

PASSAGE III

Central Park

[1]

While New Yorker's sometimes take Central Park for granted, visitors are often astonished to discover the size and variety. Nestled in the very center of the nation's largest city are 843 acres of wooded and landscaped grounds containing lakes and ponds, bogs and meadows, a castle, a zoo, and an enormous range of wildlife. Though it seems to have always been there, Central Park represents only the most recent in a series of altering transformations of this part of the country.

[2]

[1] About 450 million years ago, what is now park rested on the floor of an ancient sea. [2] After aeons of erosion, accelerated by the Ice Age and the landscape began to assume its modern appearance. [3] By the time European settlers arrived, the entire island was an oak-and-chestnut woodland, it is populated by black bears, wolves, and beavers. [4] Within the next 200 years, however, the forests were cleared for farming, and the animals were eliminated by hunters and trappers.

31. A. NO CHANGE
B. Yorker's,
C. Yorkers
D. Yorkers'
32. F. NO CHANGE
G. its
H. it's
J. their
33. A. NO CHANGE
B. changes,
C. changing
D. OMIT the underlined portion.
34. At this point, the writer would like to provide specific geographical information about the area where Central Park is located. Which alternative does that best?
F. NO CHANGE
G. these parts.
H. this part of the island of Manhattan.
J. this part that resulted in Central Park.
35. A. NO CHANGE
B. that which is now park, but was not then
C. that park, which then was not one,
D. it wasn't a park then, but it
36. F. NO CHANGE
G. Age;
H. Age,
J. Age, and
37. A. NO CHANGE
B. it was
C. they found it
D. OMIT the underlined portion.

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1

[5] By the mid-nineteenth century, central

Manhattan, being barren of trees, creating a
38
 desolate area of swamps, hovels, and pigsties.

[6] Over 200 million years ago, the shifting of the
 earth's surface squeezed present-day Manhattan up
 into mountains over 12,000 feet high. 39

[3]

In 1857 Frederick Olmsted and Calvert
 Vaux were given the enormous task of transforming
40
 this area into a park. Their intention was

to finish the park within two years. They undertook
41

the project with confidence and enterprise, overturning
42
 nearly five million cubic yards of rock and earth.

Olmsted and Vaux hired local land developers
43
 to help plan the park's landscape.
43

[4]

Today in Central Park, natural beauty and
 human engineering work together. Although the
44

genius of Olmsted and Vaux, once a landscape barely
45

38. F. NO CHANGE
 G. Manhattan being
 H. Manhattan, which was
 J. Manhattan was

39. For the sake of logic and coherence, Sentence 6 should be placed:

- A. where it is now.
 B. before Sentence 1.
 C. before Sentence 2.
 D. before Sentence 5.

40. F. NO CHANGE
 G. were gave
 H. was given
 J. been given

41. At this point, the writer wants to provide readers with a general description of Vaux and Olmsted's vision of the finished park. Assuming all are true, which alternative does that best?

- A. NO CHANGE
 B. to find new techniques for land development by experimenting with new machinery and new ideas in land design.
 C. to create the park using the most economical means they could.
 D. not to create a formal garden with meticulously trimmed hedges, as in the European tradition, but a natural-looking landscape.

42. F. NO CHANGE
 G. they overturn
 H. they overturned
 J. they having overturned

43. At this point, the writer would like to emphasize the enormity of the project. Assuming all are true, which alternative does that best?

- A. NO CHANGE
 B. Another 700,000 cubic yards of topsoil had to be brought from New Jersey before the landscapers could plant their 17,000 trees and shrubs.
 C. The result is a park that attracts tourists from all over the world.
 D. Many workers from the New York area contributed to the park's development.

44. F. NO CHANGE
 G. Considering
 H. Through
 J. Despite

45. A. NO CHANGE
 B. a once-bare landscape
 C. a once barely landscape
 D. a once, bare landscape

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.