English Assessment Practice 5

<u>Directions</u>: The passages that follow consist of underlined words and phrases in context and questions about them. Read each passage. For each question, read the four responses and choose the best response. If the original response is the best one, choose NO CHANGE.

[1]

Ray Bradbury, widely acknowledged as one of

America's <u>most great</u> creative geniuses, was born in
₁

the small Midwestern <u>town of Waukegan, Illinois</u> in
₂

1920. Between 1926 and 1933, <u>the Bradburys</u> moved
₃

between Waukegan and Tucson, Arizona, and settled

permanently in Los Angeles in 1934.

[2]

While attending Los Angeles High School, <u>the</u>

<u>theater began to interest Ray,</u> and <u>he hopes</u> one day to
₄   ₅

become a professional actor. Two of Ray's English

teachers recognized his writing talent and encouraged

him to focus on composing poetry and <u>short story</u>
₆

<u>writing</u> instead of acting.

1. A. NO CHANGE
    B. greater most
    C. greatest
    D. more great

2. F. NO CHANGE
    G. town, of Waukegan, Illinois,
    H. town of Waukegan, Illinois,
    J. town of Waukegan Illinois

3. A. NO CHANGE
    B. the Bradbury's
    C. the Bradburys'
    D. Bradbury's

4. F. NO CHANGE
    G. the theater became of interest to Ray,
    H. Ray became interested in the theater,
    J. Ray began interest in the theater,

5. A. NO CHANGE
    B. he hoped
    C. his hopes
    D. his hope is

6. F. NO CHANGE
    G. to write short stories
    H. the writing of short stories
    J. writing short stories

[3]

<u>However,</u> Bradbury began to consider a career as a
     ₇

writer, <u>joined</u> the Los Angeles Science Fiction
        ₈

League and the Poetry Club at his school. In 1938,

the year Ray graduated from high school, his first

published short story <u>appears</u> in an amateur fan
                      ₉

magazine, *Imagination!*

[4]

The next year, Bradbury published four issues of

<u>their own</u> fan magazine, *Futuria Fantasia*, <u>which</u> he
   ₁₀   ₁₁

wrote many of the stories. After the publication of

The Martian Chronicles in 1950, Bradbury became

<u>well known wide</u> as a leader in the genre of science
        ₁₂

fiction.

7. A. NO CHANGE
    B. Similarly,
    C. Nevertheless,
    D. As a result,

8. F. NO CHANGE
    G. joining
    H. joins
    J. he joined

9. A. NO CHANGE
    B. appearing
    C. appeared
    D. had appeared

10. F. NO CHANGE
    G. his own
    H. it, his
    J. their

11. A. NO CHANGE
    B. for which
    C. in which
    D. OMIT

12. F. NO CHANGE
    G. known wide
    H. well known widely
    J. widely known

[5]

Since the book is set on the planet Mars, it is as much
   ‾‾13

a work of social criticism as it is a work of science

fiction. Its themes and conflicts reflects the
                              ‾‾‾‾‾‾14

anxieties and concerns of Americans in the 1950s,

including the threat of nuclear war, fearing foreign
                                     ‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾
                                          15
powers, and the issues of racism and censorship.
‾‾‾‾‾‾

13. A. NO CHANGE
    B. However,
    C. Because
    D. Although

14. F. NO CHANGE
    G. reflecting
    H. reflect
    J. reflected

15. A. NO CHANGE
    B. the fears of foreign powers
    C. the foreign powers who were
       fearful
    D. the fear of foreign powers

16. Suppose the writer had intended to
    write a brief passage that gave an
    overview of Ray Bradbury's
    development as a writer. Would this
    passage successfully fulfill the
    writer's goal?
    F. Yes, because the passage
       emphasizes that Bradbury's talent
       was recognized when he was still
       quite young.
    G. Yes, because the passage traces
       Bradbury's writing career from
       its beginning to the point where
       he became a recognized leader of
       his genre.
    H. No, because the passage digresses
       unnecessarily into details of
       Bradbury's earliest years with his
       family.
    J. No, because the passage focuses
       more on the genre of science
       fiction than on Bradbury himself.

17. Which choice would be the most
    effective introductory sentence for
    Section 2?
    A. NO CHANGE
    B. Ray attended Los Angeles High
       School, a school many famous
       people have attended.
    C. At Los Angeles High School, Ray
       took the usual academic subjects,
       including English.
    D. Many students, like Ray, receive
       valuable life guidance from their
       teachers.

25