



Questions 16-24 are based on the following passage.

The following passage is excerpted from a British novel published in the mid-nineteenth century.

Line It was interesting to be in the quiet old town once more,
and it was not disagreeable to be here and there suddenly
recognized and stared after. One or two of the tradespeople
5 even darted out of their shops, and went a little way down
the street before me, that they might turn, as if they had
forgotten something, and pass me face to face—on which
occasions I don't know whether they or I made the worse
pretence; they of not doing it, or I of not seeing it. Still,
10 my position was a distinguished one, and I was not at all
dissatisfied with it, until Fate threw me in the way of that
unlimited miscreant, Trabb's boy.

Casting my eyes along the street at a certain point of
my progress, I beheld Trabb's boy approaching, lashing
himself with an empty blue bag. Deeming that a serene
and unconscious contemplation of him would best
15 beseech me, and would be most likely to quell his evil
mind, I advanced with that expression of countenance,
and was rather congratulating myself on my success,
when suddenly the knees of Trabb's boy smote together,
20 his hair uprose, his cap fell off, he trembled violently in
every limb, staggered out into the road, and crying to the
populace, "Hold me! I'm so frightened!" feigned to be
in a paroxysm of terror and contrition, occasioned by
the dignity of my appearance. As I passed him, his
25 teeth loudly chattered in his head, and with every mark
of extreme humiliation, he prostrated himself in the dust.

This was a hard thing to bear, but this was nothing. I
had not advanced another two hundred yards, when, to my
inexpressible terror, amazement, and indignation, I again
30 beheld Trabb's boy approaching. He was coming round
a narrow corner. His blue bag was slung over his shoulder,
honest industry beamed in his eyes, a determination to pro-
ceed to Trabb's with cheerful briskness was indicated in
his gait. With a shock he became aware of me, and was
35 severely visited as before; but this time his motion was
rotatory, and he staggered round and round me with
knees more afflicted, and with uplifted hands as if
beseeching my mercy. His sufferings were hailed with
the greatest joy by a knot of spectators, and I felt utterly
40 confounded.

I had not got as much further down the street as the
post office, when I again beheld Trabb's boy shooting
round by a back way. This time, he was entirely changed.
He wore the blue bag in the manner of my great-coat,
45 and was strutting along the pavement towards me on
the opposite side of the street, attended by a company
of delighted young friends to whom he from time to time
exclaimed, with a wave of his hand, "Don't know yah!"
Words cannot state the amount of aggravation and injury
50 wreaked upon me by Trabb's boy, when, passing abreast
of me, he pulled up his shirt collar, twined his side-hair,

stuck an arm akimbo, and smirked extravagantly by,
wriggling his elbows and body, and drawling to his
attendants, "Don't know yah, don't know yah, 'pon
55 my soul don't know yah!" The disgrace attendant on his
immediately afterwards taking to crowing and pursuing
me across the bridge with crows, as from an exceedingly
dejected fowl who had known me when I was a blacksmith,
culminated the disgrace with which I left the town, and
60 was, so to speak, ejected by it into the open country.

040¹⁶. The general organization of the passage is best described by which of the following?

- (A) A remembrance of three encounters that lead to ignominious flight
- (B) An account of a loosely related series of events
- (C) A narration that demonstrates the circular logic behind Trabb's boy's actions
- (D) A description of an action from several points of view
- (E) A progression from a state of isolation to a state of community and fellowship

041¹⁷. The first paragraph of the passage implies that the narrator felt

- (A) apathetic and helpless at being a stranger in town
- (B) distanced and smug toward the townspeople
- (C) bored and unimportant in a provincial town
- (D) confused and disoriented on a busy street
- (E) nostalgic and proud on returning to his hometown

042¹⁸. In context, the word "progress" (line 13) implies that the narrator

- (A) has noble ideas concerning the future
- (B) intends to effect some change in the town
- (C) thinks of his stroll as a kind of procession
- (D) was not expecting trouble from Trabb's boy
- (E) is recollecting a past rise in fortune

043¹⁹. The phrase "that expression of countenance" (line 17) refers to the narrator's

- (A) guilty conscience
- (B) friendly greeting
- (C) feigned indifference
- (D) premonition of disaster
- (E) recognition of Trabb's boy

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