

A Modern Blacksmith

You will probably never find his name in a history book, but to this day, Walker Lee continues to contribute to America heritage. Walker Lee is an old-fashioned, modern-

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day blacksmith who still practices the fine art of manipulating metal over a hot fire. In his words, “Blacksmithing is no dying art!”

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16. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. American heritage.
H. Americas heritage.
J. American’s heritage.
17. **A.** NO CHANGE
B. who still continues to practice
C. who continues to still practice
D. who practices still

Walker Lee had begun his career in hand-forged
ironwork at the age of 30. The idea of creating an object
out of iron, a most intractable material, appealed to him.
He started on this new venture by collecting and reading
every book he could find that described the process of
blacksmithing: its history, its practical and decorative uses,
and the equipment needed to establish and outfit his own
smithy. During the course of his research, Lee discovered a
tool necessary for the success of any blacksmith: the anvil,
a heavy block of iron or steel upon which the blacksmith
hammered and shaped the malleable metal.

18. F. NO CHANGE
G. had begun
H. begun
J. began
19. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?
A. one of the most intractable metals, iron,
B. a most intractable material, that being iron
C. iron (a most intractable material)
D. a most intractable material, iron,

Lee bought his first anvil from 84-year-old Hurley Alford Templeton of Philadelphia, lugging it home to Michigan in the back of a 4-H county bus. This anvil weighed 100 pounds, about the minimum size Walker Lee needed to get started in his craft.

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Lee's first anvil cost him \$100, and four months later, he paid \$75 for an additional implement—a vice—from Cornell University in New York. This important tool also made its way back to Michigan in the back of Lee's 4-H bus.

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20. Which choice most emphasizes the difficulty in moving the large anvil?
- F. NO CHANGE
 - G. taking
 - H. driving
 - J. transporting
21. At this point, the writer wants to express how Lee first began the craft of blacksmithing. Which choice would most effectively accomplish this task?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. continue
 - C. keep going
 - D. move on
22. F. NO CHANGE
- G. it's
 - H. its'
 - J. the

Lee had spent the summer carting 4-H groups out

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from Michigan to the east coast for

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various county fairs and expositions.

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Once Lee obtained his first portable forge, he was

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ready to build his blacksmith shop, commonly referred to

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as a “smithy.” In the interest of economy, he constructed

24

this shop out of inexpensive oak planks and tarpaper. It

J. ~~use~~

23. A. NO CHANGE

B. Carting 4-H groups out from Michigan to the east coast for various county fairs and expositions, Lee had spent the summer.

C. Lee had spent the summer, for various county fairs and expositions, carting 4-H groups out from Michigan to the east coast.

D. OMIT the underlined portion.

24. Given that all of the choices are true, which one would most effectively introduce the subject of this paragraph?

F. NO CHANGE

G. Obtaining a portable forge for the shop proved to be Lee’s biggest challenge.

H. Blacksmith shops can be difficult to construct, but the most challenging task is moving the necessary equipment into it.

J. A blacksmith’s forge requires some type of blower in order to keep the fire hot enough to bend the steel.

was a crude little shack but stood for only nine years. Lee,
25
who by then was completely hooked on blacksmithing,
replaced his first shop with a finer one made of more
expensive wood; this shop also had glass windows, a
definite improvement over Lee's original "smithy."

25. A. NO CHANGE
B. that stood for
C. which standing for
D. and stands for

[1] The very first object Lee forged was a long, pointed Hudson Bay dagger.
²⁶
[2] Many people refer to this type of knife as a “dag.”
[3] As he recalls that event he says, “From the minute I first saw the thing take shape, I was hooked . . . still am. There’s an element of magic in it to me. You heat it up and pound it with a hammer and it goes where you want it to go.” [4] Years later at a family event Lee, discovered
²⁷
that his Italian ancestors were accomplished coppersmiths.
[5] During the gathering, Lee’s great uncle Johnny was proclaiming that Lee’s propensity for blacksmithing
²⁸
was “in the blood” as he happily presented Lee with a new 125-pound anvil. [29]

26. F. NO CHANGE
G. long pointed,
H. long, and pointed
J. long-pointed
27. A. NO CHANGE
B. later at a family, event Lee
C. later, at a family event, Lee,
D. later, at a family event, Lee
28. F. NO CHANGE
G. proclaimed
H. had been proclaiming
J. having proclaimed
29. Which of the following sentences in this paragraph is LEAST relevant to the main focus of the essay and, therefore, could be deleted?
A. Sentence 2
B. Sentence 3
C. Sentence 4
D. Sentence 5

As an outside observer watches Walker Lee

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bending and shaping a hot metal rod into some

recognizable form, it is difficult to discern the origin of the

magic Lee spoke of; is it in the glowing, orange steel or in

Walker himself?

30. **F.** NO CHANGE

G. was watching

H. had been watching

J. watched

1. B	21. A
2. G	22. F
3. C	23. D
4. J	24. F
5. A	25. B
6. G	26. F
7. B	27. D
8. J	28. G
9. B	29. A
10. F	30. F
11. D	31. D
12. J	32. F
13. A	33. A
14. G	34. H
15. C	35. A
16. G	36. F
17. A	37. A
18. J	38. J
19. B	39. D
20. F	40. F