

1. ANS: E

Note: Abraham Cowley is a metaphysical poet and essayist. Cowley's conceits were fantastic and extreme. He is famous as the originator of the English Pindaric ode, elevated style and rich in metaphor but lacking in the strophe, antistrophe, and epode construction of in the Greek poetry. This poem is from his famous love poetry collection *Mistress* published in 1647. Rumor had its day with Cowley, a political activities and a Royalist spy, and was reported to be too shy to talk to women.

1. The speaker's mistress (a 16<sup>th</sup> century general term for the gender) is departing and the poem dramatizes the moment as the speaker faces the imminent departure of his beloved, choice E. This is a metaphysical form of an Aubade which describes the regret of two lovers at their imminent separation. The sun isn't rising as in Shakespeare's "Parting is such sweet sorrow" or in Donne's poem "Sun Rising," but it is of the same tone, choice A. The speaker is not leaving, she is, choice B. There's not a commission mentioned on a portrait, just a picture she is to take with her, choice C. The speaker isn't meditating on her actions; he is bewailing the fact that she is leaving, choice D.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Easy                      MSC: 67% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #15

2. ANS: C

2. The poem contains an extended metaphor of picture as man, I; and it contains a compliment to the poet's beloved in lines 9 and 10, II. The correct answer is C, I and III only. There is no self-incrimination for anything that the speaker has done.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Hard                      MSC: 38% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #16

3. ANS: D

3. The poem is a complaint about the lady's leaving. The phrase reads "whilst 'tis so" or in modern language "while it is so" referring to the miniature of him, making the best paraphrase D. [While] I am still like this picture. The pronoun "it" goes to the antecedent "likeness" in the same line, making A, B, C, and E incorrect. The speaker does not say it is necessary that they part nor talks about his picture as art. The lady does not say how she is spending her time nor does the speaker. The other distracter is A, but the speaker never said there are things "so" between them.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 62% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #17

4. ANS: B

4. The different entities are in choice B, shadow from line 8 and 12. The first shadow means the "likeness" or picture and the second shadow means the speaker himself who will be reduced to almost nothing without her attentive presence. This correct identification makes A, a misreading. Choices C, D, and E are the same entities.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 42% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #18

5. ANS: B

5. In line 6, the speaker says that the man that did the picture “Will swear next day my face he never saw.” The best paraphrase of that is choice B. Not even the artist will recognize the speaker’s likeness by the next day—hyperbole at its best. One day will not make the speaker a broken old man, choice A. The picture cannot be drawn without the sitting of the client, choice C. D does not exist as he is giving the picture to his lover, so someone received it. A portrait is of facial features making choice E incorrect.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 59% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #19

6. ANS: E

6. The principal use of “shadow” is choice E, to contrast with the meaning of “substance.” A shadow has no substance or “matter” of its own. A shadow is dependent upon matter, something concrete. The speaker is not departing, the lady is; choice A is incorrect. The picture is not disintegrating in choice B, according to the speaker, he is becoming less. In choice C, presence is not serving as a balance to shadow as a presence, the shadow has become the presence. Since the speaker wants to be in the lady’s presence, the now “altered” shadow does not compensate the negative connotation of his absence choice D.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 53% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #20

7. ANS: C

7. “Bright looks” means vivid or dazzling, choice C, as “affectionate interest and personal beauty. In the speaker’s eyes she is beautiful and wants for nothing. She is not seen from the speaker’s point of view as haughty, flirtatious, or tearful, choices A, B, and D. From the choice of E, intelligent inquiry could be a good distracter except she is not described as longing anywhere in the poem.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Easy                      MSC: 85% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #21

8. ANS: A

8. In this question, animation or vibrancy is used for the literary device of reification which is the “treatment of abstractions as concrete form as a shadow is the speaker. One example is “Love is a many splendored thing.” In the poem her bright looks “awake it” and the soul has ability to “breathe a sigh or two” which gives this abstractions a human ability through personifying or giving characterization to the lady’s looks and the “soul” of picture’s sighs, “for those are the first things that it [the picture] will do.” Choices B, C, D, and E are not focused on literary devices which is what the exam uses in the analysis and interpretation of literature.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 65% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #22

9. ANS: B

9. The speaker in “I know thee right” is saying the same thing as “I know how you feel” that is a common everyday usage. Therefore, choice B is the best answer, “my understanding of your feelings is correct. The poem does not focus on the lady’s loyalty or her sense of propriety, choices A and D. The speaker is not claiming that she “is important” in his life; although the reader would easily assume that possibility, choice C. He is not proclaiming “the honesty” of his love, choice E. He is lamenting her departure.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Easy                      MSC: 92% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #23

10. ANS: E

10. The next three questions were all a struggle for the students in 1994 with lower percentages the question 23 which only 7% missed. Students probably did not recognize the speaker’s complaint that the picture now has her attention instead of him. “But my picture’s picture be” uses the “be” verb to designate the picture as “he.” He is now more “lifeless than the picture,” choice E. The picture does not represent him; it’s an image of him, choice A. The speaker is not saying that will become as perfect as the picture, choice B. No duplicate of the picture is in line; the picture is of him, choice C. The speaker is not talking of improving his looks over the picture, choice D.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 42% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #24

11. ANS: C

11. This question takes time to analyze because of all the line references. A few choices can be eliminated more quickly because of the student is asked to analyze event sequence. (This is often easier in short story than in verse.) The question asks which pairs of quotes refer to the same moment or time for the sequence of events which occurs in stanzas two and three. In other words, what has to happen first for the second action can occur? Here the speaker talks of her reaction to the picture that he is giving her starting with “within a while” that states that the picture is now better off than he is and ending with “When from your well-wrought cabinet,” the picture now has the benefit of her attention, choice C. Stanza one changes time to the next day in lines 1 and 3, lacking the same moment of events, choices A and B. Lines 18 and 23 also have a change in the events from “first thing that it will do” to a time change to “send again for me,” choice, D which also applies to choice E.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Medium                      MSC: 46% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #25

12. ANS: C

12. In the final stanza the speaker says she “laugh at me as dispossessed.” The “rival-image,” the picture, has driven him away from her attentions. But, she will eventually realize that the picture is not the same as the man with her “preference for the insubstantial” or image. She will sent for him again, choice C. Choice A is incorrect because the rival picture will not triumph. The speaker does not speak of any “freedom” from her, choice B. Choices D and E state the speaker will change, but there is no reference to his changing in the final stanza.

PTS: 1                      DIF: Hard                      MSC: 28% answered correctly  
NOT: 1994 #26

13. ANS: D

13. The theme of the poem is what the author is saying about the subject. The subject of this poem is his lady's imminent departure. The speaker is taking some delight in his offering her a picture as substitute for him and states all the consequences on him and on her. The least important choice offered is "well-wrought" in reference to the cabinet, choice D, which has nothing to do with all the needed character descriptors. Character descriptions such as pale, smile, vigor, and delight, choices A, B, C, and E, show how the speaker is feeling about her action. Choice D is just describing the place where a picture watches her.

PTS: 1

DIF: Easy

MSC: 70% answered correctly

NOT: 1994 #27

14. ANS: A

28. The tone throughout the poem is playful seriousness, choice A. The speaker certainly is not gleeful that she is leaving, choice C. But, he is having some fun mocking her choice of leaving eliminating the tone of grimness, melancholy, and despair, choices B, D and E.

PTS: 1

DIF: Medium

MSC: 41% answered correctly

NOT: 1994 #28