

SAMPLE 1

Careers Passage with Graphic

A Life in Traffic

A subway system is expanded to provide service to a growing suburb. A bike-sharing program is adopted to encourage nonmotorized transportation. **1** To alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area, stoplight timing is coordinated. When any of these changes **2** occur, it is likely the result of careful analysis conducted by transportation planners.

1

Which choice best maintains the sentence pattern already established in the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Coordinating stoplight timing can help alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area.
- C) Stoplight timing is coordinated to alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area.
- D) In a congested downtown area, stoplight timing is coordinated to alleviate rush hour traffic jams.

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) occur, they are
- C) occurs, they are
- D) occurs, it is

The work of transportation planners generally includes evaluating current transportation needs, assessing the effectiveness of existing facilities, and improving those facilities or **3** they design new ones. Most transportation planners work in or near cities, **4** but some are employed in rural areas. Say, for example, a large factory is built on the outskirts of a small town. Traffic to and from the location would increase at the beginning and end of work shifts. The transportation **5** planner's job, might involve conducting a traffic count to determine the daily number of vehicles traveling on the road to the new factory. If analysis of the traffic count indicates that there is more traffic than the **6** current road as it is designed at this time can efficiently accommodate, the transportation planner might recommend widening the road to add another lane.

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) to design
- C) designing
- D) design

4

Which choice results in the most effective transition to the information that follows in the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) where job opportunities are more plentiful.
- C) and the majority are employed by government agencies
- D) DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) planner's job
- C) planners job,
- D) planners job

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) current design of the road right now
- C) road as it is now currently designed
- D) current design of the road

Transportation planners work closely with a number of community stakeholders, such as government officials and other interested organizations and individuals.

7 Next, representatives from the local public health department might provide input in designing a network of trails and sidewalks to encourage people to walk more. 8 According to the American Heart Association, walking provides numerous benefits related to health and well-being.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce might share suggestions about designing transportation and parking facilities to support local businesses.

7

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) For instance,
- C) Furthermore,
- D) Similarly,

8

The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the sentence be kept or deleted?

- A) Kept, because it provides supporting evidence about the benefits of walking.
- B) Kept, because it provides an additional example of a community stakeholder with whom transportation planner work
- C) Deleted, because it blurs the paragraph's focus on the community stakeholders with whom transportation planners work.
- D) Deleted, because it doesn't provide specific examples of what the numerous benefits of walking are.

9 People who pursue careers in transportation planning have a wide variety of backgrounds. A two-year degree in transportation technology may be sufficient for some entry-level jobs in the field. Most jobs, however, require at least a bachelor's degree; majors of transportation planners are 10 varied, including fields such as urban studies, civil engineering, geography, or transportation and logistics management. For many positions in the field, a master's degree is required.

9

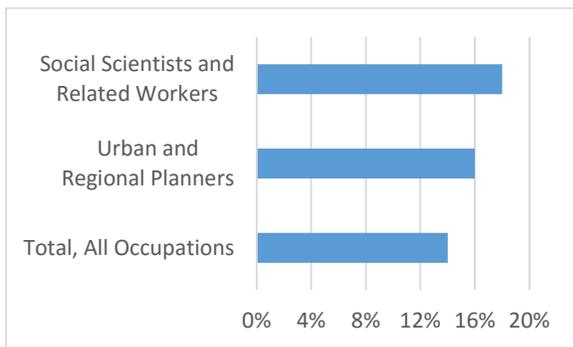
- A) NO CHANGE
- B) People, who pursue careers in transportation planning,
- C) People who pursue careers, in transportation planning,
- D) People who pursue careers in transportation planning,

10

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) varied, and including
- C) varied and which include
- D) varied, which include

Transportation planners perform critical work within the broader field of urban and regional planning. As of 2010, there were approximately 40,300 urban and regional planners employed in the United States. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts steady job growth in this field, **11** projecting that 16 percent of new jobs in all occupations will be related to urban and regional planning. Population growth and concerns about environmental sustainability are expected to spur the need for transportation planning professionals.

Urban and Regional Planners
Percent Increase in Employment, 2010 – 2020



Adapted from *United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections Program*. “All occupations” includes all occupations in the United States economy.

11

Which choice completes the sentence with accurate data based on the graph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) warning, however, that job growth in urban and regional planning will slow to 14 percent by 2020.
- C) predicting that employment of urban and regional planners will increase 16 percent between 2010 and 2020.
- D) indicating that 14 to 18 percent of urban and regional planning positions will remain unfilled.

Answers:

1) C

2) D

3) C

4) A

5) B

6) D

7) B

8) C

9) A

10) A

11) C

For a detailed explanation of each question in this passage, see pp. 157 – 164 of *The Official SAT Study Guide*.