

# Multiple-choice Questions

For each of the following questions, choose the letter of the one *best* response.

## Chapter 1

- The two principal catalysts for the Information Age have been
  - books and pamphlets.
  - computers and communication networks.
  - movie theaters and public parks.
  - newspapers and magazines.
  - radio and television.
- Which statement best supports the conclusion that society **can** control whether to adopt a new technology?
  - No new nuclear power plants were built in the United States for 25 years after the accident at Three Mile Island.
  - About half of all email messages are spam.
  - Despite decades of research, fusion power is an elusive goal.
  - People do not have to listen to Rush Limbaugh if they do not want to.
  - Some new technologies are simply too expensive to even consider adopting.
- Tablets, abacuses, and manual tables
  - are no longer used, because of the proliferation of calculators and computers.
  - are examples of aids to manual calculating.
  - were developed in Western Europe in the late Middle Ages.
  - replaced Hindu-Arabic numerals as the preferred way to do calculations.
  - All of the above.
- The mechanical adding machines of Pascal and Leibniz were not widely adopted because
  - they were too expensive.
  - there were unreliable.
  - they were too difficult to program.
  - they could not handle fractions.
  - bookkeepers successfully lobbied the King, and he made the machines illegal.
- The calculating machine of Georg and Edvard Sheutz
  - computed the values of polynomial functions.
  - typeset the results of its computations.
  - performed calculations faster than they could be done manually.
  - performed calculations more reliably than they could be done manually.
  - All of the above.
- Which of the following phrases does **not** describe the Gilded Age in America?
  - rapid industrialization
  - economic expansion
  - widespread electrification
  - concentration of corporate power
  - corporate mergers