Passage Two Questions 56 to 60 are based on the following passage: While still in its early stages, welfare reform has already been judged a great success in many states at least in getting people off welfare. It's estimated that more than 2 million people have left the rolls since 1994. In the past four years, welfare rolls in Athens Country have been cut in half. But 70 percent of the people who left in the past tow years took jobs that paid less than $6 an hour. The result: The Athens County poverty rate still remains at more than 30 percent twice the national average. For advocates for the poor, that's an indication much more needs to be done. "More people are getting jobs, but it's not making their lives any better," says Kathy Lairn, a policy analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington. A center analysis of US Census data nationwide found that between 1995 and 1996, a greater percentage of single, female-headed households were earning money on their own, but that average income for these households actually went down. But for many, the fact that poor people are able to support themselves almost as well without government aid as they did with it is in itself a huge victory. "Welfare was a poison. It was a toxin that was poisoning the family," says Robert Rector, a welfare-reform policy analyst. "The reform in changing the moral climate in low-income communities. It's beginning to rebuild the

work ethic , which is much more important." Mr. Rector and others argued that once "the habit of dependency is cracked," then the country can make other policy changes aimed at improving living standards. 56. From the passage, it can be seen that the author _____. A) believes the reform has reduced the government's burden B) insists that welfare reform is doing little good for the poor C) is overenthusiastic about the success of welfare reform D) considers welfare reform to be fundamentally successful 57. Why aren't people enjoying better lives when they have jobs? A) Because many families are divorced. B) Because government aid is now rare. C) Because their wages are low. D) Because the cost of living is rising. 58. What is worth noting from the example of Athens County is that _____. A) greater efforts should be made to improve people's living standards B) 70 percent of the people there have been employed for two years C) 50 percent of the population no longer relies on welfare D) the living standards of most people are going down 59. From the passage we know that welfare reform aims at _____. A) saving welfare funds B) rebuilding the work ethic C) providing more jobs D) cutting government expenses 60. According to the passage before the welfare reform was carried out, _____. A) the poverty rate was lover B) average living standards were higher C) the average worker was paid higher wages D) the poor used to rely on government aid

A   B

                    C

                              D

    D   57.

                                              4

2   but

    1   1   3   3   2   2

                              But   70%

                    6   A

                              B

                                              D

                    C   but

                    C   58.   worth nothing

from

                              57

3   indication   A

B   70%

                    70%   30%

          70%   C   B   50%   D

A 59.

A

B 7

C D B 60.

A

A B

C households

D rely on dependency

D 100Test

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