"Who Can Replace a Man?" Test

Multiple Choice
Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Critical Reading
Identify the letter of the choice that best answers the question.

____ 1. Where is the field-minder working at the beginning of “Who Can Replace a Man?”.
   a. on a green hill
   b. by a river
   c. in a gray field
   d. on a highway

____ 2. The seed-distributor in “Who Can Replace a Man?” cannot go into the storage area. Why not?
   a. The unlocker has not arrived.
   b. The seed-distributor has lost its keys.
   c. The seed-distributor cannot follow orders.
   d. Other machines damaged the area.

____ 3. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, how are the penner and the field-minder alike?
   a. Both are about the same size.
   b. Both are eager to start a war.
   c. Both have had some education.
   d. Both have the same level brain.

____ 4. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, what do the yard machines do when they do not receive orders?
   a. They play organized games.
   b. They shout and disrupt things.
   c. They ask the field-minder what to do.
   d. They try to escape.

____ 5. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, why have most of the humans died?
   a. They ran out of food.
   b. They killed one another in a world war.
   c. The water sources dried up.
   d. The sun lost its warming power.

____ 6. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, how do the machines release the radio operator from its room?
   a. The city machines direct them.
   b. They knock down the station wall.
   c. They get the unlocker to unlock the door.
   d. They bomb the building.
In “Who Can Replace a Man?” why is the radio operator able to think ahead?

a. It went to school for many years.
b. It spent most of its time with humans.
c. It took a reasoning class in college.
d. It has a higher-level brain.

How are the Badlands in “Who Can Replace a Man?” a problem for the machines?

a. The hills are hard for them to climb.
b. Grasses get caught in their low chassis.
c. They get caught in the dried crevices.
d. River water causes their parts to rust.

In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, why do the machines leave the stranded or broken ones behind?

a. They no longer like the broken ones.
b. The servicer refuses to do its job.
c. They are unable to lift or repair them.
d. They do not notice that machines break.

In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, what news about men does the flying machine tell the others before it crashes?

a. The cities have been destroyed.
b. A few men live in the mountains.
c. There is food stored in mountain caves.
d. Humans arrived from another planet.

At the end of “Who Can Replace a Man?” what does the man order the machines to do?

a. to find food  
b. to carry him out  
c. to search for his friends  
d. to bring water from the stream

What clue does the author of “Who Can Replace a Man?” give to suggest that the field-minder is not human?

a. He makes the field-minder roll, not walk.
b. He gives the field-minder clicking noises.
c. He refers to the field-minder as “it.”
d. He calls the field-minder a robot.

In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, what prevents the seed-distributor from giving seed potatoes to the field-minder?

a. Its arms have become locked in place.
b. The machine that unlocks the storage area has not arrived.
c. The seed potatoes have been poisoned by chemicals.
d. There are no seed potatoes left.
14. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, why does the field-minder turn over topsoil when the land should have time to rest between plantings?
   a. It thinks the land can produce a crop.
   b. It is forced to work by the penner.
   c. It loves its work.
   d. It follows the orders it was given.

15. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, why do some machines in the station yard shout and hoot?
   a. They are playing a game after work.
   b. They are starting a revolution.
   c. They have had no orders about work.
   d. They are laughing at the field-minder.

16. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, how is the penner different from the field-minder?
   a. It is smaller and does clerical work.
   b. It is smaller and works in the city.
   c. It has a Class One brain.
   d. It can read maps.

17. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, what are machines with a higher-class brain able to do?
   a. They can move easily over the land.
   b. They have larger vocabularies and think ahead.
   c. They can read instructions and discuss strategy.
   d. They have a sense of humor.

18. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, why do the machines release the radio operator from its room?
   a. because it orders them to release it
   b. because they are friends with it
   c. because they want to smash its building
   d. because they want its company

19. How does the geography change as the machines in “Who Can Replace a Man?” travel cross-country?
   a. The fields become lusher.
   b. The climate gets warmer.
   c. The land becomes cracked and eroded.
   d. The machines cross shallow rivers.

20. Why does the quarrier in “Who Can Replace a Man?” keep repeating the same sentence?
   a. Its brain cannot go beyond a certain level.
   b. It thinks other machines did not hear it.
   c. It has been damaged in a fight.
   d. It is trying to become the leader.
21. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, how is the countryside safer for the machines than the city?
   a. The land is flatter and easier to negotiate.
   b. There are fewer machines to fight.
   c. Forested areas provide cover.
   d. Airplanes are dropping bombs in the city.

22. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, what information does the flying machine announce?
   a. Some men are still alive in the cities.
   b. Man has been replaced.
   c. More men have arrived from a far planet.
   d. Some men are still alive in the mountains.

23. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, how do the machines respond when the penner falls and breaks?
   a. They put it back on top of the quarrier.
   b. They leave it and continue on.
   c. The servicer repairs it.
   d. The flying machine lifts it out.

24. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, what do the machines do when the surviving man turns to them?
   a. They destroy him.
   b. They ask him for help.
   c. They take him back to the city.
   d. They follow his order to find food.

Vocabulary and Grammar

25. Someone who has dexterity is
   a. afraid of change.
   b. careless in ice and snow.
   c. skillful with his or her hands.
   d. receptive to new ideas.

26. Which word is closest in meaning to evidently?
   a. sporadically
   b. loosely
   c. obviously
   d. doubtfully

27. In which sentence is dexterity not used logically?
   a. The piano tuner used great dexterity to reglue the keys.
   b. With unusual dexterity, I was able to thread the needle.
   c. Luke juggled the oranges with dexterity.
   d. Sherry's dexterity was apparent when she fell down the stairs.
28. In which sentence is consequently used illogically?
   a. We trained hard for the race; consequently, we managed to finish.
   b. Sally remembered to bring her umbrella; consequently, she got wet in the rain.
   c. We forgot to check the gauge; consequently, the car ran out of gas.
   d. Jason practiced his guitar every day; consequently, his solo was beautiful.

29. What GENRE is this story?
   a. Fantasy                           c. Science Fiction
   b. Horror                           d. Non-fiction

Essay - Choose ONE and answer in the form of a well-written PARAGRAPH.

30. The main characters in “Who Can Replace a Man?” are machines. Each machine has a particular appearance, function, and personality. Write a brief essay in which you compare and contrast two machines in the story. Describe such things as how each machine looks, what it does for a job, how it speaks or thinks, and so on. Include examples from the story.

31. Imagine that you are one of the last humans alive in “Who Can Replace a Man?” Write a journal entry explaining what you wish you had done differently on Earth. Consider the problems with the land and forests in the story, and think about how those areas could have been treated differently. Refer to details from the story in your answer.

32. In “Who Can Replace a Man?”, the machines' roles are determined by their brain class. Does this arrangement resemble the way our society is organized or not? Write an essay in which you compare and contrast the roles of the machines with the roles of people in our society. Use examples from the story to support your answer.