Reading for the Real World Intro
Midterm Test (Units 1-6)

A. Fill in the blanks with the words in the box.

bizarre	migrate	initiate	superior	client
legitimate	deliberately	manual	infectious	straightforward

1. The common cold is a(n) _____ illness that is caused by a virus.
2. Did the driver hit the fence with his car _____, or was it an accident?
3. People often dream about _____ situations; for example, I once dreamed I was playing basketball on the moon!
4. The solution to Diana's sleep problem is very _____ --she should stop drinking coffee.
5. Nicholas is an excellent web designer who creates a unique and attractive site for every _____.
6. Because your public speaking skills are _____ to mine, you should lead the presentation.
7. Many people _____ from the country to the city in search of jobs.
8. Sometimes students miss class for _____ reasons, such as family emergencies.
9. Commenting on the weather is a common way to _____ a conversation.
10. The _____ for my new electric drill says that the battery takes three hours to charge.

B. Match each word with its definition.

1. clarify	____	a. the amount of crops gathered
2. revolutionary	____	b. to make something as small as possible
3. compact	____	c. difficult to deal with
4. objection	____	d. a medical doctor
5. harvest	____	e. to make something easier to understand
6. minimize	____	f. a reason for disagreeing with or opposing something
7. publish	____	g. smaller than other things of the same kind
8. epidemic	____	h. to prepare and produce (a book, magazine, etc.) for sale
9. tricky	____	i. a situation in which a disease spreads quickly to a lot of people
10. physician	____	j. causing or relating to a great or complete change

C. Read the excerpt from "The Evolution of Music Media." Then answer the questions.

Vinyl records were the first medium for commercial music reproduction. This was the most popular music format from the 1950s until the 1990s. The standard kind of vinyl record was the LP. "LP" stands for "long play," as these were the first records that could continuously play twenty minutes or more of music. Of course, no one could carry LPs around and listen to them on the bus or subway. Record players, or turntables, were too big. So teenagers usually gathered at a friend's house, where they listened to records together. In that way, music was a social activity.

In the 1970s, Sony began selling a revolutionary device: the Walkman. This portable device allowed music lovers to take their music anywhere and listen to it privately—even in public places. The Walkman played compact audiocassette tapes, which were a new kind of music format.

Cassettes lost popularity with the introduction of the compact disc, or CD. CD technology was released in the United States in 1983, but it took until the mid-1990s for this format to dominate the music market. One reason is that CDs and CD players were fairly expensive at first. Also, many people thought vinyl records
had a superior sound. In fact, there are still some LP enthusiasts who prefer listening to records.

1. Circle T for true or F for false.
LPs could play more music than any previous kind of record. **T** **F**

2. Which is NOT stated about the Walkman?
   a. It could be used by people outside their homes.
   b. It was the only device that could play audiocassettes.
   c. It first appeared in the 1970s.
   d. It allowed people to listen to music privately.

3. What can be inferred about CD players from the passage?
   a. They were not sold outside the US until the 1990s.
   b. They could play more than one music medium.
   c. They did not sound as good as audiocassettes.
   d. They were cheaper in the 90s than in the 80s.

D. Read the excerpt from "Pollution in Our Bodies." Then answer the questions.

Everyone knows about pollution in the environment. The water, air, and land are all polluted, which means that pollution is everywhere. Recently, scientists have been looking inside human beings to learn about body pollution.

In 2015, a team of Spanish scientists tested body tissue from nearly 300 adults. They measured the amount of certain pollutants in these tissues. The results of the study were worrying: the adults with the most pollutants in their bodies were more likely to be obese. They had higher levels of cholesterol, a major risk factor for heart disease, as well. Another study from 2003 found that people had an average of fifty-three cancer-causing chemicals in their bodies. They also had an average of sixty-two chemicals that can damage the brain and fifty-five that can harm babies in pregnant women. In many cases, the amounts of these chemicals were so small that they were probably not hurting people. Nonetheless, scientists are concerned because most of these substances were created by humans, and they did not exist eighty years ago. This proves that we have not only polluted the world—we have polluted our own bodies! But how?

Pollutants commonly enter our bodies through food, especially fish and meat. Chemicals from the environment build up in the fat of animals, and then they enter our bodies when we consume those animals. But we also come into contact with harmful substances in products like soap and shampoo. For example, many shampoos contain DEA (diethanolamine) and TEA (triethanolamine). These chemicals may seep into the skin and then prevent the absorption of a helpful nutrient called choline. Choline plays an important role in producing the brain's memory cells, especially in young people. Researchers worry that when kids are washing their hair, they could be erasing their memories!

1. Circle T for true or F for false.
Scientists have been studying body pollution for a long time. **T** **F**

2. Which of the following is NOT true, according to the passage?
a. The Spanish scientists tested obese adults for over 300 different pollutants.
b. The 2003 study found that the average person's body contains cancer-causing chemicals.
c. Many of the chemicals that pollute our bodies are not dangerous in small amounts.
d. Most of the chemicals in the 2003 study were invented by people fairly recently.

3. The word they in the last paragraph refers to _____.
a. fish and meat
b. animals
c. chemicals
d. bodies

E. Read the excerpt from "Living Near Volcanoes." Then answer the questions.

Why do people live near volcanoes? There are logical reasons. They might live there because the volcano is beautiful or because a large city already exists there. In many countries, people migrate to cities to find employment. They don't worry about volcanoes; they are trying to feed their families. Some people also live near volcanoes because the land provides farmers with good harvests. Volcanoes release ash from the earth, and the ash contains nutrients that increase soil fertility. Whatever the reason, most people who live around a volcano probably do not realize how hazardous it can be.

"Volcanoes and their surrounding environment are beautiful places to live, work, and recreate, and the number of people moving into volcanic hazard zones is increasing in post-industrial as well as developing countries," said C. Dan Miller, chief of the US Geological Survey's Volcano Disaster Assistance Program. Miller offered southern Italy as an example.

Mt. Vesuvius is located right on the edge of Naples, and it has a 2,000-year history of eruptions. Yet, there are 3.75 million people living within a thirty-kilometer radius of the summit. "What would these people do if Vesuvius erupted again?" Miller wonders. "No one can imagine evacuating a city the size of Naples."

One of the world's most legendary volcanoes is Mt. Etna in Sicily. Sicily is an island in the Mediterranean Sea with more than 5 million inhabitants who are generally proud to be living near such a famous volcano. Mt. Etna has been very active over recent years, with eruptions nearly every year, but the eruptions are calm enough to attract countless tourists wanting to see a "safe" active volcano. These eruptions are beautiful to watch, and observers are rarely hurt. Sicilians call Etna a "good mountain." They compare the volcano to a mother because it has bestowed on them such a good life. In fact, many people who live near Etna call themselves "Etneans."

1. Circle T for true or F for false.
One reason people move near volcanoes is to get jobs. **T** **F**

2. Which of the following is true, according to the passage?
a. More people are moving near volcanoes in both advanced and developing nations.
b. C. Dan Miller does not believe that the people of Naples are in any danger.
c. The city of Naples has had to be evacuated repeatedly in recent years.
d. People are not allowed to live less than thirty kilometers from Vesuvius.

3. The word bestowed in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
a. lived
b. wanted
c. gave
d. knew

Intro Mid Test Answer Keys

A.

1. infectious
2. deliberately
3. bizarre
4. straightforward
5. client
6. superior
7. migrate
8. legitimate
9. initiate
10. manual

B.

1. e
2. j
3. g
4. f
5. a
6. b
7. h
8. i
9. c
10. d

C.

1. T 2. b 3. d

D.

1. F 2. a 3. c

E.

1. T 2. a 3. c