

PASSAGE I

Mystery Paper Sculptor

Between March and November of 2011, an anonymous donor left intricately ¹ crafted paper sculptures at various cultural institutions in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Delighted, each sculpture was left secretly and was later discovered by staff. ² The delicate sculptures—streetscapes, plants, and animals—were carved exclusively from the pages and bindings of books. The tiny details in the pieces are awe-inspiring.

The first sculpture discovered—at the Scottish Poetry Library—was a tiny tree formed from a book of verse. Library staff dubbed ³ it the “poetree.” The tree sits atop a book. Beneath the tree are the halves of a golden paper egg, each half filled with words clipped from the poem “A Trace of Wings” by Edwin Morgan.

1. Which choice most effectively emphasizes the complexity of the paper sculptures?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. impressively
 - C. terrifically
 - D. superbly

2.
 - F. NO CHANGE
 - G. Each sculpture was left secretly and later discovered by delighted staff.
 - H. Left secretly and later discovered by staff, each sculpture was delighted.
 - J. Secretly delighted, each sculpture was discovered by staff.

3.
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. specified
 - C. adorned
 - D. honored

At Edinburgh's Filmhouse Cinema, a three-
dimensional sculpted scene shows patrons

sitting in a movie theater as horse leaps out of
the screen. At the Scottish Storytelling Centre, a

dragon crafted from the pages of a mystery novel
was found nesting in a window. At the National
Museum of Scotland, a paper tail was spotted emerging
from the spine of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's book
The Lost World. Inside, a dinosaur charges through
shredded pages of the open book. More creations
appeared at more than a few additional places where
literature and artifacts are related to books and writing.

Therefore, a total of ten sculptures were bestowed on
special institutions, whose staff are thrilled by their luck.

The creator of these sculptures are not known
because no one has claimed responsibility. So far, that
is. The last gift came with a note in which the mystery
artist reveals her gender. Whatever: whoever created

the art, your intention is clear. Each gift came with a
note expressing special gratitude for "libraries, books,

words, ideas." 13

4. F. NO CHANGE
G. Cinema, a three-dimensional sculpted, scene
H. Cinema a three-dimensional sculpted scene.
J. Cinema a three-dimensional, sculpted, scene

5. A. NO CHANGE
B. movie theaters as horse's leaps
C. a movie theater as horses leap
D. movie theater's as horse leap

6. F. NO CHANGE
G. dragon—crafted from the pages
H. dragon, crafted from the pages,
J. dragon crafted from the pages,

7. A. NO CHANGE
B. a number of additional cultural institutions support-
ing intellectual endeavors dedicated to promoting
C. quite a lot of other cultural institutions character-
ized by loyalty and dedication to
D. several libraries and museums devoted to

8. F. NO CHANGE
G. Eventually,
H. Of course,
J. However,

9. A. NO CHANGE
B. creators of this sculptures are
C. creator of these sculptures is
D. creators of this sculptures is

10. F. NO CHANGE
G. Disregarding the unknown identity of the person
who
H. Without consideration of or concern about whoever
J. Regardless of who

11. A. NO CHANGE
B. whose
C. her
D. our

12. F. NO CHANGE
G. note of gratitude expressing special gratefulness
and thanks
H. thank-you note on each one expressing special
thanks
J. thankful note expressing special thanks

13. If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, the
paragraph would primarily lose a statement that:
A. suggests the essay writer knows the identity of the
artist.
B. explains why the artist created the sculptures.
C. proves the artist is a woman.
D. indicates the artist is a librarian.

Ironically, the creator of these exquisite
sculptures who destroyed books—cutting them

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up with refashioning them into elaborate works
of art—as “a tiny gesture in support of the special
places.” The mystery artist celebrated the magic of
those places and, at the same time, made some magic.

14. F. NO CHANGE
G. for whom books were destroyed—
H. as she destroyed books—
J. destroyed books—
15. A. NO CHANGE
B. and
C. nor
D. so

PASSAGE III

Lightning in the Sand

As my friend Anna and I walked the sand dunes
of southeastern New Mexico, she told me that she
hoped we'd find a fulgurite, one as translucent white
as the southeastern New Mexico sands around us. A
fulgurite—whose name stems from the Latin word
fulgur, which means “thunderbolt”—is a hollow silica
glass tube formed when lightning strikes sand. A fulgurite
is created in one explosive second by fusion and pressure
as sand heated by a lightning blast melts, and becomes
glass. Commonly called “petrified lightning,” a fulgurite
places the shape of a miniature lightning bolt into the
earth, often branching deep into the ground.

Anna told me that I had possibly seen a small
fragment of a fulgurite before, without realizing I had,
on a beach. She explained though that even experts
are rarely able to locate a fully intact fulgurite.

31. A. NO CHANGE
B. and nearly transparent to the eye almost as the
white sands of these dunes.
C. as these sands.
D. DELETE the underlined portion and end the sen-
tence with a period.
32. F. NO CHANGE
G. sand heated (by a lightning blast) melts
H. sand, heated by a lightning blast melts,
J. sand heated by a lightning blast melts
33. Which choice best builds on the preceding sentence by
emphasizing the dramatic nature of the mark a fulgu-
rite leaves on the earth?
A. NO CHANGE
B. sketches
C. burns
D. sends
34. F. NO CHANGE
G. explained, though, that even experts
H. explained though that, even experts,
J. explained, though that even experts

The thin, brittle glass tubes break easily. Occasionally,
³⁵ after strong, sustained winds have shifted desert sands,

while an unbroken, previously buried fulgurite will be
³⁶ revealed, showing as a tube protruding from the ground.

37 I scanned the area, hopeful that I'd see a tube newly

uncovered. Anna made clear that we'd be lucky to come
³⁸ upon a small piece of fulgurite, just a few inches long.

Anna had shown me fulgurites she had found
on other trips. Their colors ranged from black to
brown to green, corresponding to the color of the
sand in which she had discovered them. I wasn't
surprised that I'd never recognized fulgurites on
any beach: no one had ever told me what to look for.
³⁹

35. Given that all the statements are true, which one provides the most relevant information at this point in the essay?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Human-made fulgurites are not any easier to excavate than naturally occurring fulgurites.
 - C. A fulgurite is not a geode (a crystal-lined stone), though the two are often confused.
 - D. Still, pieces of fulgurite can be worked into jewelry.
36. F. NO CHANGE
G. however
H. so
J. DELETE the underlined portion.
37. Which of the following sentences, if added here, best connects the preceding sentence to the information that follows in the paragraph?
- A. Anna told me that there had been a brief rain shower in the area the day before.
 - B. I could see bright pink sand verbenas blooming in the distance.
 - C. Swift winds were moving the white sands that day.
 - D. Dig carefully.
38. F. NO CHANGE
G. uncovered, I focused my gaze on the sands in the distance.
H. uncovered, I looked closely.
J. had it been uncovered.
39. Which choice most effectively concludes this sentence and leads into the information that follows in the paragraph?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. I focus on looking for seashells, sand dollars, and smooth rocks when I'm walking the sands.
 - C. usually, I'm not in the mood for a science project when I'm on vacation.
 - D. on their surface, they look like pieces of tree branches.

