Answers

Reading

Question	Correct Answer
1	D
2	B
3	C
4	B
5	C
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	B
10	A
11	D
12	A
13	D
14	B
15	A
16	A
17	B
18	D
19	C
20	B
21	C
22	C
23	C
24	A
25	A
26	B
27	B
28	C
29	A
30	D
31	D

Question	Correct Answer
32	A
33	B
34	A
35	D
36	D
37	B
38	C
39	D
40	B
41	C
42	A
43	C
44	B
45	C
46	B
47	C
48	A
49	A
50	B
51	D
52	D

Writing and Language

Question	Correct Answer
1	B
2	C
3	C
4	A
5	B
6	A
7	C
8	A
9	A
10	B
11	C
12	D
13	B
14	D
15	A
16	C
17	C
18	B
19	B
20	D
21	D
22	C
23	A
24	C
25	B
26	C
27	B
28	D

Question	Correct Answer
29	C
30	A
31	D
32	B
33	D
34	D
35	B
36	A
37	C
38	B
39	C
40	D
41	A
42	D
43	D
44	C

Answers

Math without Calculator

Question	Correct Answer
1	A
2	A
3	B
4	A
5	B
6	A
7	B
8	D
9	D
10	C
11	D
12	C
13	D
14	A
15	D
16	23
17	9
18	104
19	3/2, 1.5
20	7/6, 1.16, 1.17

Math with Calculator

Question	Correct Answer	Question	Correct Answer
1	A	26	B
2	D	27	D
3	B	28	B
4	B	29	D
5	C	30	D
6	C	31	4.44, 111/25
7	D	32	1/5, .2
8	D	33	11
9	B	34	11/60<X<1/4, .183<X<.25
10	C	35	10, 11, 12, 13, 14
11	D	36	.1, 1/10
12	A	37	550
13	B	38	1.34, 67/50
14	C		
15	B		
16	D		
17	A		
18	B		
19	C		
20	A		
21	A		
22	C		
23	A		
24	B		
25	A		

Essay

As you read the passage below, consider how Megan McHugh uses

- evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
- reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
- stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.

Adapted from Megan McHugh, "Allow Video Cameras in the Supreme Court." ©2015 by Capitol Hill Publishing Corp., a subsidiary of News Communications, Inc. Originally published in the Hill, April 22, 2015.

1 In June, the U.S. Supreme Court will deliver its decision in King v. Burwell, the landmark case argued last month that could potentially end health insurance subsidies for over nine million people and unravel the Affordable Care Act.

2 Despite the great public interest in this case, only a few hundred people who are physically in the courtroom will be able to see the Justices deliver their decision.

3 Unlike the proceedings of Congress, which the public can access via [cable network] C-SPAN, cameras are not allowed inside the Supreme Court. There is no opportunity for members of the public like me to watch oral arguments or opinion announcements, no matter how significant the case. Instead, for the oral arguments of King v. Burwell last month, I was kept apprised of the proceedings by a group of reporters who listened to part of the arguments, then excused themselves from the courtroom to blog. Refreshing websites every five minutes, I could get timely but wholly incomplete information.

4 Public opinion is overwhelmingly supportive of allowing cameras in the Supreme Court during public proceedings. Most people are interested in the ability to access complete, accurate, and timely information about public policy issues that directly affect their lives—health care, religious freedom, search and seizure, same-sex marriage, and others. Cameras would expand public observation of significant, historical lawmaking, to people anywhere in the country, and the world.

5 The Justices are the most vocal opponents of this proposal. One of their arguments against permitting cameras in the courtroom is that the Justices and lawyers may "play to the cameras," recognizing that the complex proceedings will be diminished to brief sound bites for the evening news. Essentially the Justices worry the media is going to interfere with how they do business, but public sessions of Congress and the high courts in Canada and Great Britain permit cameras and they are able to carry on with their business as usual.

6 Another upside to having livestreaming cameras is that they would allow viewers to get accurate information, something the media filter does not always provide. Remember when Fox News infamously reported, "Supreme Court Finds Health Care Mandate Unconstitutional" and CNN, "Mandate Struck Down" when in fact in 2012 the Court ruled the opposite in Sibelius v. National Federation of Independent Business, the previous challenge to the Affordable Care Act? Allowing cameras in the courtroom during opinion announcements would allow the public to hear directly from the Court, potentially diminishing the race among news outlets to be the first to report the Court's decisions, even if it's wrong.

7 Increased openness by the Court also could provide an opportunity for education and engagement. In 2009, Justice Kagan (then a Supreme Court nominee) remarked, "If cameras were in the courtroom, the American public would see an extraordinary event . . . there is a debate of really extraordinarily intellectual adultness and richness . . . I think if you put cameras in the courtroom, people would say, 'wow.' They would see their government working at a really high level." Importantly, young girls would see three of the most professionally successful women in America working at that really high level.

8 Congress has recognized that opening the Court to cameras would improve transparency and accountability and is aligned with the principles of good government. Last month, Sens. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) introduced legislation that would require open proceedings of the Supreme Court to be televised. The Cameras in the Courtroom Act of 2015, also introduced in the House, applies only to sessions where members of the public are already invited to observe in person and allows Justices to remove cameras if televising would constitute a violation of due process rights of one or more parties before the Court. Similar legislation has been introduced with bipartisan support for the last nine Congresses, but has failed to gain traction, in part because of opposition from the Justices and the absence of a well-funded and organized campaign to press House and Senate leadership to prioritize the issue. It's time to make it a priority. . . .

9 Until then, the Supreme Court falls short on openness which means that for the nine million people whose insurance subsidies are at stake in King v. Burwell, a sketch artist's rendering is as close as they will get to viewing what transpired in the courtroom.

11

Write an essay in which you explain how Megan McHugh builds an argument to persuade her audience that video cameras should be allowed in the United States Supreme Court. In your essay, analyze how McHugh uses one or more of the features listed in the box above (or features of your own choice) to strengthen the logic and persuasiveness of her argument. Be sure that your analysis focuses on the most relevant features of the passage.

Your essay should not explain whether you agree with McHugh's claims, but rather explain how McHugh builds an argument to persuade her audience.