CONCEPT REVIEW

1. In your own words, write down what an inference is.

2. In your own words, explain how to arrive at an inference. What specific things do you use and consider in order to make inferences from texts?

3. List the steps you must take in order to read graphs or tables and make inferences based upon them.
EXERCISES

Passage 1

(1) Mutual attraction may get us into a love relationship, but it is not the determining factor in making the relationship grow and last. (2) Two factors that make relationships endure have to do with expectations and equity. (3) When two people first fall in love, they often enjoy a mixture of romantic, sexual, and other intense feelings of love. (4) In healthy, lasting relationships this passionate love gradually shifts into compassionate love, which blends friendship, intimacy, commitment, and security. (5) If both people in the relationship anticipate and welcome this shift, the transition is managed comfortably. (6) Expectations are aligned with reality. (7) If not, the relationship can become troubled or even end because of this surprise about the nature of love or any number of other unrealistic expectations that can occur. (8) In addition, each person in the relationship needs to experience a balance between what he/she puts into the relationship and what he/she gets out of it. (9) Each needs to feel that neither too little nor too much is received when compared with what is given. (10) This equity helps make for a happy relationship.

4. We can infer that the author of this passage believes:
   a. romantic love can be damaging to a relationship.
   b. the happiest couples are not physically attracted to one another.
   c. physical attraction is often strongest early in a relationship.

5. We can conclude that the author of this passage:
   a. has learned through personal experience about the uncertainties in relationships.
   b. believes that realism about love increases the chance of happiness.
   c. believes that love inevitably fades after people have been together a long time.

6. We can infer from this passage that the author believes:
   a. the changes that people in love go through are sad, but inevitable.
   b. compassionate love can be richly rewarding.
   c. people should change partners when feelings of romantic love fade.

7. We can conclude from the author’s remarks that:
   a. ideally, people in a relationship will enjoy both giving and receiving.
   b. a person who really wants a relationship to succeed will ignore his or her own needs.
   c. there is no such thing as receiving too much from a partner.
8. Choose the inference supported by Chart 1.
   a. About a third of the real-world population is female.
   b. About a third of the characters on prime-time TV are females.
   c. TV producers must feel that prime-time audiences are more interested in women than in men.

9. Choose the inference supported by Chart 1.
   a. Almost all of the people in TV dramas drink alcohol.
   b. TV producers probably feel that married life is less interesting to prime-time viewers than single life.
   c. The suggestion of sex among single people is avoided on prime-time television.
   d. Prime-time TV dramas are a mirror of real life in America.

10. Write down two of your own inferences based on Chart 1, and state how the chart supports those inferences.
Passage 2

(1) Humans are characterized by both biologically and socially determined wants. (2) We seek food, clothing, shelter, and the many goods and services associated with a comfortable or affluent standard of living. (3) We are also blessed with aptitudes and surrounded by quantities of property resources—both natural and manufactured. (4) We use available human and property resources—labor and managerial talents, tools and machinery, land and mineral deposits—to produce goods and services which satisfy material wants. (5) This is done through the organizational mechanism we call the economic system.

(6) Quantitative considerations, however, rule out an ideal solution. (7) The blunt fact is that the total of all our material wants is beyond the productive capacity of available resources. (8) Thus, absolute material abundance is not possible. (9) This unyielding fact is the basis for our definition of economics: economics is concerned with the efficient use or management of limited productive resources to achieve maximum satisfaction of human material wants. (10) Though it may not be self-evident, all the headline-grabbing issues of the day—inflation, unemployment, health care problems, government and international trade deficits, free-trade agreements among nations, poverty and inequality, pollution, and government regulation of business—are rooted in the one issue of using limited resources efficiently.

11. We can infer from the textbook passage that

a. the "biologically . . . determined wants" in paragraph 1 include cars.

b. the "biologically . . . determined wants" in paragraph 1 include food.

c. "socially determined wants" might include sunshine.

12. We can infer from the textbook passage that

a. economics is based on absolute material abundance.

b. economics is based on the need to manage limited resources.

c. economics can lead to an ideal solution to resource management.

d. economic issues are rarely discussed in newspapers.