



IELTS Recent Mock Tests Volume 3

Reading Practice Test 4

HOW TO USE

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READING PASSAGE 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 1-13, which are based on Reading Passage 1 below.



Otters

A Otters are semiaquatic (or in the case of the sea otter, aquatic) mammals. They are members of the Mustelid family which includes badgers, polecats, martens, weasels, stoats and minks, and have inhabited the earth for the last 30 million years and over the years have undergone subtle changes to the carnivore bodies to exploit the rich aquatic environment. Otters have long thin body and short legs—ideal for pushing dense undergrowth or hunting in tunnels. An adult male may be up to 4 feet long and 30 pounds. Females are smaller, around 16 pounds typically. The Eurasian otter’s nose is about the smallest among the otter species and has a characteristic shape described as a shallow “W”. An otter’s tail (or rudder, or stern) is stout at the base and tapers towards the tip where it flattens. This forms part of the propulsion unit when swimming fast under water. Otter fur consists of two types of hair: stout guard hairs which form a waterproof outer covering, and under-fur which is dense and fine, equivalent to an otter’s thermal underwear. The fur must be kept in good condition by grooming. Sea water reduces the waterproofing and insulating qualities of otter fur when salt water gets in the fur. This is why freshwater pools are important to otters living on the coast. After swimming, they wash the salts off in the pools and then squirm on the ground to rub dry against vegetation.

B Scent is used for hunting on land, for communication and for detecting danger. Otterine sense of smell is likely to be similar in sensitivity to dogs. Otters have small eyes and are probably short-sighted on land. But they do have the ability to modify the shape of the lens in the eye to make it more spherical, and hence overcome the refraction of water. In clear water and good light, otters can hunt fish by sight. The otter’s eyes and nostrils are placed high on its head so that it can see and breathe even when the rest of the body is submerged. The long whiskers growing around the muzzle are used to detect the presence of fish. They detect regular vibrations caused by the beat of the fish’s tail as it swims away. This allows otters to hunt even in very murky water. Underwater, the otter holds its legs against the body, except for steering, and the hind end of the body is flexed in a series of vertical undulations. River otters have webbing which extends for much of the length of each digit, though not to the very end. Giant otters and sea otters have even

more prominent webs, while the Asian short-clawed otter has no webbing—they hunt for shrimps in ditches and paddy fields so they don't need the swimming speed. Otter ears are protected by valves which close them against water pressure.

C A number of constraints and preferences limit suitable habitats for otters. Water is a must and the rivers must be large enough to support a healthy population of fish. Being such shy and wary creatures, they will prefer territories where man's activities do not impinge greatly. Of course, there must also be no other otter already in residence—this has only become significant again recently as populations start to recover. A typical range for a male river otter might be 25km of river, a female's range less than half this. However, the productivity of the river affects this hugely and one study found male ranges between 12 and 80km. Coastal otters have a much more abundant food supply and ranges for males and females may be just a few kilometers of coastline. Because male ranges are usually larger, a male otter may find his range overlaps with two or three females. Otters will eat anything that they can get hold of—there are records of sparrows and snakes and slugs being gobbled. Apart from fish the most common prey are crayfish, crabs and water birds. Small mammals are occasionally taken, most commonly rabbits but sometimes even moles.

D Eurasian otters will breed any time where food is readily available. In places where condition is more severe, Sweden for example where the lakes are frozen for much of winter, cubs are born in Spring. This ensures that they are well grown before severe weather returns. In the Shetlands, cubs are born in summer when fish is more abundant. Though otters can breed every year, some do not. Again, this depends on food availability. Other factors such as food range and quality of the female may have an effect. Gestation for Eurasian otter is 63 days, with the exception of North American river otter whose embryos may undergo delayed implantation.

E Otters normally give birth in more secure dens to avoid disturbances. Nests are lined with bedding (reeds, waterside plants, grass) to keep the cubs warm while mummy is away feeding. Litter Size varies between 1 and 5 (2 or 3 being the most common). For some unknown reason, coastal otters tend to produce smaller litters. At five weeks they open their eyes—a tiny cub of 700g. At seven weeks they're weaned onto solid food. At ten weeks they leave the nest, blinking into daylight for the first time. After three months they finally meet the water and learn to swim. After eight months they are hunting, though the mother still provides a lot of food herself. Finally, after nine months she can chase them all away with a clear conscience, and relax—until the next fella shows up.

F The plight of the British otter was recognised in the early 60s, but it wasn't until the late 70s that the chief cause was discovered. Pesticides, such as dieldrin and aldrin, were first used in '1955 in agriculture and other industries—these chemicals are very persistent and had already been recognised as the cause of huge declines in the population of peregrine

falcons, sparrowhawks and other predators. The pesticides entered the river systems and the food chain—micro-organisms, fish and finally otters, with every step increasing the concentration of the chemicals. From 1962 the chemicals were phased out, but while some species recovered quickly, otter numbers did not—and continued to fall into the 80s. This was probably due mainly to habitat destruction and road deaths. Acting on populations fragmented by the sudden decimation in the 50s and 60s, the loss of just a handful of otters in one area can make an entire population enviable and spell the end.

G Otter numbers are recovering all around Britain—populations are growing again in the few areas where they had remained and have expanded from those areas into the rest of the country. This is almost entirely due to law and conservation efforts, slowing down and reversing the destruction of suitable otter habitat and reintroductions from captive breeding programs. Releasing captive-bred otters is seen by many as a last resort. The argument runs that where there is no suitable habitat for them they will not survive after release and when¹ there is suitable habitat, natural populations should be able to expand into the area. However, reintroducing animals into a fragmented and fragile population may add just enough impetus for it to stabilise and expand, rather than die out. This is what the Otter Trust accomplished in Norfolk, where the otter population may have been as low as twenty animals at the beginning of the 1980s. The Otter Trust has now finished its captive breeding program entirely. Great news because it means it is no longer' needed.

Questions 1-9

Reading Passage 1 has seven paragraphs, A-G.

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, A-G, in boxes 1-9 on your answer sheet.

NB You may use any letter **more than once**.

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| 1 | <input type="text"/> | A description of how otters regulate vision underwater |
| 2 | <input type="text"/> | The fit-for-purpose characteristics of otter's body shape |
| 3 | <input type="text"/> | A reference to an underdeveloped sense |
| 4 | <input type="text"/> | An explanation of why agriculture failed in otter conservation efforts |
| 5 | <input type="text"/> | A description of some of the otter's social characteristics |
| 6 | <input type="text"/> | A description of how baby otters grow |
| 7 | <input type="text"/> | The conflicted opinions on how to preserve |

8 A reference to a legislative act

9 An explanation of how otters compensate for heat loss

Questions 10-13

Answer the questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes **10-13** on your answer sheet.

What affects the outer fur of otters?

10

What skill is not necessary for Asian short-clawed otters?

11

Which type of otters has the shortest range?

12

Which type of animals do otters hunt occasionally?

13

READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14-26, which are based on Reading Passage 2 on the following pages.



Wealth in A Cold Climate

Latitude is crucial to a nation's economic strength.

A Dr William Masters was reading a book about mosquitoes when inspiration struck. "There was this anecdote about the great yellow fever epidemic that hit Philadelphia in 1793," Masters recalls. "This epidemic decimated the city until the first frost came." The inclement weather froze out the insects, allowing Philadelphia to recover.

B If weather could be the key to a city's fortunes, Masters thought, then why not to the historical fortunes of nations? And could frost lie at the heart of one of the most enduring economic mysteries of all—why are almost all the wealthy, industrialised nations to be found at latitudes above 40 degrees? After two years of research, he thinks that he has found a piece of the puzzle. Masters, an agricultural economist from Purdue University in Indiana, and Margaret McMillan at Tufts University, Boston, show that annual frosts are among the factors that distinguish rich nations from poor ones. Their study is published this month in the *Journal of Economic Growth*. The pair speculate that cold snaps have two main benefits - they freeze pests that would otherwise destroy crops, and also freeze organisms, such as mosquitoes, that carry disease. The result is agricultural abundance and a big workforce.

C The academics took two sets of information. The first was average income for countries, the second climate data from the University of East Anglia. They found a curious tally between the sets. Countries having five or more frosty days a month are uniformly rich, those with fewer than five are impoverished. The authors speculate that the five-day figure is important; it could be the minimum time needed to kill pests in the soil. Masters says: "For example, Finland is a small country that is growing quickly, but Bolivia is a small country that isn't growing at all. Perhaps climate has something to do with that." In

fact, limited frosts bring huge benefits to farmers. The chills kill insects or render them inactive; cold weather slows the break-up of plant and animal material in the soil, allowing it to become richer; and frosts ensure a build-up of moisture in the ground for spring, reducing dependence on seasonal rains. There are exceptions to the “cold equals rich” argument. There are well-heeled tropical places such as Hong Kong and Singapore, a result of their superior trading positions. Like-wise, not all European countries are moneyed in the former communist colonies, economic potential was crushed by politics.

D Masters stresses that climate will never be the overriding factor - the wealth of nations is too complicated to be attributable to just one factor. Climate, he feels, somehow combines with other factors such as the presence of institutions, including governments, and access to trading routes to determine whether a country will do well. Traditionally, Masters says, economists thought that institutions had the biggest effect on the economy, because they brought order to a country in the form of, for example, laws and property rights. With order, so the thinking went, came affluence. “But there are some problems that even countries with institutions have not been able to get around,” he says. “My feeling is that, as countries get richer, they get better institutions. And the accumulation of wealth and improvement in governing institutions are both helped by a favourable environment, including climate.”

E This does not mean, he insists, that tropical countries are beyond economic help and destined to remain penniless. Instead, richer countries should change the way in which foreign aid is given. Instead of aid being geared towards improving governance, it should be spent on technology to improve agriculture and to combat disease. Masters cites one example: “There are regions in India that have been provided with irrigation, agricultural productivity has gone up and there has been an improvement in health.” Supplying vaccines against tropical diseases and developing crop varieties that can grow in the tropics would break the poverty cycle.

F Other minds have applied themselves to the split between poor and rich nations, citing anthropological, climatic and zoological reasons for why temperate nations are the most affluent. In 350 BC, Aristotle observed that “those who live in a cold climate...are full of spirit”. Jared Diamond, from the University of California at Los Angeles, pointed out in his book *Guns, Germs and Steel* that Eurasia is broadly aligned east-west, while Africa and the Americas are aligned north-south. So, in Europe, crops can spread quickly across latitudes because climates are similar. One of the first domesticated crops, einkorn wheat, spread quickly from the Middle East into Europe; it took twice as long for corn to spread from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States. This easy movement along similar latitudes in Eurasia would also have meant a faster dissemination of other technologies such as the wheel and writing, Diamond speculates. The region also boasted domesticated livestock, which could provide meat, wool and motive power in the fields. Blessed with such natural advantages, Eurasia was bound to take off economically.

G John Gallup and Jeffrey Sachs, two US economists, have also pointed out striking correlations between the geographical location of countries and their wealth. They note that tropical countries between 23.45 degrees north and south of the equator are nearly all poor. In an article for the Harvard International Review, they concluded that “development surely seems to favour the temperate-zone economies, especially those in the northern hemisphere, and those that have managed to avoid both socialism and the ravages of war”. But Masters cautions against geographical determinism, the idea that tropical countries are beyond hope: “Human health and agriculture can be made better through scientific and technological research,” he says, “so we shouldn’t be writing off these countries. Take Singapore: without air conditioning, it wouldn’t be rich.”

Questions 14-20

Reading Passage 2 has seven paragraphs, A-G.

Choose the most suitable heading for paragraphs A-G from the list of headings below.

Write the appropriate number, i-x, in boxes 14-20 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings	
i	The positive correlation between climate and wealth
ii	Other factors besides climate that influence wealth
iii	Inspiration from reading a book
iv	Other researchers’ results do not rule out exceptional cases
v	Different attributes between Eurasia and Africa
vi	Low temperature benefits people and crops
vii	The importance of institution in traditional views
viii	The spread of crops in Europe, Asia and other places
ix	The best way to use aid
x	Confusions and exceptions

14  Paragraph A

15  Paragraph B

16  Paragraph C

17  Paragraph D

18 Paragraph E

19 Paragraph F

20 Paragraph G

Questions 21-26

Complete the summary below,

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes **21-26** on your answer sheet.

Dr William Masters read a book saying that a(an) 21 epidemic which struck an American city hundreds of years ago was terminated by a cold frost. And academics found that there is a connection between climate and country's wealth as in the rich but small country of 22 . Yet besides excellent surroundings and climate, one country still needs to improve their 23 to achieve long prosperity.

Thanks to resembling weather conditions across latitude in the continent of 24 , crops such as 25 is bound to spread faster than from South America to the North. Other researchers also noted that even though geographical factors are important, tropical country such as 26 still became rich due to scientific advancement.

READING PASSAGE 3

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 27-40, which are based on Reading Passage 3 below.



Musical Maladies

Norman M. Weinberger reviews the latest work of Oliver Sacks on music.

Music and the brain are both endlessly fascinating subjects, and as a neuroscientist specialising in auditory learning and memory, I find them especially intriguing. So I had high expectations of *Musicophilia*, the latest offering from neurologist and prolific author Oliver Sacks. And I confess to feeling a little guilty reporting that my reactions to the book are mixed.

Sacks himself is the best part of *Musicophilia*. He richly documents his own life in the book and reveals highly personal experiences. The photograph of him on the cover of the book—which shows him wearing headphones, eyes closed, clearly enchanted as he listens to Alfred Brendel perform Beethoven's *Pathétique Sonata*—makes a positive impression that is borne out by the contents of the book. Sacks's voice throughout is steady and erudite but never pontifical. He is neither self-conscious nor self-promoting.

The preface gives a good idea of what the book will deliver. In it Sacks explains that he wants to convey the insights gleaned from the “enormous and rapidly growing body of work on the neural underpinnings of musical perception and imagery, and the complex and often bizarre disorders to which these are prone.” He also stresses the importance of “the simple art of observation” and “the richness of the human context.” He wants to combine “observation and description with the latest in technology,” he says, and to imaginatively enter into the experience of his patients and subjects. The reader can see that Sacks, who has been practicing neurology for 40 years, is torn between the “old-fashioned” path of observation and the new-fangled, high-tech approach: He knows that he needs to take heed of the latter, but his heart lies with the former.

The book consists mainly of detailed descriptions of cases, most of them involving

patients whom Sacks has seen in his practice. Brief discussions of contemporary neuroscientific reports are sprinkled liberally throughout the text. Part I, "Haunted by Music," begins with the strange case of Tony Cicoria, a nonmusical, middle-aged surgeon who was consumed by a love of music after being hit by lightning. He suddenly began to crave listening to piano music, which he had never cared for in the past. He started to play the piano and then to compose music, which arose spontaneously in his mind in a "torrent" of notes. How could this happen? Was the cause psychological? (He had had a near-death experience when the lightning struck him.) Or was it the direct result of a change in the auditory regions of his cerebral cortex? Electro-encephalography (EEG) showed his brain waves to be normal in the mid-1990s, just after his trauma and subsequent "conversion" to music. There are now more sensitive tests, but Cicoria has declined to undergo them; he does not want to delve into the causes of his musicality. What a shame!

Part II, "A Range of Musicality," covers a wider variety of topics, but unfortunately, some of the chapters offer little or nothing that is new. For example, chapter 13, which is five pages long, merely notes that the blind often have better hearing than the sighted. The most interesting chapters are those that present the strangest cases. Chapter 8 is about "amusia," an inability to hear sounds as music, and "dysharmonia," a highly specific impairment of the ability to hear harmony, with the ability to understand melody left intact. Such specific "dissociations" are found throughout the cases Sacks recounts.

To Sacks's credit, part III, "Memory, Movement and Music," brings us into the underappreciated realm of music therapy. Chapter 16 explains how "melodic intonation therapy" is being used to help expressive aphasia patients (those unable to express their thoughts verbally following a stroke or other cerebral incident) once again become capable of fluent speech. In chapter 20, Sacks demonstrates the near-miraculous power of music to animate Parkinson's patients and other people with severe movement disorders, even those who are frozen into odd postures. Scientists cannot yet explain how music achieves this effect.

To readers who are unfamiliar with neuroscience and music behavior, Musicophilia may be something of a revelation. But the book will not satisfy those seeking the causes and implications of the phenomena Sacks describes. For one thing, Sacks appears to be more at ease discussing patients than discussing experiments. And he tends to be rather uncritical in accepting scientific findings and theories.

It's true that the causes of music-brain oddities remain poorly understood. However, Sacks could have done more to draw out some of the implications of the careful observations that he and other neurologists have made and of the treatments that have been successful. For example, he might have noted that the many specific dissociations among components of music comprehension, such as loss of the ability to perceive

harmony but not melody, indicate that there is no music center in the brain. Because many people who read the book are likely to believe in the brain localisation of all mental functions, this was a missed educational opportunity.

Another conclusion one could draw is that there seem to be no "cures" for neurological problems involving music. A drug can alleviate a symptom in one patient and aggravate it in another, or can have both positive and negative effects in the same patient. Treatments mentioned seem to be almost exclusively antiepileptic medications, which "damp down" the excitability of the brain in general; their effectiveness varies widely.

Finally, in many of the cases described here the patient with music-brain symptoms is reported to have "normal" EEG results. Although Sacks recognises the existence of new technologies, among them far more sensitive ways to analyze brain waves than the standard neurological EEG test, he does not call for their use. In fact, although he exhibits the greatest compassion for patients, he conveys no sense of urgency about the pursuit of new avenues in the diagnosis and treatment of music-brain disorders. This absence echoes the book's preface, in which Sacks expresses fear that "the simple art of observation may be lost" if we rely too much on new technologies. He does call for both approaches, though, and we can only hope that the neurological community will respond.

Questions 27-30

Choose the correct letter, A, B, C or D.

Write the correct letter in boxes 27-30 on your answer sheet.

27 Why does the writer have a mixed feeling about the book?

- A The guilty feeling made him so.
- B The writer expected it to be better than it was.
- C Sacks failed to include his personal stories in the book.
- D This is the only book written by Sacks.

28 What is the best part of the book?

- A the photo of Sacks listening to music
- B the tone of voice of the book
- C the autobiographical description in the book
- D the description of Sacks's wealth

29 In the preface, what did Sacks try to achieve?

- A make terms with the new technologies
- B give detailed description of various musical disorders
- C explain how people understand music
- D explain why he needs to do away with simple observation

30 What is disappointing about Tony Cicoria's case?

- A He refuses to have further tests.
- B He can't determine the cause of his sudden musicality.
- C He nearly died because of the lightning.
- D His brain waves were too normal to show anything.

Questions 31-36

Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in Reading Passage 3?

In boxes 31-36 on your answer sheet, write

YES	if the statement agrees with the views of the writer
NO	if the statement contradicts the views of the writer
NOT GIVEN	if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

31 It is difficult to give a well-reputable writer a less than favorable review.

32 Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata is a good treatment for musical disorders.

33 Sacks believes technological methods is not important compared with observation when studying his patients.

34 It is difficult to understand why music therapy is undervalued.

35 Sacks should have more skepticism about other theories and

findings.

36 Sacks is impatient to use new testing methods.

Questions 37-40

Complete each sentence with the correct ending, A-F, below.

Write the correct letter, A-F, in boxes 37-40 on your answer sheet.

37 The dissociations between harmony and melody

38 The study of treating musical disorders

39 The EEG scans of Sacks's patients

40 Sacks believes testing based on new technologie

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | show no music-brain disorders. |
| B | indicates that medication can have varied results. |
| C | is key for the neurological community to unravel the mysteries. |
| D | should not be used in isolation. |
| E | indicate that not everyone can receive good education. |
| F | show that music is not localised in the brain. |



Solution:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 B | 2 A |
| 3 B | 4 F |
| 5 C | 6 E |
| 7 G | 8 G |
| 9 A | 10 sea water/salt water/salt |
| 11 swimming speed | 12 coastal otters |
| 13 small mammals | 14 iii |
| 15 vi | 16 i |
| 17 ii | 18 ix |
| 19 v | 20 iv |

- 21 yellow fever
- 22 Finland
- 23 institutions/governments
- 24 Europe
- 25 einkorn wheat
- 26 Singapore
- 27 B
- 28 C
- 29 A
- 30 A
- 31 YES
- 32 NOT GIVEN
- 33 NO
- 34 NOT GIVEN
- 35 YES
- 36 NO
- 37 F
- 38 B
- 39 A
- 40 D

Review and Explanations

1 Answer: **B**

Questions 1 to 9: PARAGRAPH - INFO MATCHING:

INSTRUCTION:

Leave this type of questions until last, when you have dealt with the other types because you can remember, to some extent, what the paragraphs are about or where some information is which helps save time

- Look through the questions and choose the easiest one (one with easy keywords or one that you remember reading somewhere already) to answer first.
- Underline the keywords in that question.
- Skim and scan (all) paragraphs (from the beginning).

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 1: A description of how otters regulate vision underwater	Otters have small eyes and are probably short-sighted on land. But they do have the ability to modify the shape of the lens in the eye to make it more spherical, and hence overcome the refraction of water.
NOTE: In paragraph B, there are some pieces of information indicating how vision underwater of otters can be regulated. To be more specific, otters have the ability to change or modify the shape of the lens in the eyes, which enables them to deal with the refraction of water. Therefore, the answer to this question must be B	

2 Answer: **A**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 2: The fit-for-purpose characteristics of otter's body shape	Otters have long thin body and short legs—ideal for pushing dense undergrowth or hunting in tunnels
NOTE: In paragraph A, the writer pointed out otters' body features that help otters to push dense undergrowth or hunt in tunnels so the correct answer must be A	

3 Answer: **B**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 3: A reference to an underdeveloped sense	Otters have small eyes and are probably short-sighted on land
NOTE: "underdeveloped sense" means limitation of sense that otters have. We can find it in the paragraph B; "short-sighted on land" is otters' underdeveloped sense. Hence, the answer must be B	

4 Answer: **F**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
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<p>Question 4: An explanation of why agriculture failed in otter conservation efforts</p>	<p>The pesticides entered the river systems and the food chain - micro-organisms, fish and finally otters, with every step increasing the concentration of the chemicals .From 1962 the chemicals were phased out, but while some species recovered quickly, otter numbers did not—and continued to fall into the 80s. This was probably due mainly to habitat destruction and road deaths.</p>
<p>NOTE: In the paragraph F, pesticides are the main cause leading to decline in population of animals, otters included. In this paragraph also mentioned that although pesticides were gradually stopped using, there was no change in the situation of otters because of habitat destruction and road deaths. Therefore, the answer must be F.</p>	

5 Answer: **C**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 5: A description of some of the otter's social characteristics</p>	<p>Being such shy and wary creatures,they will prefer territories where man's activities do not impinge greatly. Of course, there must also be no other otter already in residence—this has only become significant again recently as populations start to recover.</p>
<p>NOTE: In paragraph C, otters are shy and wary creatures therefore they have a strong preference for areas where human activities do not have huge impacts on. Apart from that otters also prefer places in which no other otters live in. The two things mentioned are otters' social characteristics. Hence, the answer must be C.</p>	

6 Answer: **E**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 6: A description of how baby otters grow</p>	<p>At five weeks they open their eyes—a tiny cub of 700g. At seven weeks they're weaned onto solid food. At ten weeks they leave the nest, blinking into daylight for the first time. After three months they finally meet the water and learn to swim. After eight months they are hunting, though the mother still provides a lot of food herself. Finally, after nine months she can chase them all away with a clear conscience, and relax—until the next fella shows up</p>
<p>NOTE: In paragraph E, the process of small otters was revealed in details from the fifth week to the ninth month. Therefore, the answer must be E.</p>	

7 Answer: **G**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
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<p>Question 7: The conflicted opinions on how to preserve</p>	<p>This is almost entirely due to law and conservation efforts, slowing down and reversing the destruction of suitable otter habitat and reintroductions from captive breeding programs. Releasing captive-bred otters is seen by many as a last resort. The argument runs that where there is no suitable habitat for them, they will not survive after released and when there is suitable habitat; natural populations should be able to expand into the area.</p>
<p>NOTE: There are the arguments about the places that can be homes for otters after they are released. People are skeptical about the likelihood of having suitable place for otters to live. Therefore, the answer must be G</p>	

8 Answer: **G**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 8: A reference to a legislative act</p>	<p>However, reintroducing animals into a fragmented and fragile population may add just enough impetus for it to stabilize and expand, rather than die out. This is what the Otter Trust accomplished in Norfolk, where the otter population may have been as low as twenty animals at the beginning of the 1980s. The Otter Trust has now finished its captive breeding program entirely.</p>
<p>NOTE: In paragraph G, in order to prevent otters from dying out, the organization called Otter Trust introduced captive breeding program, which is a legislative act. Hence, the answer must be G.</p>	

9 Answer: **A**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 9: An explanation of how otters compensate for heat loss</p>	<p>Otter fur consists of two types of hair: stout guard hairs which form a waterproof outer covering, and under-fur which is dense and fine, equivalent to an otter's thermal underwear</p>
<p>NOTE: In paragraph A, it is obvious that stout guard hairs and under-fur have different role in otters' life under the water. While outer hair is a waterproof covering, under-fur can be seen as thermal underwear, which keeps otters warm when they are under the water. Therefore, the answer to this question must be A</p>	

10 Answer: **sea water/salt water/salt**

Questions 10 to 13: ANSWER QUESTIONS WITH WORD LIMIT

Instructions:

- Pay attention to word limit that you are allowed to fill in
- Guess word class that you need
- Underline keywords in questions
- Skim to find out the similar words in the text
- Read between the lines to figure out the correct answer

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 10: What affects the outer fur of otters?	Sea water reduces the waterproofing and insulate qualities of otter fur when salt water gets in the fur
NOTE: We are looking for a noun that has an influence on otters' outer fur. In the text, the write says that reduction in the waterproofing and qualities of otter fur is caused by seawater when salt water gets in the fur. Therefore, the answer to this question must be seawater or salt water .	

11 Answer: **swimming speed**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 11: What skill is not necessary for Asian short-clawed otters?	Giant otters and sea otters have even more prominent webs, while the Asian short-clawed otter has no webbing—they hunt for shrimps in ditches and paddy fields so they don't need the swimming speed
NOTE: We are looking for a skill that is not of importance to Asian short-clawed otters. From the text, while other species of otters such as giant otters and sea otters have webs, Asian short-clawed otters do not because they hunt for shrimps in ditches and paddy fields therefore they do not need the swimming speed. Hence, the answer must be swimming speed .	

12 Answer: **coastal otters**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 12: Which type of otters has the shortest range?	A typical range for a male river otter might be 25 km of river, a female's range less than half this. However, the productivity of the river affects this hugely and one study found male ranges between 12 and 80 km. Coastal otters have a much more abundant food supply and ranges for males and females may be just a few kilometers of coastline
NOTE: We are looking for a specific kind of otters that has the shortest range. It can be seen from the text that male river otter might be 25 km of river, a female's range less than half this which means that female otters' range is just 12 km of river. And in one study, it was found that male river otters have a range of 12 and 80 km. However, it is coastal otters that have the shortest range. The reason for this is that male and female coastal otters have range of a few kilometers of coastline. Therefore, the correct answer is coastal otters .	

13 Answer: **small mammals**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 13: Which type of animals do otters hunt occasionally?</p>	<p>Otters will eat anything that they can get hold of— there are records of sparrows and snakes and slugs being gobbled. Apart from fish the most common prey are crayfish, crabs and water birds. Small mammals are occasionally taken, most commonly rabbits but sometimes even moles.</p>
<p>NOTE: We are looking for noun that indicates kind of animal hunted by otter not always or often but sometimes. From the text, the most common preys of otters are fish, crayfish, crabs and water birds. From time to time, otters hunt small mammals for food. You may get confused with the word ‘moles’ and think that it can be the answer to this question but it is not true because out of small mammals which are hunted by otter occasionally, rabbits are the most commonly hunted while moles are hunted occasionally. Hence, the answer must be small mammals</p>	

14 Answer: **iii**

<p>Questions 14 to 20: MATCHING HEADINGS</p> <p>Instruction</p> <p>It is widely believed that it would be much easier if you finish other types of questions in the given passage before dealing with this type.</p> <p><i>Read all given headings, try to remembers as many headings as possible and underline key words in order to grasp the meaning of the headings</i></p> <p><i>Begin with the shortest paragraph: figure out topic sentences or skim the paragraph to understand the meaning of it.</i></p> <p>+ <i>Topic sentences are often the first sentence or the last one. From time to time, however, it is impossible for you to find out topic sentence in the paragraph so it is a must that you read the paragraph as a whole to understand what it means.</i></p>	
Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 14: A n s w e r : Inspiration from reading a book</p>	<p>Dr William Masters was reading a book about mosquitoes when inspiration struck.</p>
<p>NOTE: In paragraph A, all information is about a book that Dr William Masters was reading when inspiration was struck. The first sentence in the paragraph is the topic sentence which was supported by others. Therefore, the answer must be iii</p>	

15 Answer: **vi**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
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<p>Question 15:</p> <p>Low temperature benefits people and crops</p>	<p>If weather could be the key to a city's fortunes, Masters thought, then why not to the historical fortunes of nations? ...</p> <p>The pair speculates that cold snaps have two main benefits—they freeze pests that would otherwise destroy crops, and also freeze organisms, such as mosquitoes, that carry disease. The result is agricultural abundance and a big workforce.</p>
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NOTE: In the first sentence of paragraph B, there was a question put, which is why not to the historical fortunes of nations. The next sentences in the paragraph are used to specify the benefits of cold weather to people and crops: freeze pests that would otherwise destroy crops, and also freeze organisms, such as mosquitoes, that carry disease. The result is agricultural abundance and a big workforce. Therefore, the answer must be **iv**

16 Answer: i

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 16:</p> <p>The positive correlation between climate and wealth</p>	<p>The first was average income for countries, the second climate data from the University of East Anglia. They found a curious tally between the sets. Countries having five or more frosty days a month are uniformly rich; those with fewer than five are impoverished. The authors speculate that the five-day figure is important; it could be the minimum time needed to kill pests in the soil. Masters says: "For example, Finland is a small country that is growing quickly, but Bolivia is a small country that isn't growing at all. Perhaps climate has something to do with that."</p>

NOTE: In this paragraph, the writer established a connection between climate and wealth when comparing average income and climate data of nations. Countries that have more cold days seem to be richer and vice versa. Hence, the answer must be **i**

17 Answer: ii

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 17:</p> <p>Other factors besides climate that influence wealth</p>	<p>Masters stresses that climate will never be the overriding factor—the wealth of nations is too complicated to be attributable to just one factor. Climate, he feels, somehow combines with other factors—such as the presence of institutions, including governments, and access to trading routes—to determine whether a country will do well</p>

NOTE: In paragraph D, Masters pointed out another contributing factor in having influence on a country's wealth which is institutions. Masters explained how institutions can contribute to the prospect of a country by saying that they brought order to a country in the form of, for example, laws and property rights. With order, so the thinking went, came affluence. Therefore, the answer must be **ii**

18 Answer: ix

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 18: The best way to use aid	Instead, richer countries should change the way in which foreign aid is given. Instead of aid being geared towards improving governance, it should be spent on technology to improve agriculture and to combat disease. Supplying vaccines against tropical diseases and developing crop varieties that can grow in the tropics would break the poverty cycle.

NOTE: In paragraph E, countries in tropical climate can be helped by richer nations through technology that enables poorer nations to improve agriculture and combat disease or supplying vaccines, developing crop varieties instead of aid being geared towards improving governance. Hence, the correct answer must be **ix**

19 Answer: v

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 19: Different attributes between Eurasia and Africa	Other minds have applied themselves to the split between poor and rich nations, citing anthropological, climatic and zoological reasons for why temperate nations are the most affluent. In 350 BC, Aristotle observed that "those who live in a cold climate...are full of spirit". Jared Diamond, from the University of California at Los Angeles, pointed out in his book Guns, Germs and Steel that Eurasia is broadly aligned east-west, while Africa and the Americas are aligned north-south. So, in Europe, crops can spread quickly across latitudes because climates are similar. One of the first domesticated crops, einkorn wheat, spread quickly from the Middle East into Europe; it took twice as long for corn to spread from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States.

NOTE: In paragraph F, there were several features taken into comparison to give reason for different levels of affluence in Eurasia and Africa, anthropological, climatic and zoological features included. The three features make different in dissemination of technologies and crops that are important to the development of a country. Hence, the answer must be **v**

20 Answer: **iv**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 20: Other researchers' results do not rule out exceptional cases	But Masters cautions against geographical determinism, the idea that tropical countries are beyond hope: "Human health and agriculture can be made better through scientific and technological research," he says, " so we shouldn't be writing off these countries. Take Singapore: without- air conditioning, it wouldn't be rich. "
<p>NOTE: in paragraph G, after claiming that countries that are aligned in favorable climate and geography having good condition to develop, Masters pointed out the exceptional cases. Singapore is a perfect example of not having good natural condition but still becoming a wealthy country thanks to science and technology. Therefore, the answer must be iv.</p>	

21 Answer: **yellow fever**

Questions 21 to 26: GAP FILLING: <i>Instruction of gap filling:</i> <i>Circle the word limit</i> <i>Underline key words</i> <i>Predict the answer: i.e. the word form/ word class</i> <i>Scan for the synonyms/ paraphrases of the key words in that paragraph in order to narrow possible answers</i>	
Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 21: Dr William Masters read a book saying that a(an)_____ epidemic which struck an American city hundreds of years ago was terminated by a cold frost	Dr William Masters was reading a book about mosquitoes when inspiration struck. "There was this anecdote about the great yellow fever epidemic that hit Philadelphia in 1793, " Masters recalls. "This epidemic decimated the city until the first frost came. "
<p>NOTE: After "a" or "an", we need a single noun indicating a thing mentioned in a book, which affected an American city and then was terminated by a cold frost. From the text, it was said that in 1793, Philadelphia was hit by the great yellow fever epidemic, which devastated the city and not being got rid of until the first frost. Therefore, the answer must be yellow fever (epidemic has been given)</p>	

22 Answer: **Finland**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Access https://ieltsionlinetests.com for more practices</p>	

<p>Question 22: And academics found that there is a connection between climate and country's wealth as in the rich but small country of _____</p>	<p>Countries having five or more frosty days a month are uniformly rich; those with fewer than five are impoverished. The authors speculate that the five-day figure is important; it could be the minimum time needed to kill pests in the soil. Masters says: "For example, Finland is a small country that is growing quickly, but Bolivia is a small country that isn't growing at all. Perhaps climate has something to do with that."</p>
<p>NOTE: We are looking for a proper noun indicating name of the rich and small country that shows a strong connection between climate and wealth. From the text, we can see that the writer took two nations into comparison, which were Finland - a small and developed country- and Bolivia- a small and underdeveloped nation. Therefore, the answer must be Finland.</p>	

23 Answer: **institutions/governments**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 23: Yet besides excellent surroundings and climate, one country still needs to improve their _____ to achieve long prosperity.</p>	<p>Masters stresses that climate will never be the overriding factor—the wealth of nations is too complicated to be attributable to just one factor. Climate, he feels, somehow combines with other factors - such as the presence of institutions, including governments, and access to trading routes - to determine whether a country will do well.. My feeling is that, as countries get richer, they get better institutions. And the accumulation of wealth and improvement in governing institutions are both helped by a favourable environment, including climate.</p>
<p>NOTE: We are looking for a noun illustrating another factor contributing to development of countries, apart from climate. From the text, it is said that climate is not only the most important element in affluence of countries. The wealth of a country is a combination of climate and other factors such as the presence of institutions. Therefore, the answer must be institutions/governments</p>	

24 Answer: **Europe**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 24: Thanks to resembling weather conditions across latitude in the continent of _____</p>	<p>So, in Europe, crops can spread quickly across latitudes because climates are similar</p>
<p>NOTE: We are looking for a proper noun indicating name of the continent that has a same weather conditions. From the text, we can see that thanks to similar climates, crops can spread quickly across latitudes in Europe. Hence, the answer must be Europe.</p>	

25 Answer: **einkorn wheat**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 25: crops such as _____ is bound to spread faster than from South America to the North	One of the first domesticated crops , einkorn wheat , spread quickly from the Middle East into Europe; it took twice as long for corn to spread from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States.
<p>NOTE: We are looking for a specific crop that can be spread faster than others from South America to the North. From the text, it is said that einkorn wheat spread quickly from the Middle East into Europe while it took twice as long for corn to spread from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States. Therefore, the answer must be einkorn wheat.</p>	

26 Answer: **Singapore**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 26: Other researchers also noted that even though geographical factors are important, tropical country such as _____ still became rich due to scientific advancement .	But Masters cautions against geographical determinism, the idea that tropical countries are beyond hope: "Human health and agriculture can be made better through scientific and technological research ," he says, "so we shouldn't be writing off these countries. Take Singapore : without-air conditioning, it wouldn't be rich."
<p>NOTE: We are looking for a proper noun indicating name of country that still became rich, although it does not have favorably geographical conditions thanks to its technological and scientific advancement. In the text, the writer mentioned Singapore as a striking example. Hence, Singapore must be the correct answer.</p>	

27 Answer: **B**

Questions 27 to 30: MULTIPLE CHOICES <i>Instructions:</i> <i>Underline keywords in questions and answers.</i> <i>Look for similar words in the text.</i> <i>Compare each answer to the information found</i> <i>Make sure you can explain why A, B, C or D is correct and the others are wrong.</i>	
Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage

<p>Question 27:</p> <p>Why does the writer have a mixed feeling about the book?</p> <p>Answer: The writer expected it to be better than it was.</p>	<p>... as a neuroscientist specializing in auditory learning and memory, I find them especially intriguing. So I had high expectations of Musicophilia, the latest offering from neurologist and prolific author Oliver Sacks. And I confess to feeling a little guilty reporting that my reactions to the book are mixed.</p> <p>Part II, "A Range of Musicality," covers a wider variety of topics, but unfortunately, some of the chapters offer little or nothing that is new. For example, chapter 13, which is five pages long, merely notes that the blind often have better hearing than the sighted.</p> <p>To readers who are unfamiliar with neuroscience and music behavior, Musicophilia may be something of a revelation. But the book will not satisfy those seeking the causes and implications of the phenomena Sacks describes.</p>
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NOTE:

A is wrong because the writer said that reporting his mixed reactions to the book makes him feel guilty, which is different with the idea in the answer A.

C is totally wrong because in the second paragraph, the writer mentioned that Sacks richly documents his own life in the book and reveals highly personal experiences.

D is incorrect because there is no information relating to this statement

B is right because as a neuroscientist specializing in auditory learning and memory, the writer had high expectations of Musicophilia however the book will not satisfy those seeking the causes and implications of the phenomena Sacks describes and the writer included.

28 Answer: C

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 28:</p> <p>What is the best part of the book?</p> <p>Answer: the autobiographical description in the book</p>	<p>Sacks himself is the best part of Musicophilia. He richly documents his own life in the book and reveals highly personal experiences</p>

NOTE:

A is wrong because the photo of Sacks listening to music makes a positive impression that is borne out by the contents of the book but not the best part of the book.

B is wrong because there is a piece of information relating to Sacks's voice which is 'steady and erudite but never pontifical'

D is incorrect because there is no information relating to the description of Sacks's wealth

C is right because there are some pieces of information illustrating that, which is 'Sacks himself is the best part of Musicophilia. He richly documents his own life in the book and reveals highly personal experiences'.

29 Answer: **A**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 29: In the preface, what did Sacks try to achieve? Answer: make terms with the new technologies</p>	<p>He wants to combine “observation and description with the latest in technology,” he says, and to imaginatively enter into the experience of his patients and subjects.</p>
<p>NOTE: B, C and D are wrong because the information relating to these statements are mentioned but they are not appropriate. To answers B, C Sacks wanted to convey insights gleaned from the “enormous and rapidly growing body of work on the neural underpinnings of musical perception and imagery, and the complex and often bizarre disorders to which these are prone”. He neither aimed at an explanation for how people understand music nor gave detailed description of various musical disorders. To answer D, he stressed the importance of simple observation but did not provide any explanation for his opinion. A is obviously correct because it is illustrated by the sentence ‘He wants to combine “observation and description with the latest in technology’</p>	

30 Answer: **A**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 30: What is disappointing about Tony Cicoria 's case? Answer: He refuses to have further tests.</p>	<p>There are now more sensitive tests, but Cicoria has declined to undergo them; he does not want to delve into the causes of his musicality. What a shame!</p>
<p>NOTE: B, C, and D are wrong because those things are not the reasons making disappointment about Tony Cicoria 's case. A is right because the disappointment is shown by the writer ‘What a shame!’ when Tony Cicoria refused to have further test.</p>	

31 Answer: **YES**

<p>Questions 31 to 36: YES, NO or NOT GIVEN. Instruction: <i>Underline key words in questions then scan the text to locate the key words next read between the lines to understand writer's implication</i> <i>Your answer will be “NO” if:</i> <i>Antonyms, phrases with opposite meanings</i> <i>The question and the information in the text are different</i> <i>Your answer will be “NOT GIVEN” if:</i> <i>There is no information relating to the question in the text</i> <i>There is not enough information to decide whether it is true for false</i></p>	
Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage

Question 31: It is difficult to give a well-reputable writer a less than favorable review .	And I confess to feeling a little guilty reporting that my reactions to the book are mixed .
NOTE: The feeling of guilty when the writer have to report his mixed reactions to the book of well-known writer - Sacks means that it is hard for him to give a less than favorable review. Therefore, the answer must be YES .	

32 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 32: Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata is a good treatment for musical disorders .	The photograph of him on the cover of the book — which shows him wearing headphones, eyes closed, clearly enchanted as he listens to Alfred Brendel perform Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata —makes a positive impression that is borne out by the contents of the book.
NOTE: Although the information relating to Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata was mentioned but there is no information about whether Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata is a good treatment for musical disorders or not. Therefore, the answer must be NOT GIVEN <i>The given answer is NO but I suppose that it is incorrect, please double check.</i>	

33 Answer: **NO**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
Question 33: Sacks believes technological methods is not important compared with observation when studying his patients	. Although Sacks recognizes the existence of new technologies , among them far more sensitive ways to analyze brain waves than the standard neurological EEG test, he doesn't call for their use.
NOTE: The answer is NO because Sacks realize the importance of technological methods, even if they are far more sensitive ways to analyze brain waves compared with observation.	

34 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
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<p>Question 34: It is difficult to understand why music therapy is undervalued</p>	<p>To Sacks's credit, part III, "Memory, Movement and Music," brings us into the underappreciated realm of music therapy. Chapter 16 explains how "melodic intonation therapy" is being used to help expressive aphasic patients (those unable to express their thoughts verbally following a stroke or other cerebral incident) once again become capable of fluent speech. In chapter 20, Sacks demonstrates the near-miraculous power of music to animate Parkinson's patients and other people with severe movement disorders, even those who are frozen into odd postures</p>
<p>NOTE: The answer must be NOT GIVEN because there is no information relating to this statement mentioned in the text.</p>	

35 Answer: **YES**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 35: Sacks should have more skepticism about other theories and findings.</p>	<p>For one thing, Sacks appears to be more at ease discussing patients than discussing experiments. And he tends to be rather uncritical in accepting scientific findings and theories.</p>
<p>NOTE: The writer said that it is too easy for Sacks to accept scientific findings and theories without any doubt so Sacks should have more skepticism about other theories and finding. Hence, the answer must be YES.</p>	

36 Answer: **NO**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 36: Sacks is impatient to use new testing methods</p>	<p>Although Sacks recognizes the existence of new technologies, among them far more sensitive ways to analyze brain waves than the standard neurological EEG test, he doesn't call for their use. In fact, although he exhibits the greatest compassion for patients, he conveys no sense of urgency about the pursuit of new avenues in the diagnosis and treatment of music-brain disorders. This absence echoes the book's preface, in which Sacks expresses fear that "the simple art of observation may be lost" if we rely too much on new technologies.</p>
<p>NOTE: Sacks does not use new testing methods not stemmed from his impatience, it is because of fear that 'the simple art of observation may be lost if we rely too much on new technologies'. Therefore, the answer is NO</p>	

37 Answer: **F**

Questions 37 to 40: MATCHING SENTENCES

Instruction:

Pay attention to grammatical point in order to get rid of improper answers and find out possible answer.

Underline keywords in questions

Skim all answers to remember information.

Start with the easiest questions containing striking keyword (name, dates...)

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 37: The dissociations between harmony and melody</p> <p>Answer: show that music is not localised in the brain.</p>	<p>For example, he might have noted that the many specific dissociations among components of music comprehension, such as loss of the ability to perceive harmony but not melody, indicate that there is no music center in the brain.</p>
<p>NOTE: The answer must be F because there is no music center in the brain when it comes to the ability to perceive harmony and melody.</p>	

38 Answer: **B**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 38: The study of treating musical disorders</p> <p>Answer: indicates that medication can have varied results.</p>	<p>Another conclusion one could draw is that there seem to be no "cures" for neurological problems involving music. A drug can alleviate a symptom in one patient and aggravate it in another, or can have both positive and negative effects in the same patient.</p>
<p>NOTE: The answer must be B because in the text, it is said that a drug can have both positive and negative effects in the same patient.</p>	

39 Answer: **A**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
<p>Question 39: The EEG scans of Sacks's patients</p> <p>Answer: show no music-brain disorders.</p>	<p>Finally, in many of the cases described here the patient with music-brain symptoms is reported to have "normal" EEG results</p>
<p>NOTE: The EEG results of Sacks's patients are normal which means that Sacks failed to find music-brain symptoms in his patients. Hence, the answer must be A</p>	

40 Answer: **D**

Keywords in questions	Similar words in passage
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<p>Question 40: Sacks believes testing based on new technologies</p> <p>Answer: should not be used in isolation.</p>	<p>This absence echoes the hook's preface, in which Sacks expresses fear that "the simple art of observation may be lost" if we rely too much on new technologies. He does call for both approaches, though, and we can only hope that the neurological community will respond.</p>
<p>NOTE: Sacks does call for both approaches (simple observation and technological methods) which mean that technologies should not be used alone. Therefore, the answer must be D.</p>	