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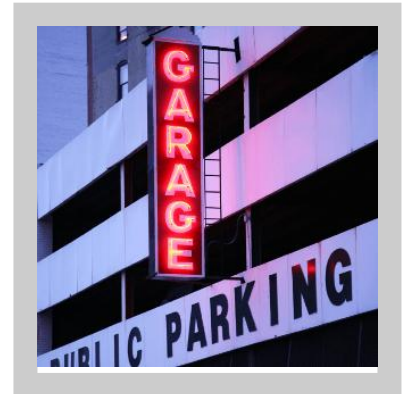
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A New Parking Garage

There is a plan to build a new parking garage downtown. To build it, the city will have to cut down seven large elm trees that are over fifty years old. Some people in town are protesting the decision to build the parking garage at this location. They do not want these trees to be cut down.

On the other hand, people argue that this is the only location that will work. It is the only piece of land large enough for a parking garage and close to downtown. The city needs more parking spaces. As it is, people who work or do business downtown sometimes have to park in nearby neighborhoods and walk.

One option would be to build the parking garage at this location and plant a new tree for every tree cut down. If seven trees were cut down, but seven new trees planted, the city could have a new parking garage without reducing the total number of trees downtown.



1) Based on its use in paragraph 1, it can be understood that the word **protesting** belongs to which of the following word groups?

- A. fighting, warring, battling
- B. disapproving, objecting, challenging
- C. questioning, investigating, wondering
- D. complaining, yelling, shouting

2) People who support building the parking garage at this location argue that it is

- A. necessary
- B. harmless
- C. interesting
- D. helpful

3) In paragraph 2, we learn that people argue that downtown is the only location that will work to build the new parking garage. People say that because this location is

- A. inexpensive and close to downtown
- B. inexpensive and available
- C. large enough and close to downtown
- D. large enough and available

4) In the final paragraph, the author

- A. takes a side
- B. makes a decision
- C. teaches a lesson
- D. offers a solution

5) Do you think the city should build the parking garage? Why or why not?

Answers and Explanations

1) B

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

protest (*verb*): to express objection or disapproval.

In paragraph 1, the author writes, “Some people in town are protesting the decision to build the parking garage at this location.” To understand the meaning of the word protesting, it is helpful to look at the context surrounding this sentence. Before this sentence, the author explains that to build the parking garage, “the city will have to cut down seven large elm trees that are over fifty years old.” After this sentence, the author explains that the people who are protesting this decision “do not want these trees to be cut down.” This tells us that the people who are protesting disapprove of the decision to build the parking garage at this location because they do not want these trees cut down. This means that protesting belongs to the word group *disapproving, objecting, challenging*.

Therefore **(B)** is correct.

While the people protesting the decision disapprove of the decision, we do not know if they are actually fighting the decision. This means that protesting does not belong to the word group *fighting, warring, battling*. This makes **(A)** incorrect.

The people who are protesting are doing more than just *questioning, investigating, or wondering*

about this decision. They disapprove of it. This eliminates **(C)**.

Although sometimes people who are protesting may also be *complaining, yelling, or shouting*, the passage does not provide information to suggest these people are yelling or shouting. This means

(D) is incorrect.

2) A

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In paragraph 2, the author writes, “Other people argue that this is the only location that will work. It is the only piece of land large enough for a parking garage and close to downtown. The city needs more parking spaces.” This tells us that people who support building the parking garage at this location believe that it has to be in this location, because this is the only place “large enough” and “close to downtown.” Furthermore, they believe that a parking garage must be built because the city does not have enough parking spaces. They argue that the garage must be built and it must be built at this location. Since they argue that it must be done, we can understand that people who support building the parking garage at this location argue that it is necessary. Therefore **(A)** is correct.

The people who support building the parking garage do not claim that cutting down seven trees is harmless. They only say that the parking garage is necessary. This means **(B)** is incorrect.

Although the people who support building the parking garage at this location may think that it is interesting, they argue that it is more than just interesting. It is necessary. This makes **(C)** incorrect.

Although the people who support building the parking garage at this location may think that it is helpful to do so, they argue that it is more than just helpful. It is necessary. This makes **(D)** incorrect.

3) C

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

To answer this detail question correctly, we need to find where the author discusses why some people say this is the only location that will work in the passage. A good way to do this is to scan the topic sentence of each paragraph, since this sentence will likely tell us what information can be found in the rest of that paragraph. The topic sentence of paragraph 2 reads: "Other people argue that this is the only location that will work." This lets us know that the details we are looking for can likely be found in paragraph 2.

In paragraph 2, the author writes, "Other people argue that this is the only location that will work. It is the only piece of land large enough for a parking garage and close to downtown." This tells us that some people say this is the only location that will work because it is large enough and close to downtown. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

The author does not discuss whether this location is inexpensive or available in the passage. This means choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(D)** are incorrect.

4) D

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In paragraph 1, the author explains that some people "are protesting the decision to build the parking garage at this location" because they do not want "seven large elm trees" to be cut down. In paragraph 2, the author explains that others support building the parking garage, because they argue "that this is the only location that will work" and that "the city needs more parking spaces." Since these two groups of people disagree about what to do, we can understand that there is a problem. In the final paragraph, the author writes, "One option would be to build the parking garage at this location and plant a new tree for every tree cut down." This solution to the problem could make both groups happy, because "if seven trees were cut down, but seven new trees planted, the city could have a new parking garage without reducing the total number of trees downtown." This tells us that in the final paragraph, the author offers a solution. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

Although the author explains the two different sides of the disagreement in the first two paragraphs, he or she does not take a side in the final paragraph. Instead he or she offers a solution that could make both groups happy. This eliminates **(A)**.

While the author offers a suggestion in the final paragraph, he or she does not decide that the city will definitely go forward with this plan. This means that the author does not make a decision. This means **(B)** is incorrect.