

Sentence Equivalence Sample Questions

Select the *two* answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole *and* produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

1. Although it does contain some pioneering ideas, one would hardly characterize the work as _____.
1. orthodox
 2. eccentric
 3. original
 4. trifling
 5. conventional
 6. innovative

Explanation

The word "Although" is a crucial signpost here. The work contains some pioneering ideas, but apparently it is not overall a pioneering work. Thus the two words that could fill the blank appropriately are "original" and "innovative." Note that "orthodox" and "conventional" are two words that are very similar in meaning, but neither one completes the sentence sensibly.

Thus the correct answer is Choice C (original) and Choice F (innovative).

2. It was her view that the country's problems had been _____ by foreign technocrats, so that to ask for such assistance again would be counterproductive.
1. ameliorated
 2. ascertained
 3. diagnosed
 4. exacerbated
 5. overlooked
 6. worsened

Explanation

The sentence relates a piece of reasoning, as indicated by the presence of "so that": asking for the assistance of foreign technocrats would be counterproductive because of the effects such technocrats have had already. This means that the technocrats must have had bad effects; i.e., they must have "exacerbated" or "worsened" the country's problems.

Thus the correct answer is Choice D (exacerbated) and Choice F (worsened).