TESTLET: English I **Form:** A-TA-E-1 **Difficulty:** Easy **Edition:** A

GOAL/OBJECTIVE	Number of multiple choice items	Average Number Correct
Goal 1: The learner will use strategies and processes that enhance control of communication skills development.	0	
Goal 2: The learner will use language for the acquisition, interpretation, and application of information.	14	6.73
2.1 The learner will identify, collect, or select information and ideas.	4	2.11
2.2 The learner will analyze, synthesize, and organize information and discover related ideas, concepts, or generalizations.	9	4.10
2.3 The learner will apply, extend, or expand on information and concepts.	1	.52
Goal 3: The learner will use language for critical analysis and evaluation.	5	2.28
Total	**19**	**9.01**

Difficulty level depends on average **p-value**: **EASY** is an average p-value equal to or greater than 0.46; **MEDIUM** = 0.40 - 0.46; **HARD** is equal to or less than 0.40.

English I Item Bank Key Sheet

Form	Question No.	Objective	Thinking Skill	Correct Answer	P-Value
A-TA-E-1	1.	2.2	Applying	B	0.55
A-TA-E-1	2.	2.2	Organizing	A	0.71
A-TA-E-1	3.	2.1	Organizing	D	0.63
A-TA-E-1	4.	3.3	Generating	B	0.43
A-TA-E-1	5.	3.1	Evaluating	C	0.56
A-TA-E-1	6.	3.2	Analyzing	D	0.27
A-TA-E-1	7.	3.2	Applying	C	0.59
A-TA-E-1	8.	2.2	Analyzing	D	0.53
A-TA-E-1	9.	2.1	Applying	A	0.62
A-TA-E-1	10.	2.1	Organizing	B	0.56
A-TA-E-1	11.	2.2	Applying	B	0.44
A-TA-E-1	12.	2.3	Analyzing	D	0.52
A-TA-E-1	13.	2.2	Analyzing	C	0.61
A-TA-E-1	14.	2.2	Evaluating	D	0.21
A-TA-E-1	15.	2.2	Applying	B	0.27
A-TA-E-1	16.	2.2	Applying	A	0.33
A-TA-E-1	17.	2.2	Applying	C	0.45
A-TA-E-1	18.	2.1	Knowledge	A	0.30
A-TA-E-1	19.	3.2	Analyzing	D	0.43

Robert Bakker, the author of the popular novel *Raptor Red,* is a paleontologist who is trying to change peoples' perceptions about the misunderstood dinosaur. The following newspaper article is one journalist's account of meeting with Dr. Bakker. Read the article and answer questions 1 through 6.

In his field, Robert Bakker walks alone

by David L. Chandler

Robert T. Bakker is building to the climax of his talk before a rapt crowd of children and adults at a Chestnut Hill bookstore. Suddenly, he whips out a knife-sharp claw, as long as his hand, brandishes it in the air, then swipes playfully with it toward a kid in the front row. Everyone gasps.

The claw is a replica cast from the talon of one of the fiercest creatures of all Earth's history, the 20-foot Utahraptor—the real-life counterpart of the terrifying velociraptors in the final scene of Steven Spielberg's "Jurassic Park."

Bakker identifies with Utahraptor and its kin—so much so that he recently wrote [*Raptor Red*] a novel that is told from the raptor's point of view. He thinks predatory dinosaurs have been maligned too long and need a more positive image.

There is probably no one better equipped to pull that off.

Bakker is considered by many paleontologists to be one of the most brilliant minds in the field, and he has probably done more than any other scientist to increase public awareness of dinosaurs and revolutionize their image. He was the only real scientist mentioned by name in "Jurassic Park," starred in the videogame, and has appeared on countless television programs.

With his controversial theories, his unconventional style and his sometimes confrontational manner, Bakker is about as welcome among some paleontologists as a raptor in the kitchen. But others credit him with revitalizing a field that had been almost moribund.

The breadth of his appeal can be measured in part by the range of people who are fascinated by his ideas. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, for example, recently called Bakker, gushing effusively about his new book as well as his first one, "The Dinosaur Heresies." And at a book-signing at a Barnes and Noble store in Chestnut Hill, Joe Perry (lead guitarist of Aerosmith) and Scott Weiland (lead singer of the Stone Temple Pilots), patiently stood in line for more than a half-hour to get Bakker's autograph. (In the spellbound crowd of dinosaur fans who had listened to Bakker's talk and watched him brandish the Utahraptor claw, nobody even noticed the rock stars).

Among other paleontologists, opinions are more mixed.

"I think he's one of the brightest paleontologists alive," said Steven Stanley, a Johns Hopkins University paleobiologist. "He has transformed people's view of dinosaurs."

Stanley was a graduate student at Yale while Bakker was doing his undergraduate studies there. "He was a brilliant guy," he said. "He just stood out." Even as an undergraduate, Bakker was beginning to work on the revolutionary theory that was to cement his reputation: that, contrary to the conventional view of dinosaurs as sluggish, stupid and cold-blooded, they were actually fast-moving, alert, smart, warm-blooded and nurturing. That view has now taken hold, and museum exhibits around the country have been rebuilt to reflect the new understanding. . . .

Part of [Bakker's] motivation for writing [*Raptor Red*], he said, was that in virtually all portrayals of dinosaurs so far, in books and movies, "the dinosaur is coming at you, and you're the terrified prey. . . You get the impression that these are nothing but unthinking eating machines." He wanted to convey what he calls the noble qualities of these fierce beasts.

"People now identify with wolves," he pointed out. "Raptors should be easy to

identify with," having traits that most people would find admirable, including intelligence, nurturing, and—in his fictionalized view, at least—great loyalty to their lifelong mates.

"Being a top predator is difficult," Bakker said. Many fossils of top predators such as Utahraptor or *Tyrannosaurus rex* show multiple broken and healed bones and signs of serious infections. "Most predators had some trauma, they had been beaten up—for a simple reason: Dinner fights back."

Raptors became famous as a result of their role in "Jurassic Park." For the movie, Speilberg wanted a fiercer villain than the real-life velociraptors, so he decided to make them twice as big as the real ones. But before the movie came out, reality matched fiction: a raptor the size of those in the movie was discovered in Utah, and given the name Utahraptor.

Bakker's vision of what life was like for the 20-foot, half-ton Utah-raptors 120 million years ago is based on a combination of the intimate knowledge of bones and habitats garnered from a quarter-century of painstaking work in remote field sites, and his own observations of the behavior of various modern animals, including dogs, chimpanzees, lizards and alligators.

"Every single bit of behavior is based on something I've seen, or Constance has seen," he said.

The result is an inside view of early-Cretaceous life that does build sympathy for the fearsome beast. As a *Chicago Tribune* review said, "the only smart response would have been to run . . . , yet Bakker makes her seem almost winsome."

1. Which literary technique is used when the writer comments, ". . . Bakker is about as welcome among some paleontologists as a raptor in the kitchen."?

   A metaphor

   B simile

   C personification

   D symbolism

2. According to Bakker, what was part of his motivation for writing *Raptor Red*?

   A to give dinosaurs a more positive image

   B to correct the scientific inaccuracies in books like *Jurassic Park*

   C to convince readers that dinosaurs were warm-blooded

   D to find a way to reveal his creative side

3. According to Bakker's revolutionary theories, which word does ***not*** describe dinosaurs accurately?

   A alert

   B intelligent

   C nurturing

   D sluggish

4. Why does Bakker draw an analogy between wolves and dinosaurs?

   A Wolves are warm-blooded.

   B People have learned to appreciate wolves even though they are fierce predators.

   C Wolves are related to dinosaurs.

   D People have the same fear of and fascination for wolves that they have for dinosaurs.

5. Based on Bakker's comments, which ***best*** describes the life of a top predator such as a Utahraptor?

   A successful and satisfying

   B isolated and terrifying

   C rough and challenging

   D stable and predictable

6. In which way does Bakker differ ***most*** from the stereotype of a scientist?

   A He is enthusiastic about his scientific theories.

   B He proposes revolutionary scientific theories.

   C He bases his theories on careful research and observed evidence.

   D He has a talent for communicating his ideas to a wide audience.

The following is taken from the book jacket of *Raptor Red,* Robert Bakker's novel told from the point of view of a *Utahraptor.* Read the bookflap and answer questions 7 through 13.

A pair of fierce but beautiful eyes looks out from the dull green undergrowth. The eyes follow every movement in the great herd of plant-eating dinosaurs that mills around the open meadows, moving back and forth with the rapid scanning of a hunter who is thinking about everything she sees. She is an intelligent killer. . . .

So begins one of the most extraordinary novels you will ever read. The time is 120 million years ago, the place is the plains of prehistoric Utah, and the eyes belong to one of the most unforgettable heroines you will ever meet. Her name is Raptor Red, and she is a female *Utahraptor* dinosaur.

Raptor Red's tale begins with tragedy. She and her mate are stalking their prey, a giant astrodon feeding in a nearby meadow. They approach silently and attack with deadly force. But at the moment of triumph, something goes terribly wrong and Raptor Red's mate is killed. It is the beginning of a yearlong odyssey of survival, a thrilling story told by leading paleontologist Robert T. Bakker. Now, in *Raptor Red,* he dramatizes his revolutionary theories in a one-of-a-kind tale.

Raptor Red strikes out on her own, and before long she has rejoined her sister's clan. Together they will hunt and devour iguanodons, brave a monstrous storm and the ensuing flash flood, migrate toward the western ocean to escape powerful predators, and eventually move north to a snowy mountain region in a desperate attempt to escape the threat of the deadly acrocanthosaurs.

At the same time, Raptor Red must obey nature's command to find a new mate. But when a bold and graceful young male presents himself, she is stymied by her conflicting loyalties to her sister's brood and her own powerful impulses to mate and produce chicks of her own. On a snowy mountaintop in the frozen north, Raptor Red's search for a new home and a new mate will culminate in a thrilling climax.

Painting a rich and colorful picture of her lush, exotic prehistoric world, the novel is convincingly told from within Raptor Red's mind, revealing the powerful instincts and Darwinian forces that shape her remarkable consciousness. Her story is filled with a unique cast of characters that includes a white pterodactyl, a giant prehistoric crocodile, a small furry aegialodon, hulking astrodons, and an incredible range of other exotic creatures.

Raptor Red is a completely unique and utterly compelling story of a year in the life of a dinosaur—and is sure to be one of the most talked-about books of the year.

Acknowledged as a rebel in his field, Dr. Robert T. Bakker acted as an unofficial consultant for the special effects artists who created the dinosaurs for the film *Jurassic Park.* He is the dinosaur curator of the Tate Museum in Wyoming and the author of the groundbreaking nonfiction book *The Dinosaur Heresies.* He is most famous for proposing the stunning theory that dinosaurs weren't the cold-blooded, sluggish, solitary creatures we once imagined them to be, but were instead warm-blooded, active, and social animals. Thus he began a revolution that has caused scientists to completely rethink their ideas about dinosaurs. He is considered to be one of the world's foremost paleontologists.

7. What is the ***main*** purpose of this bookflap?

A to summarize the plot

B to introduce the author

C to interest readers in the book

D to compare this book to other books

8. The bookflap suggests this story will include all of the following ***except*** which one?

A romance

B adventure

C heroism

D humor

9. Who is the protagonist in this book?

A Raptor Red, a *Utahraptor*

B Robert Bakker, a paleontoligist

C a giant astrodon

D a prehistoric crocodile

10. Which of the following is ***not*** a character in *Raptor Red*?

A a pterodactyl

B a paleontologist

C an astrodon

D a crocodile

11. Which literary technique is demonstrated by the title *Raptor Red*?

A symbolism

B alliteration

C irony

D onomatopoeia

12. Why is Robert Bakker considered to be a rebel in the field of paleontology?

A He is the curator of the Tate Museum in Wyoming.

B He provided technical assistance for the film *Jurassic Park*.

C He writes dinosaur novels instead of scientific nonfiction.

D He theorized that dinosaurs were warm-blooded, active, and social.

13. How is this book ***most different*** from other books about dinosaurs such as *Jurassic Park*?

A It includes raptors as characters.

B It is an exciting tale of survival.

C It is told from a dinosaur's point of view.

D It incorporates recent theory about dinosaurs.

The following editorial from the *Boston Globe* newspaper tells about a dinosaur nest found in Mongolia. Read the newspaper article, then answer questions 14 through19.

The hidden life of dinosaurs

Dinosaur charisma just intensified. Not only were these prehistoric giants irresistibly scary, stomping and roaring through their original Jurassic Parks, but they also may have loved. Writing in last week's edition of the journal *Nature*, scientists announced the discovery of what appears to be an oviraptor with a heart of gold.

A fossil of the ostrichlike creature, sitting protectively on a nest of eggs, was found in a 400-pound chunk of sandstone in Mongolia's Gobi Desert. This paleontological stunner offers the first solid proof that dinosaurs could have incubated their eggs, which strengthens their evolutionary link with birds and might indicate that they were warm-blooded.

Scientists have been trying to figure out if the giant lizards just left their eggs in a nest to hatch on their own or if a parent nestled over them, much like a modern-world chicken. The 80 million-year-old portrait in sandstone is worthy of a Mother's Day card—or Father's Day card, since sex hasn't been determined—because it shows "highly sophisticated behavior," according to David Weishampel, an expert at Johns Hopkins University.

He speculated to Knight-Ridder that a sandstorm blew up, and the dinosaur, rather than running for cover, gave its life to stay and protect its nest. Quite a different character than the one drawn in the 1920s, when the first oviraptor fossil was discovered near some fossilized eggs and was thought to be a predator with a craving for omelets. The name "oviraptor" means "egg stealer."

Oh, the unfairness of an assumption based on bad press! It might never have been corrected, either, but for chance. The US-Mongolian research team that found the nesting fossil in 1993 would have driven right past it if their truck hadn't stalled in the sand. Digging out, they discovered a revelation.

So it often is with science, which depends on serendipity as well as smarts to unearth the truth that has always been there.

14. In which way is this editorial ***most*** typical of editorials?

A It reports on a scientific discovery.

B It uses a conversational style.

C It presents two opposing opinions.

D It comments on a current event.

15. Which of the following is demonstrated in the writer's choice of words—"an oviraptor with a heart of gold"?

A hyperbole

B a cliché

C symbolism

D a simile

16. Which literary technique is used by describing the oviraptor fossil as an "80 million-year-old portrait in sandstone"?

A metaphor

B hyperbole

C symbolism

D irony

17. According to this editorial, which of the following demonstrates irony?

A The fossil was found in a huge chunk of sandstone.

B The discovery was first reported in a nature journal.

C The dinosaur's name—"oviraptor"—means egg stealer.

D The discovery supports the link between dinosaurs and birds.

18. What does "serendipity" mean as it is used in the final sentence in the editorial?

"So it often is with science, which depends on serendipity as well as smarts to unearth the truth that has always been there."

A coincidence

B popularity

C persistence

D evidence

19. In addition to providing support for his theories, how will this discovery ***best*** complement the work of Robert Bakker, the author of *Raptor Red*?

A It will increase Bakker's popularity among politicians.

B It will encourage reviewers to review *Raptor Red* more positively.

C It will increase Bakker's popularity among paleontologists.

D It will help to counteract the negative image of predatory dinosaurs.