**MULTIPLE CHOICE TESTS**

**A. Description of Eight Possible Flaws**

Described below are eight flaws which can appear in multiple choice tests. After studying these possible flaws, try answering the multiple choice questions in Section B and see how it is possible to correctly answer questions about which you know nothing!

**Flaw #1:** The incorrect options are highly implausible.

**Flaw #2:** Equivalence and/or contradictions among options allows one to eliminate the incorrect options.

**Flaw #3:** Content information on other items provides the answer.

**Flaw #4:** The correct option is more detailed and specific than all the other options.

**Flaw #5:** The correct option is consistently longer than all of the other options.

**Flaw #6:** There is grammatical inconsistence between the stem and the incorrect options but not the correct option.

**Flaw #7:** The incorrect options include certain key words that tend to appear in false statements (such as *always*, *must*, and *never*).

**Flaw #8:** There is a resemblance between the stem and the correct option but not the incorrect options.

**B. Multiple Choice Exercise**

Below you will find a series of eight history questions for which you are not expected to know the answer based on your knowledge of history. However, you should be able to make a good guess on each of the questions if you can spot the flaws that exist in every item. Each question is flawed in some way so as to permit solution by test-wise examinees. Record your choice of flaws one through eight for each question in the spaces provided on the left.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. The career of Marius (155-86 B.C.), the opponent of Sulla, is significant in Roman history because

a. he gave many outstanding dinners and entertainments for royalty.

b. he succeeded in arming the gladiators.

c. he showed that the civil authority could be thrust aside by the military.

1. he made it possible for the popular party to conduct party rallies outside the city of Rome.

\_\_\_\_\_2. The Locarno Pact:

a. is an international agreement for the maintenance of peace through the guarantee of national boundaries of France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and other countries of Western Europe

b. allowed France to occupy the Ruhr Valley.

c. provided for the dismemberment of Austria-Hungary.

d. provided for the protection of Red Cross bases during war times.

\_\_\_\_\_3. About what fraction of the 1920 population of the United States was foreign-born?

a. less than five per cent.

b. between fourteen and twenty-eight per cent.

c. twenty-five percent.

d. between thirty and fifty per cent.

\_\_\_\_\_4. The Bland-Allison Act

a. made all forms of money redeemable in silver.

b. standardized all gold dollars in terms of silver and copper.

c. made none of the paper money redeemable in silver.

d. directed the Treasury Department to purchase a certain amount of silver bullion each month.

\_\_\_\_\_5. The Ostend Manifesto aimed to

a. discourage Southern expansionism.

b. prevent expansion in the South.

c. aid Southern expansionism.

d. all of the above.

\_\_\_\_\_6. The 12th Century was distinguished by a ‘real European patriotism’ which expressed itself in

a. the flowering of lyrical and epical poetry in the vernacular.

b. great patriotic loyalty to the undivided unit of European Christendom.

c. recurring attempts to form a world with a centralized administration.

d. proposals to remove the custom barriers between the different countries of the time.

\_\_\_\_\_7. The Locarno Pact

a. was an agreement between Greece and Turkey.

b. gave the Tyrol to Italy.

c. was a conspiracy to blow up the League of Nations’ building at Locarno.

d. guaranteed the boundary arrangements in Western Europe.

\_\_\_\_\_8. Men who opposed the “Ten Hour Movement” in British factory history:

a. was a leader in the dominant political party.

b. is convinced that shorter hours of work are bad for the morals of the laboring classes.

c. is primarily motivated by concern for his own profits.

d. were convinced that intervention would endanger the economic welfare of Britain.