers. Over the next three years, he developed a line of products that included canned greens, sweet potatoes, beans, and okra, as well as bottled hot sauce and cornbread mixes.

[3]

Eventually, Williams was ready to launch his products in grocery stores. Initially, Glory Foods were ³⁷ first offered for sale in Ohio in 1992 and soon became available in neighboring states. Within a year, sales were twice the original projections. ^[38]

[4]

The company's African American focus is evident in all aspects of Glory Foods. The firm's headquarters are located in the same black neighborhood where Williams grew up, and the company helps to support several local community projects. The firm also employs African American professional advisers ³⁹ and subcontractors whenever possible and contracts African American farmers to grow much of the produce that goes into Glory Foods. ^[40]

[5]

The company's name reflects this African American focus as well. *Glory* is meant to evoke ⁴¹ both the exultant spirit of gospel churches and the movie during the Civil War ⁴² of the same name, which tells the story of a black regiment. ^[43]

[6]

With twenty full-time employees in its administrative offices, Glory Foods has come a long way from its beginnings. America's dinner tables were ⁴⁴ the beneficiaries of Bill Williams's drive, determination, and culinary expertise.

31.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. whose
- C. that's
- D. that the

32.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. president, and founder Bit! Williams
- H. president and founder Bill Williams,
- J. president and founder, Bill Williams,

33.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. it has
- C. they do
- D. and that they

34.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. his cooking skills were refined
- H. his skill in cooking was refined
- J. the refinement of his cooking skills occurred

35.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. famed, renowned, and notable
- C. luscious-
- D. prestigious

36.

F. NO CHANGE

G. He came up with his idea for a line of Southern-inspired cuisine in 1989,

H. He came up in 1989, with his idea for a line of Southern-inspired cuisine,

J. The idea came to him in 1989, that a line of Southern-inspired cuisine should be marketed,

37.

A. NO CHANGE

B. Glory Foods were

C. They were originally

D. At the outset, the earliest Glory Foods were

38. Given that all of the following sentences are true, which one would most effectively conclude this paragraph?

F. Bill Williams's company continues to refine the recipes of its products.

G. By 1995, Glory Foods were being distributed in twenty-two states.

H. Today, there are several other companies that target their products to African American consumers.

J. Bill Williams, however, sought the advice of food marketing experts.

39.

A. NO CHANGE

B. professional, advisers,

C. professional advisers,

D. professional advisers;

40. The writer is considering deleting the phrases "whenever possible" and "much of" from the preceding sentence.

If the writer were to delete these phrases, would the meaning of the sentence change?

F. Yes, because without these phrases, the reader would think that all of the subcontractors and farmers were African Americans.

G. Yes, because without these phrases, the reader would not know that the company made an attempt to employ African American contractors in the production of its goods.

H. No, because these phrases are examples of wordiness, and they can easily be eliminated from the sentence.

J. No, because although these phrases describe the subcontractors and the farmers and provide interesting detail, they are not essential to the meaning of the sentence.

41.

A. NO CHANGE

B. · at evoking

C. in evoking of

D. OMIT the underlined portion.

42. The best placement for the underlined portion would be:

F. where it is now.

G. after the word *name* (but before the comma).

H. after the word *story*.

J. after the word *regiment* (ending the sentence with a period).

43. At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence: The actor Denzel Washington starred in the film, which earned several awards. Should the writer make this addition?

- A.** Yes, because the additional detail explains why the film *Glory* was so inspiring.
- B.** Yes, because if readers understand that the film *Glory* earned awards, they will also understand why the company was named "Glory Foods."
- C.** No, because the information distracts the reader from the focus of the essay.
- D.** No, because the essay does not say if Bill Williams had ever met the actor Denzel Washington.

44.

- F.** NO CHANGE
- G.** had been
- H.** would have been
- J.** are

Question 45 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.
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45. For the sake of logic and coherence, Paragraph 1 should be placed:

- A.** where it is now.
- B.** after Paragraph 2.
- C.** after Paragraph 3.
- D.** after Paragraph 6.

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Question 31. The best answer is **B** because it correctly uses the relative pronoun *whose* to introduce the clause that describes the company that the narrator admires. The pronoun *whose* indicates possession and is appropriate here.

The best answer is NOT:

A because it uses a contraction (*who's*) instead of the required pronoun (*whose*). The contraction *who's* means "who is" and does not indicate possession.

C because it has a problem that is similar to the one in **A**. It incorrectly uses the contraction *that's*, which means "that is."

D because it creates an unclear statement, and it fails to use the proper relative pronoun *whose* to indicate possession.

Question 32. The best answer is **J** because it provides the best punctuation to set off the appositive "Bill Williams." An appositive is a noun or pronoun that identifies and follows another noun or pronoun. In this sentence, "Bill Williams" identifies "Glory Foods' president and founder." Appositives are set off by commas (except when the apposition is restrictive, such as in the phrase "my sister Sue" when I have three sisters).

The best answer is NOT:

F because it inserts an unnecessary and confusing comma between *president* and *and*. In addition, it fails to set off the appositive with a necessary comma between *founder* and *Bill*.

G because, like **F**, it inserts an unnecessary and confusing comma between *president* and *and*.

H because it fails to set off the appositive by adding the necessary comma between *founder* and *Bill*.

Question 33. The best answer is C because the third-person plural pronoun *they* clearly refers back to the plural noun *foods*.

The best answer is NOT:

A because the singular pronoun *it* has no logical antecedent. An antecedent is the word or phrase to which a pronoun refers. In this sentence, the antecedent *foods* is plural and requires a plural pronoun (*they*).

B because it has the same problem described in **A**.

D because it creates faulty coordination and a confusing statement. The phrase "and that they" does not effectively coordinate with "that while he knows."

Question 34. The best answer is F because it provides the clearest, most concise statement, and it uses modifiers correctly. Note that the pronoun *he* directly follows and correctly modifies the adjective phrase "as a young adult."

The best answer is NOT:

G because it creates a dangling modifier. The phrase "as a young adult" does not logically refer to or modify the noun phrase it precedes ("his cooking skills"). This arrangement of sentence elements results in a confusing statement.

H because although the wording is somewhat different, the problem here, a dangling modifier, is the same as that in **G**. Here, "his skill" is not "a young adult."

J because the problem is much like that in both **G** and **H**. In this statement, "the refinement of his cooking skills" is not "a young adult."

Question 35. The best answer is D because it is the dearest and most concise statement.

The writer logically describes the Culinary Institute of America as "prestigious."

The best answer is NOT:

A because it is redundant. That is, it repeats the same idea twice: *prestigious* and *acclaimed* mean the same thing.

B because it, too, is redundant. It repeats the same idea three times: *famed*, *renowned*, and *notable* all have similar meanings.

C because the adjective *luscious* makes no sense in this context. Food might be "luscious," but an institute would not be.

Question 36. The best answer is G because the sentence parts are arranged in a logical order so that they modify the appropriate elements. This results in the clearest word order for this sentence.

The best answer is NOT:

F because the clauses are put together in a way that confuses the reader. The noun phrase "a line of Southern-inspired cuisine" doesn't connect logically with the noun and the clause that immediately follows it - "a time when there were no convenience foods designed for African American consumers."

H because it is ambiguous. It is unclear what is meant by the opening clause "He came up in 1989."

J because, like **F**, it strings clauses together in a confusing way.

Question 37. The best answer is B because it creates the clearest, most logical, and most concise statement. This is another case (like question 35) where the least wordy choice is best.

The best answer is NOT:

A because it is redundant. It repeats the same idea twice. The introductory word *Initially* is redundant because the sentence later states that "Glory Foods were *first* offered for sale in Ohio in 1992."

C because it is redundant. In this case, the words *originally* and *first* mean the same thing.

D because it is both wordy and redundant. The phrases "At the outset" and "the earliest" both imply the same thing.

Question 38. The best answer is G because it most effectively concludes this paragraph by continuing the theme of Glory Foods' business success. That Glory Foods "were being distributed in twenty-two states" logically follows the information that "sales were twice the original projections."

The best answer is NOT:

F because it changes the topic by discussing recipes instead of the company's success.

H because it shifts to an entirely new topic, that of "several other companies."

J because the use of the word *however* makes this statement illogical. As it is used here, *however* indicates that this sentence is going to contradict the statement in the preceding sentence, but this sentence does not do that.

Question 39. The best answer is A because no punctuation is needed here. The absence of commas makes this the dearest sentence.

The best answer is NOT:

B because it adds unnecessary commas and incorrectly treats "professional, advisors, and subcontractors" as if they were items in a series, but *professional* functions as an adjective modifying the noun *advisors*.

C because the unnecessary comma between the two parts of the compound direct object "advisors and subcontractors" adds confusion to the sentence.

D because it inserts an inappropriate and confusing semicolon between *advisors* and *and*.

Question 40. The best answer is F because without the qualifying phrases the sentence would give the impression that all the subcontractors and farmers were African Americans. These

phrases clarify the writer's point that Glory Foods employs African Americans "whenever possible."

The best answer is NOT:

G because even without the phrases, Paragraph 4 clearly explains Glory Foods' attempt to employ African American contractors.

H because the phrases "whenever possible" and "much of" are not examples of wordiness; rather, they clearly inform the reader.

J because the phrases do not describe the subcontractors or farmers yet they are essential to the meaning of the sentence.

Question 41. The best answer is A because it correctly uses the infinitive form of the verb (*to evoke*) after the verb of intention (*is meant*).

The best answer is NOT:

B because the verb phrase "is meant at evoking" is not an idiom of standard written English and confuses the reader.

C because it is incorrect in a way that is similar to the problem in **B**. The verb phrase "is meant in evoking of" is not idiomatic English and results in an unclear statement.

D because omitting the infinitive *to evoke* also results in a phrase that is not standard written English. The verb *is meant* needs to be followed by an infinitive verb form—in this case *to evoke*.

Question 42. The best answer is J because it is the clearest, most logical statement. The prepositional phrase "during the Civil War" clearly modifies "a black regiment." Modifying phrases should be placed as near as possible to the words they modify, which is why "during the Civil War" is best placed at the end of this sentence.

The best answer is NOT:

F because the phrase "during the Civil War" appears to modify "the movie." This placement wrongly suggests that the movie was filmed and shown during the Civil War. In addition, the phrase "of the same name" appears to modify "the Civil War" instead of "the movie."

G because the phrase "during the Civil War" appears to modify "the same name," which makes no sense.

H because the phrase "during the Civil War" appears to modify "of a black regiment." Again, the resulting statement "which tells the story during the Civil War of a black regiment" reads as though the movie was shown during the war.

Question 43. The best answer is C because it clearly explains why the writer should not add the information about the actor who starred in the film *Glory*. This information is not in keeping with the main point of the paragraph, which is to explain how the company got its name. Adding information about an actor distracts the reader from the focus of the paragraph and the essay as a whole.

The best answer is NOT:

A because it suggests that the sentence belongs in the paragraph when it clearly does not. Information about the actor who starred in *Glory* is not relevant at this point in the essay.

B because it, too, wrongly suggests that the sentence belongs in the paragraph.

D because even though it does indicate that the writer should not add the sentence, the reason given for not making this addition makes no sense. Including additional information saying that Bill Williams had met the actor Denzel Washington would also be irrelevant to the essay.

Question 44. The best answer is **J** because it maintains the present tense (*are*). Notice that present tense is used throughout the essay. A tense shift here would be illogical.

The best answer is NOT:

F because it makes an illogical and confusing shift from present tense to past tense.

G because it makes an illogical and confusing shift from present tense to past perfect tense.

H because it makes an illogical and confusing shift from the present tense to the past conditional.

Question 45. The best answer is **A** because it provides the most effective introductory paragraph. This is the best opening for the essay because it introduces the main topic, which is Bill Williams and his company, Glory Foods.

The best answer is NOT:

B because Paragraph 2 would be an ineffective and confusing opening for this essay. Look at its first sentence: "Even as a child, Williams loved to prepare food." The clue that this is not a good opening sentence is that most essays would not begin this abruptly. The reader would not know who this Williams person was.

C because it has the same problem that **B** does. Placing Paragraph 1 after Paragraph 3 makes Paragraph 2 the opening paragraph, but that paragraph begins too abruptly to provide an effective introduction.

D because it is incorrect for the same basic reason that **B** and **C** are.