

## Evaluate and Extend Meaning: Generalization, Genre, Apply Passage Elements I

Read the information presented below to answer questions 1 through 5.

### Hypertension

Healthcare workers warn that hypertension, commonly known as high blood pressure, is the most prevalent health problem among adults in America today. Research shows that 1 out of 4 adults have symptoms of hypertension but many of them do not know it. High blood pressure is the leading cause of disability or death due to stroke, heart attack, heart failure, and kidney failure. Research studies have documented this relationship repeatedly. The "silent killer" is another name for hypertension because the patient may have no symptoms that indicate a problem. Therefore, the patients may become seriously ill before they realize they have a problem.

On a more positive side, the same research that documents the connection between hypertension and these serious illnesses encourages us that many people can control their hypertension with diet and exercise. However, reports indicate that only 1 in 3 patients with hypertension have it under control.

#### Categories for Blood Pressure Levels in Adults (Ages 18 Years and Older)

Category	Blood Pressure Level (mm Hg)	
	Systolic	Diastolic
Optimal	< 120	< 80
Normal	< 130	< 85
High Normal	130-139	85-89
High Blood Pressure		
Stage 1	140-159	90-99
Stage 2	160-179	100-109
Stage 3	≥ 180	≥ 110

<b>Legend</b> < means less than ≥ means greater than or equal to
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SOURCE: NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE (NHLBI)

Now choose the best answer to questions 1 – 5.

1. The author's purpose for writing this passage was probably to
  - A. Scare people
  - B. Persuade people to get treatment
  - C. Inform people
  - D. Refute research studies

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2. Which of the following statements is a valid generalization? Because hypertension:
- A. Is the most prevalent health problem among American adults and I am an American adult, I have hypertension
  - B. Is a silent killer so we should have our blood pressure checked periodically
  - C. Can be controlled with diet and exercise, I'll never be able to eat ice cream again
  - D. Is a silent killer and my blood pressure is high, I am going to die
3. Based on information in the passage, we can infer that
- A. Hypertension kills more people than heart attacks
  - B. If you have hypertension, you'll know it
  - C. Minimal research has been conducted on hypertension
  - D. Most people with hypertension do not have it under control
4. "Hypertension is the most *prevalent* health problem among adults today." The word *prevalent* means
- A. Difficult
  - B. Controllable
  - C. Preventable
  - D. Common
5. Why is hypertension often called the "silent killer?"
- A. There may be few symptoms
  - B. People don't like to talk about it
  - C. It causes sudden death
  - D. It cannot be controlled

**Use information in the chart to answer Questions 6 – 8.**

6. In the chart, The symbol  $\geq$  means "greater than or equal to" so we can conclude that
- A. 180/110 is as high as your blood pressure reading can go
  - B. 180 is a good systolic reading
  - C. 180/110 is a seriously high blood pressure reading
  - D. 90 is a good diastolic reading
7. Based on information in the chart, we can conclude that a patient with a systolic reading of 100 and a diastolic reading of 70
- A. Does not have hypertension
  - B. Should seek medical attention
  - C. Probably has hypertension and doesn't know it
  - D. Will never have hypertension

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8. According to the chart, at what stage is a person with a systolic reading of 178?
- A. Stage 1
  - B. Stage 2
  - C. Stage 3
  - D. Stage 4

**Use information in the following quote to answer question 9**

"Tomorrow is just an idea  
But today is happening right now"  
--Anonymous

**Now answer question 9.**

9. The writer's tone is
- A. Critical
  - B. Solemn
  - C. Optimistic
  - D. Apologetic

**Use information in this selection to answer Questions 10 – 12.**

**An Ode to Fifty Years**

A little house with two bedrooms and one car on the street  
A mower that you had to push to make the grass look neat

In the kitchen, on the wall, we only had one phone  
No need for an answering machine because someone was always home

Weekends were for family trips or staying home to play  
We all did things together; even go to church to pray

Sometimes we went off to do things on our own  
We knew where to find each other without a cell phone

This life seemed so much easier and slower in some ways  
I love the new technology but I sure miss the good ol' days

Time moves on and so do we because nothing stays the same  
I sure do love to reminisce and walk down memory lane

--Anonymous

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- 10.** The writer's technique for remembering the past shows feelings of
- A. Enthusiasm
  - B. Nostalgia
  - C. Irreverence
  - D. Indifference
- 11.** The title tells us that the writer is probably
- A. At least one-half a century old
  - B. A young adult
  - C. A teenager
  - D. A grandparent
- 12.** The best meaning for the word Ode as it is used in the title is a
- A. Story
  - B. Poem
  - C. Biography
  - D. Narrative
- 13.** Students generalized their experiences to arrive at these conclusions. Identify the valid generalization
- A. I studied hard for my psychology test yesterday but I still made a D so I am not going to study for my math and English tests.
  - B. A couple of my friends got new cars when they graduated from college so I am sure I will get a new car when I graduate.
  - C. Three of the students that were at the party last night did not feel like going to class today so I am not going to class either.
  - D. All of the students that ate lunch in the cafeteria today were sick within four hours after they ate lunch so we will not eat in the cafeteria tomorrow.

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**Answer Key**

1. C

2. B

3. D

4. D

5. A

6. C

7. A

8. B

9. C

10. B

11. A

12. B

13. D

**Evaluate and Extend Meaning: Generalization, Genre, Apply Passage Elements I**

**READING TEST 1**

**Pre-Test**

**Subskill: Evaluate/Extend Meaning: Generalization, Genre, Apply Passage Elements**

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**READABILITY LEVELS**

**Total test – 10.6**

**Major passage – 12.0**

**SKILLS**

- 1. Purpose (Passage Elements)**
- 2. Generalization**
- 3. Inference (Passage Elements)**
- 4. Vocabulary in Context**
- 5. Cause / Effect (Passage Elements)**
- 6. Interpretation / Conclusion (Chart)**
- 7. Interpretation / Conclusion (Chart)**
- 8. Fact (Chart)**
- 9. Tone (Genre)**
- 10. Tone (Genre)**
- 11. Inference (Genre)**
- 12. Vocabulary in Context (Genre)**
- 13. Generalization**