

Question 1-11 are based on the following passage.

### The Two Faces of Tlatilco

In Tlatilco, a Mesoamerican village that existed from as early as 1200 BCE, excavations have revealed hundreds of clay figurines at burial sites. These sculptures, which often depict an exaggerated female form, are a curiosity for art **1** historians, who, without written records to consult, can only speculate about what these figures represented in preliterate Tlatilco culture. **2** An especially puzzling phenomenon that exists in many of the sculptures: women portrayed with two heads or two noses and three eyes on the same face. Several theories exist about these images, but written records from nearby civilizations and other Tlatilco art suggest the figures reflect a cultural fascination with duality and the cycle of life.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) historians who—
- C) historians; who
- D) historians; who,

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) One especially puzzling phenomenon
- C) A phenomenon that is especially puzzling
- D) Especially puzzling is a phenomenon

Written records from cultures related to Tlatilco reveal a recurring theme of duality. The mythologies of the Mesoamerican, Nahuatl, and Maya cultures were filled with observations about two-sidedness; **3** however, the name of the Nahuatl culture comes from the Aztec word meaning alter ego of a person or god. Through art, the Aztecs explored the subject of duality as well as opposing concepts such as light and dark or life and death. The two-headed clay figures may have been an important token at the burial site when people returned to the earth. **4** The theory of duality in Tlatilco culture is a contentious one. Dr. Lauren Kilroy-Ewbank, an Art History professor at Brooklyn College, believes that a half-human, half-skeleton clay mask found at a Tlatilco burial **5** site, underscores life's dependence on death and the cycle between the two. The theme of duality in this burial sculpture is especially clear because its face is split between life and death.

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) in fact,
- C) despite this,
- D) alternately,

4

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Maya and Nahuatl cultures are keys to unlocking the mystery of Tlatilco culture.
- C) One professor of art history, however, has recently proposed an alternate theory.
- D) Tlatilco cultural artifacts, such as masks, offer evidence in support of the theory of duality.

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) site
- C) site;
- D) site:

6 Other art historians agree with Dr. Kilroy-Ewbank's assessment that the figures are a representation of an abstract concept. Art historian Gordon Bederensky claims the figures are some of the world's first medical sketches, depicting an affliction called diprosopus, or facial duplication. However, diprosopus is extremely rare, with fewer than 50 documented 7 cases on record since the mid-1800s. It's possible that the disease 8 may have been prevalent in ancient Mesoamerica, but no written records from nearby civilizations give that indication. With over 300 burial figures found at Tlatilco, many of them with bifurcated faces, extensive depictions of such an anomalous ailment 9 seems unlikely.

6 Which choice provides the most effective transition from the preceding paragraph to this one?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) It is difficult to decipher the Tlatilco burial sculptures without a written cultural record.
- C) Consequently, the half-human, half-skeleton mask could be a less literal representation.
- D) Although duality is one explanation for the double-faced figures, another theory exists.

7

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) cases
- C) instances of cases on record
- D) records of this rare affliction

8

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) may be
- C) is maybe
- D) will have been

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) has seemed
- C) seem
- D) is seeming

When making observations about a culture that lacks a written record, **10** you don't really have a clue if theories are correct. **11**

**10**

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) you can't for sure figure out
- C) it is pretty tricky to know
- D) it is difficult to know

**11**

At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence.

However, by piecing together information from a variety of sources, art historians have been able to construct a coherent theory about how the figurines' recurring theme of duality reflected the Tlatilco approach to life and death.

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because it provides a concluding statement that captures the main idea of the passage.
- B) Yes, because it reconciles the two competing theories that are the focus of the passage.
- C) No, because it introduces new information about a third theory at the conclusion of the passage.
- D) No, because it blurs the paragraph's focus on art historians' attempts to understand the meaning of the Tlatilco figurines.