

English Literature, 1994 Exam Answer Section

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. ANS: A

1. This passage is primarily concerned with John's attitude toward the Sunday service, choice A. Choice B is incorrect because John does not give any speculation about understanding the Lord's power says (lines 24-26) that the singing of the congregation caused him to believe in the presence of the Lord that "He is not feel it himself..." Choice C says the impact of the singing is on the church which is true, but it is a single observation though John, not as the primary concern of whole passage. John observes his parent's and other member's reaction to the Power of God they seemed to achieve though the singing, but John only observes and is reassured by other members that he would "posses" the same power from the Lord. John's relationship with his parents is not mentioned; he just observes how their physical features are magnified when the Holy Ghost was within them, choice D. In the limited omniscient narrator of this passage, we don't know the role of John's church in his future, just what this one scene describes though the characterizing of John, choice E.

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

2. ANS: E

2. The dash indicates that the speaker's train of thought has been suddenly interrupted by something he remembered that he's just recalled. The informal use of the dash emphasizes the hushed silence in the church, choice E, contrasted to the erupting din as "Elisha hit the keys, beginning at once to sing and everybody joined him, clapping their hands, and rising, and beating the tambourines." The comments do not change the tempo of the speaker's prose, choice A. The speaker is not ridiculing the congregation, choice B. The audience remains concentrated on the music of Elisha, choice C. The point of view remains the same with the coughing or car horn or other street noises. This is a setting choice for the author who speaks though his narrator and remains consistent, choice D.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 91% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #2

3. ANS: D

3. We are told at the first sentence that John had this memory since "he had first drawn breath." Lines 5 and 22-23 accentuate how long John has had this memory. John does not see this event as unpleasant, choice A. He is just detached. John's memory is not vague as choice B states. It is very lucid. Choice C is incorrect because the setting element in this passage is past and present time, not future. Nothing in the passage shows John as naïve, choice E. John is very experienced at attending this Sunday service.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 84% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #3

4. ANS: B

4. Because terror means fear and wonder (noun—as used here) means marvel or amazed, the correct choice is B, strongly but ambivalently to the service. He does and he doesn't want to experience the same. He is familiar with the service causing him "to believe in the presence of the Lord; he does not dread the service, choice A. The music is not mystifying and unpleasant, but the transformation of the assemblage causes fear and wonder, choice C. All the references to the singing support the emotional force and the sincerity of its participants making choices D and E to be incorrect inferences.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 67% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #4

5. ANS: D

5. Keep the word joy as the focus in the question. The joy they felt is the "very bread of life—could not doubt it..." making Choice D the correct answer. The antecedent for "it" is the noun "joy." Terror and wonder, choice A, effectively distracts from the noun joy that members have, but it is John who feels the terror and wonder. In choice B, the singing causes John to feel the Lord's presence, not the joy of that presence. In choice C, the joy has a presence so that it "was no longer a question that the members felt joy. "It" is identified as joy though apposition: "He did not feel it himself, the joy they felt." Choice E continues to modify joy as the very "bread of life."

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 85% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #5

6. ANS: C

6. The organization goes from general to specific in this depiction of John's father and mother, choice C. This observation is still John's point of view as speaker and does not shift the reader, choice A. The pacing is the same as the previous sentences with the shorter punctuated clauses making B incorrect. These descriptions do not counter, choice D, but provide examples of the general statements about joy. John does not make a transformation making choice E easy to eliminate.

PTS: 1 DIF: Medium MSC: 48% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #6

7. ANS: A

7. In the text of the passage the words "saints," "the bread of life," and "arms outstretched like wings" evoke an otherworldly mood which is the language of the Bible, choice A. Choice C is quickly eliminated because the speaker is not bitter or sardonic. References to Christianity are not the socially conservative framework in this passage, choice B. The framework is a Christian church setting with Brother Elisha where readers would anticipate references to the Bible. The congregation does not hold any authority over John, choice D, who is not able to participate in the "joy." The speaker is interested in John's experience only, not the congregation's, choice E.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 78% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #7

8. ANS: C

8. “For them” and “so everyone said” best fits choice C, as John feels isolated from the rest of the congregation who does not hold authority over him, choice D. John is not confident, choice A, as the last sentence says “so everyone said” that he would possess the power. He doesn’t indicate that he agrees since he has witnessed this as far back as he can remember. John sympathetically accepts the experience, but he does not share it which is the point of the whole passage, choice B. The passage is about John, not the congregation, making choice E incorrect.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 85% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #8

9. ANS: E

9. The image of the church, “like a temple rocked with the Power of God,” rocking in space suggests A, B, C, D, but not E. This is a true/false or yes/no question. Except means only one does not apply to the passage. The church has energy of worshippers, power of God, sways the congregation to the music, and creates a cohesiveness and unity among its members. E is the correct answer.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 89% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #9

10. ANS: B

10. The speaker pays attention to the sensory imagery of sound to create a physical sense of the church service, B. The speaker is not distracting the reader from the disconcerting issues in the passage—they come from the sound to create a sense of the joy of the congregation, eliminating A. The sound of joy is not a metaphor for John’s position in the congregation, choice C, because he does not feel the joy they felt. Choice D would not be the intention of the author because there is no “challenging” material in the passage, it remains ethereal not challenging. There is no defense for E because the passage imagery is primarily sound.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 78% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #10

11. ANS: C

11. The style as a whole is characterized by sentences that contain server modifying phrases and subordinate clauses, choice C. Choice A is incorrect because this is not a primer effect passage of simple declarative statements. With choice B, many complex sentences are throughout the passage but not with many “short exclamatory sentences,” only three in the middle of the passage as song titles. The style does not become more persuasive, choice D. Choice E is partially correct with expository sentences at the beginning, but they don’t give way to interpretation or explanation of John’s thoughts about the event.

PTS: 1 DIF: Medium MSC: 54% answered correctly
NOT: 1994 #11

12. ANS: D

12. The irony in this passage is more situational because of John's conflict comes from his awareness of the religious ecstasy, but he inability to participate, choice D. The significance of the situation, choice A, and the congregations' ability to participate is harmonious, not in disharmony or conflict. John's parents' characteristics are more pronounced, choice B, in the service, but not conflicting and the same is evident in choice E. The street noises are the same during and before the service eliminating choice C.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 88% answered correctly

NOT: 1994 #12

13. ANS: B

13. The point of view in the passage is 3rd person, choice B. The narrator is aware of John's thoughts also known as limited omniscient point of view. The narrator is nonparticipating, but he is familiar with John's thoughts, so choice C is incorrect. The narrator is not participating eliminating choice A. The same is true of choice D; John is not speaking of himself, there is a speaker using the 3rd person.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 79% answered correctly

NOT: 1994 #13

14. ANS: A

14. The use of "seemed" and "seeming" throughout the passage shows John's particular perspective on the events as possibly not what they appear, choice A. Choice B is incorrect because the choice is not a "storytelling" technique like "once upon a time." John's memory is accurate as already stated, so choice C is not an option. Allegories represent "other" people and events for teaching a lesson. This is not an intentional didactic allegory, choice D. By definition, an omniscient narrator is in the character's head giving voice to John's thoughts as unsure of the events that occur, making choice E incongruous.

PTS: 1 DIF: Easy MSC: 70% answered correctly

NOT: 1994 #14