

## PART B: READING COMPREHENSION

13 multiple-choice questions  
Value: 16% A

Suggested Time: 25 minutes

### ANALYSIS TEXT 1

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the following poem, “Wordsmith,” and answer the multiple-choice questions. For each question, select the **best** answer and record your choice on the **Answer Sheet** provided.

#### Wordsmith

by Susan Young

- 1 In my mind I call my  
father the Pollyfilla<sup>1</sup> king,  
watch with something akin to awe  
as he begins the arduous process  
5 of filling in the gaps, the long winded  
cracks that travel down the walls of my house  
like run on sentences.
- From the sidelines I watch as he  
trudges up and down the stairs, carrying  
10 with nonchalance an industrial-sized bucket,  
shiny spatula tucked into back pocket  
for easy access.
- Over and over again  
with precision and grace  
15 he fills and smooths and sands  
as filling in all of the empty crevices  
with the words he didn't know how to say,  
the lost syllables and consonants springing up  
from the bucket, stubbornly announcing themselves  
20 home, until there is only smoothness,  
my fifty eight year old house a perfect sentence,
- the veritable sheen of its walls  
privy to this father of mine,  
whose love keeps him moving  
25 from room to room, brightly asking,  
*Do you think you'll be painting the other room  
upstairs sometime? I could start work on it now.  
Then it'll be ready for painting later.*  
*Yes, I say, yes,*  
30 my face aglow.

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<sup>1</sup>Pollyfilla: a brand name for a substance used to fill cracks in plaster walls