

Reading 1:

The induction stage occurs during the first few years of teaching and is the time when teachers are socialized into the profession. During this time, the new teacher works for acceptance and attempts to become comfortable with teaching on a day-to-day basis. This may be a time when the beginning teacher finds a location or situation where he or she "fits." Teachers may move from building to building or grade to grade until they find a situation where they feel most comfortable. The stress of beginning a new profession may be compounded by other events in individuals' lives. New teachers are usually adjusting from viewing themselves as students to having a full-time job and getting to know a new community. They are dealing with issues related to personal relationships, finances, and activities outside of work. It is an exciting time for new professionals, albeit a busy and stressful one.

During this stage, many school districts provide support in the form of experienced mentor teachers to help induct new teachers into the profession. Mentors provide new teachers with a support system by acting as peer coaches, helping with planning, sharing ideas, introducing school routines, judging appropriateness of assignments, and explaining the context of specific teaching situations. Mentors ease new teachers into the profession and increase the possibilities that they will stay in the teaching field for a longer period of time. This is an important role for an experienced teacher because 80 to 90 percent of new teachers leave teaching after seven years or less. New teachers who receive appropriate mentoring during their first year or two in the profession continue to learn, grow, and develop more positive attitudes toward the profession.

1. Which sentence best states the main idea of this passage?

- (A) New teachers must often get to know a new community.
- (B) New teachers who have mentors have more positive attitudes.
- (C) The induction stage for teachers is an exciting and challenging time.
- (D) Many school districts provide mentors for new teachers.

2. According to the passage, what percent of new teachers leave teaching after 7 years or less?

- (A) 80-90%
- (B) 10-15%
- (C) 20-25%
- (D) 30-35%

3. The author's main purpose is to:

- (A) Describe the induction stage for new teachers.
- (B) Compare teaching to other professions.
- (C) Convince more people to become educators.
- (D) Argue that teaching is a difficult profession.

Σ. The author shows bias in favor of:

- (A) Providing teachers with greater job security.
- (B) Raising teachers' salaries.
- (C) Providing mentors for new teachers.
- (D) Keeping teachers in the same school building for years.

ο. What is the relationship between the second sentence ("Mentors provide new teachers with a support system...") and third sentence ("Mentors ease new teachers into the profession...") of the second paragraph?

- (A) The third sentence of the paragraph gives an example of the second.
- (B) The third sentence of the paragraph shows an effect of the second.
- (C) The third sentence of the paragraph adds a fact to the second.
- (D) The third sentence of the paragraph contradicts the second.

ϒ. "It is an exciting time for new professionals, albeit a busy and stressful one." The above sentence is a statement of:

- (A) Opinion
- (B) Fact
- (C) Critical
- (D) Description

V. Mentors act as:

- (A) Substitute teachers.
- (B) Peer coaches.
- (C) Administrators.
- (D) School counselors.

Λ. The author's claim that mentors "increase the possibilities that they will stay in the teaching profession for a longer period of time" is:

- (A) Inadequately supported because of a lack of factual details.
- (B) Adequately supported by factual evidence.
- (C) Adequately supported by factual evidence but critical.
- (D) Inadequately supported because it's not his personal opinion.