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. To alleviate rush hour traffic jams in a congested downtown area, stoplight timing is coordinated. When any one of these changes occur, it is likely the result of careful analysis conducted by transportation planners.

The work of transportation planners generally includes evaluating current transportation needs, assessing the effectiveness of existing facilities, and improving those facilities or designing new ones. Most transportation planners work in or near cities, 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 that location would increase at the beginning and end of work shifts. The transportation 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 current road as it is designed at this time can efficiently accommodate, the transportation planner might recommend widening the road to add another lane.

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

People who pursue careers in transportation planning have a wide variety of educational 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 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.

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, 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.

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) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) occur, they are
C) occurs, they are
D) occurs, it is
3) Go to the referred part in the passage
   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) Go to the referred part in the passage
   A) NO CHANGE
   B) planner’s job
   C) planners job,
   D) planners job

6) Go to the referred part in the passage
   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

7) Go to the referred part in the passage
   A) NO CHANGE
   B) For instance,
   C) Furthermore,
   D) Similarly,

8) Go to the referred part in the passage
   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 planners 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) Go to the referred part in the passage
   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) Go to the referred part in the passage
    A) NO CHANGE
    B) varied, and including
    C) varied and which include
    D) varied, which include
11) Go to the referred part in the passage
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.

Dong Kingman: Painter of Cities

A 1954 documentary about renowned watercolor painter Dong Kingman shows the artist sitting on a stool on Mott Street in New York City’s Chinatown. A crowd of admiring spectators watched as Kingman squeezes dollops of paint from several tubes into a tin watercolor box, from just a few primary colors, Kingman creates dozens of beautiful hues as he layers the translucent paint onto the paper on his easel. Each stroke of the brush and dab of the sponge transforms thinly sketched outlines into buildings, shop signs, and streetlamps. The street scene Kingman begins composing in this short film is very much in keeping with the urban landscapes for which he is best known.

[1] Kingman was keenly interested in landscape painting from an early age. [2] In Hong Kong, where Kingman completed his schooling, teachers at that time customarily assigned students a formal “school name.” [3] His interest was so keen, in fact, that he was named after it. [4] The young boy who had been Dong Moy Shu became Dong Kingman. [5] The name Kingman was selected for its two parts, “king” and “man”; Cantonese for “scenery” and “composition.” [6] As Kingman developed as a painter, his works were often compared to paintings by Chinese landscape artists dating back to CE 960, a time when a strong tradition of landscape painting emerged in Chinese art. [7] Kingman, however, vacated from that tradition in a number of ways, most notably in that he chose to focus not on natural landscapes, such as mountains and rivers, but on cities.

18 His fine brushwork conveys detailed street-level activity: a peanut vendor pushing his cart on the sidewalk, a pigeon pecking for crumbs around a fire hydrant, an old man tending to a baby outside a doorway. His broader brush strokes and sponge-painted shapes create majestic city skylines, with skyscrapers towering in the background, bridges connecting neighborhoods on either side of a river, and delicately painted creatures, such as a tiny, barely visible cat prowling in the bushes of a park. To art critics and fans alike, these city scenes represent the innovative spirit of twentieth-century urban Modernism.

During his career, Kingman exhibited his work internationally. He garnered much acclaim. In 1936, a critic described one of Kingman’s solo exhibits as “twenty of the freshest, most satisfying watercolors that have been seen hereabouts in many a day.”

12) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) had watched
C) would watch
D) watches

13) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) box. From just a few primary colors,
C) box from just a few primary colors,
D) box, from just a few primary colors
14) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) parts: “king” and “man,”
C) parts “king” and “man”;
D) parts; “king” and “man”

15) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) Chinese landscape artists
C) painters of Chinese landscapes
D) artists

16) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) evacuated
C) departed
D) retired

17) Go to the referred part in the passage
To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 3 should be placed
A) where it is now.
B) before sentence 1.
C) after sentence 1.
D) after sentence 4.

18) Go to the referred part in the passage
Which choice most effectively establishes the main topic of the paragraph?
A) Kingman is considered a pioneer of the California Style school of painting.
B) Although cities were his main subject, Kingman did occasionally paint natural landscapes.
C) In his urban landscapes, Kingman captures the vibrancy of crowded cities.
D) In 1929 Kingman moved to Oakland, California, where he attended the Fox Art School.

19) Go to the referred part in the passage
A) NO CHANGE
B) hydrant—
C) hydrant:
D) hydrant

20) Go to the referred part in the passage
The writer wants to complete the sentence with a third example of a detail Kingman uses to create his majestic city skylines. Which choice best accomplishes this goal?
A) NO CHANGE
B) exquisitely lettered street and storefront signs.
C) other details that help define Kingman’s urban landscapes.
D) enormous ships docking at busy urban ports.

21) Go to the referred part in the passage
Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?
A) internationally, and Kingman also garnered
B) internationally; from exhibiting, he garnered
C) internationally but garnered
D) internationally, garnering
22) Go to the referred part in the passage
The writer wants to conclude the passage with a sentence that emphasizes an enduring legacy of Kingman’s work. Which choice would best accomplish this goal?
A) Although Kingman’s work might not be as famous as that of some other watercolor painters, such as Georgia O’Keeffe and Edward Hopper, it is well regarded by many people.
B) Since Kingman’s death in 2000, museums across the United States and in China have continued to ensure that his now-iconic landscapes remain available for the public to enjoy.
C) The urban landscapes depicted in Kingman’s body of work are a testament to aptness of the name chosen for Kingman when he was just a boy.
D) Kingman’s work was but one example of a long-lasting tradition refreshed by an innovative artist with a new perspective.