

IELTS Practice Test Volume 3 Reading Practice Test 1

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Reading Passage 1

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



The King of Fruits

A. One fact is certain: you'll smell it before you see it. The scent (or should that be odour?) is overpowering (or should that be nauseating?). One inhales it with delight, or shrinks back in disgust. Is it sweet almonds with vanilla custard and a splash of whiskey? Or old socks garnished with rotten onion and a sprinkling of turpentine? Whatever the description, it wafts from what must be considered the most singular fruit on the planet—the durian, a Southeast Asian favourite, commonly called the 'king of fruits'.

B. Its title is, in many ways, deserved. As fruits go, it is huge and imposing. As big as a basketball, up to three kilograms heavy, and most noticeably, covered with a thick and tough thorn-covered husk, it demands a royal respect. The thorns are so sharp that even holding the massive object is difficult. In supermarkets, they are usually put into mesh bags to ease handling, while extracting the flesh itself requires the wearing of thick protective gloves, a delicate and dextrous use of a large knife, and visible effort. One can see why it is increasingly popular, in western markets, to have that flesh removed, wrapped up, and purchased directly.

C. This leads one to wonder why nature designed such a smelly fruit in such an inconvenient package. Nature is, however, cleverer than one might think. For a start, that pungent odour allows easier detection by animals in the thick tropical forests of Brunei, Indonesia, and Malaysia, where the wild durian originates. When the pod falls, and the husk begins to crack open, wild deer, pigs, orangutans, and elephants, are easily drawn forth, navigating from hundreds of meters away directly to the tree. The second clever fact is that, since the inner seeds are rather large, the durian tree needs correspondingly larger animals to eat, ingest, and transport these seeds away, hence the use of that tough spiny cover. Only the largest and strongest animals can get past that.

D. And what are they seeking? Upon prising open the large pod, one is presented with

white fibrous pith in which are nestled pockets of soft yellowish flesh, divided into lobes. Each lobe holds a large brown seed within. Although these seeds themselves can be cooked and eaten, it is the surrounding flesh over which all the fuss is made. One of the best descriptions comes from the British naturalist, Alfred Wallace. Written in 1856, his experience is typical of many, and certainly of mine. At first, he struggled hard to overcome the 'disagreeable aroma', but upon 'eating it out of doors' found the flesh to have a 'rich glutinous smoothness, neither acid nor sweet nor juicy; yet it wants neither of these qualities, for it is in itself perfect'. He 'at once became a confirmed durian eater'. Exactly!

E. In actual fact, the flavour can vary considerably depending on the stage of ripeness and methods of storage. In Southern Thailand, the people prefer younger durian, with firmer texture and milder flavour, whereas in Malaysia, the preference is to allow the durian to fall naturally from the tree, then further ripen during transport. This results in a buttery texture and highly individual aroma, often slightly fermented. Whatever the case, it is this soft creamy consistency which easily allows durian to blend with other Southeast Asian delicacies, from candy and cakes, to modern milkshakes and ice cream. It can also appear in meals, mixed with vegetables or chili, and lower-grade durian (otherwise unfit for human consumption) is fermented into paste, used in a variety of local rice dishes.

F. Such popularity has seen the widespread cultivation of durian, although the tree will only respond to tropical climates'—for example, only in the very northern parts of Australia, where it was introduced in the early 1960s. Since that time, modern breeding and cultivating techniques have resulted in the introduction of hundreds of cultivars (subspecies bred, and maintained by propagation, for desirable characteristics). They produce different degrees of odour, seed size, colour, and texture of flesh. The tree itself is always very large, up to 50 metres, and given that the heavy thorny pods can hang from even the highest branches, and will drop when ripened, one does not walk within a durian plantation without a hardhat—or at least, not without risking serious injury.

G. Thailand, where durian remains very popular, now exports most of this fruit, with five cultivars in large-scale commercial production. The market is principally other Asian nations, although interest is growing in the West as Asian immigrants take their tastes and eating preferences with them — for example, in Canada and Australia. The fruit is seasonal, and local, sale of durian pods is usually done by weight. These can fetch high prices, particularly in the more affluent Asian countries, and especially when one considers that less than one third of that heavy pod contains the edible pulp. In the true spirit of Alfred Wallace, there are certainly a large and growing number of 'confirmed durian eaters' out there.

Questions 1-4

Reading Passage 1 has seven paragraphs, A-G.

Write the correct letter, A-G, next to the questions.

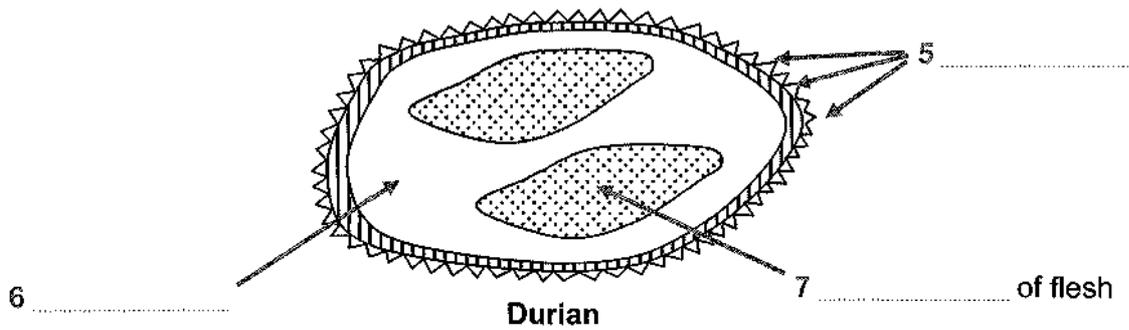
Which paragraph gives a reason for durian's

- 1 spread outside of Asia?
- 2 variety of forms?
- 3 variety of food uses?
- 4 defining characteristics?

Questions 5-7

Label the diagram.

Choose **ONE WORD** from the passage for each answer.



- 5
- 6
- 7

Questions 8-10

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage One?

Write

TRUE	if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE	if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN	If there is no information on this

- 8 The seeds can be eaten.

9 Durian trees are grown in many parts of Australia.

10 Thailand consumes the most durians.

Questions 11-13

Answer the questions.

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

What can help to carry durians around?

11

Which sort of durian is usually fermented into paste?

12

What should one wear when walking among durian trees?

13

Reading Passage 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14-26, which are based on Reading Passage Two.



Esperanto

Cu vi paroli Esperanton? Ne? Can you understand this? Should you be expected to? Depending on who you ask, somewhere from 10,000 to two million people in places all over the world could understand this sentence, and presumably reply in this same language. And it is not one that ever evolved through any natural process. To give it its technical name, it is a 'constructed auxiliary language'. More specifically, it is 'Esperanto', and out of the several attempts throughout modern history to create artificial languages, Esperanto remains the most widely spoken.

'Widely spoken' is a relative term here. Compared to any natural language, the number of Esperanto speakers remains pitifully small — a far cry from the high hopes of its inventor, Dr. Ludwig Zamenhof, who was an eye doctor growing up in the racially divided Eastern-European town of Bialystok. In this complex and uneasy mixture of Poles, Jews, Russians, and Germans, each speaking their own language, a high-minded Zamenhof lamented how these languages so obviously categorised the city's residents into different, and often hostile, groups. He resolved to create an easily learnt and politically neutral language, one that would transcend nationality, ethnicity, race, colour, and creed. It would be a universal second language, and his first book detailing this idea was published in 1887.

Surprisingly perhaps, the concept quickly gained acceptance and a loyal following. It seems that in a linguistically divided Eastern Europe, many people possessed the same idealism which drove Zamenhof. From there, then to the West, then into the Americas and Asia, Esperanto journals, magazines, and clubs, were formed, ultimately leading to the

first world congress of Esperanto speakers in France, in 1905. These congresses have been held every year since then, apart from when world wars delayed proceedings. And today, Esperanto is still present, although very much under the radar. Whilst not yet having achieved the status of being an official language of any state or governing body, it is, at least, occasionally taught at schools and educational institutions on an informal or experimental basis.

What actually keeps Esperanto going is the motivation of those who become interested. Language books, journals, and various online and video-based self-learning technologies exist, as well as an active speaking community, but the key question remains: whether it is worth investing the time in acquiring the language. In other words, does it have any innate advantages over other languages or equip its speakers with a useful skill in life? The first question can be promptly answered. Proponents explain that, by being so simple and internally consistent, Esperanto is easy to learn, being able to be mastered in a fraction of the time needed for any conventional language.

While we may accept that, the second question is far more problematic and raises further issues, the main one being whether the language is even necessary. Would international communication indeed be better if we all spoke Esperanto? Are there not other factors involved? And why cannot the English language take that role (which it virtually has)? Why divert state funds to support what may always remain a marginalised speech community, especially when there exists so many other languages spoken by far more people, and of far greater utility? The answers are emotional, complex, and confusing.

One problem with Esperanto is that it is culturally European. Its vocabulary and internal rules of construction derive from European languages, making it difficult for Asian learners. There is also a large and imposing vocabulary, with many nouns rather idiosyncratically chosen, and a certain unnecessary complexity which Zamenhof (who was not a professional linguist) had not realised. In 1894, he suggested a 'reformed Esperanto'; however, the Esperanto speakers of that day were loathe to alter a language which they had already mastered, rejecting Zamenhof's proposals, and also those of a special French committee formed 13 years later to discuss the adoption of a standard international language.

In the meantime, another artificial language had emerged. Called 'Ido', it was a product of various academics who embedded the changes that Esperanto was thought to have needed. This new language, sharing the same lofty goals, divided the support base of Esperanto. A large number defected to Ido, which then underwent further changes through committee after committee, and eventually the formation of an independent academy. However, Ido suffered substantial decline when its best-known advocate was killed in a car accident, and with the advent of World War One. After the war, its most vocal proponent published his own constructed language, 'Novial', making the schism all

too confusing, such that the original Esperanto quickly became the predominant language of its type.

Esperanto may lead the field, but it falls far short of the aim of both its creator and many of its speakers — that of a truly global second language uniting all in mutual understanding. This high-minded goal, almost universally shared in the early days of the language, has mellowed among many followers, who are now content just to have a special language and its culture and community with whom they can interact. The unlikelihood of achieving more than this was even admitted in an Esperanto convention in 1980, although many still cling to the *pracelo*, the 'original goal', of an official status and worldwide use. Will this ever be achieved? All I can say is *estus agrable pensas tiel, sed preshau certe ne estos*.

Questions 14-17

Write **TRUE**, **FALSE**, or **NOT GIVEN**.

TRUE	if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE	if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN	If there is no information on this

- 14 The number of Esperanto speakers is quite large.
- 15 Zamenhof spoke many languages.
- 16 Esperanto is easier to learn than other languages.
- 17 Esperanto World Congresses have been held every year since 1905.

Questions 18-21

Complete the sentences.

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

The different ethnic groups in Zamenhof's hometown were frequently 18 _____

The first Esperanto speakers shared Zamenhof's 19 _____

English now essentially provides the means of 20 _____

Official support of Esperanto could be considered a waste of 21 _____

Questions 22-26

Answer the questions.

Choose the correct letter, E, I, or B.

E	Esperanto
I	Ido
B	Both

Which language

22 had many stages in its development?

23 had its development affected by World War One?

24 has some strange words?

25 was designed by many people?

26 has never achieved its aim?

Reading Passage 3

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



The Year Without a Summer

1816 was a strange year indeed. In America, in midsummer, a 'dry log' covered the land so thickly that snow fell, and large parts of the country were gripped by an intense and lingering cold front. The situation was no better in Great Britain and Europe, where cool temperatures and wet weather persisted for months. Mary Shelley, author of *Frankenstein*, while holidaying in Switzerland, complained of 'incessant rainfall', a feeling which may have put her in the mood for writing her most famous work. But there were to be far more significant effects of what become known as the 'year without a summer'.

But where did the summer go? The main culprit, surprisingly, was a volcano on the other side of the planet: Mount Tamhora, in Indonesia, whose eruption of the year before was of such colossal magnitude that it altered global climate. In the years leading to this, the mountain had experienced minor eruptions, but the 18.15 event was the culmination — a huge explosive outburst of the central volcanic vent with subsequent caldera collapse. Over 70,000 people in the vicinity were killed from lava flows, tsunamis, and pumice and ash falls. But more significantly, the eruption — now acknowledged as the largest in recorded history — ejected huge amounts of dust into the stratosphere. This atmospheric layer is the highest and most static, and least affected by rainfall, which means that it takes relatively long periods for volcanic dust to be washed out. If these dust particles are of fine composition, they are quickly blown around the globe, to remain there for years.

On a somewhat benign note, this air-borne ash resulted in beautiful pastel-coloured sunsets and extended twilights in Northern Europe. However, on a (quite literally) darker

note, it set into motion a 'volcanic winter' due to the filtering of the sun's rays, and the increased reflectivity of the atmosphere, where heat and sunlight are bounced back into space. But what is intriguing in this case is that even without the Tambora explosion, the period 1790 to 1830 was already one of the coldest on record. This period has officially become known as the 'Dalton Minimum', after John Dalton, a London-based meteorologist who noted that the sun at that time did not seem as active in its production of sunspots and solar flares. Whether there is a correlation between this and the average amount of solar radiation emitted is still unclear. If this does exist, the effect would be small—a fraction of a percent less, but, arguably, significant to our small planet orbiting so far away.

Adding further complexity to the issue, there had been other significant volcanic eruptions in the years prior to Tambora — in the Caribbean, Japan, and the Philippines — in which massive dust clouds were the characterising feature. Looking at the Philippino example, 1814 saw the most destructive eruption of Mt Mayon ever. Killing thousands, burying whole towns and villages, the volcano spewed out millions of tons of ash and rock into the high atmosphere. When we put all these factors together, the sequence is thus clearer. With the world already suffering from lower temperatures due to natural variations in the sun's surface action, a series of severe volcanic eruptions occurred. As a result, the accumulation of ash in the stratosphere rose to a historic high, to which the mammoth Tambora explosion substantially added, sending a savage cold spike throughout the already cooler globe.

The consequences were dire. With the dramatic temperature swings, falling to near-freezing within hours, and with the sudden summer frosts and sustained drenching rainfall, all across the Northern Hemisphere, staple crops such as maize and wheat failed to mature, and much livestock were killed. With agricultural production already low due to the cooler preceding years, and with the rudimentary road systems of those times rendering the importation and distribution of emergency food supplies limited, this final blow was devastating. It resulted in widespread malnutrition, starvation, and outbreaks of diseases such as typhus and cholera. It created streams of starving refugees, large shifts of population, riots, looting of food warehouses, and other breakdowns of civic order. 100,000 people were thought to have died in Ireland alone, with many times that figure on the European continent. There was such mortality that the famine is now considered the worst of that century.

The question then is whether it could happen again. And the answer is, since it has happened many times before in geological history, a definite yes. The most extreme case occurred about 70,000 years ago, when the world's largest known eruption took place at Lake Toba (relatively close to Tambora). This is thought to have plunged the planet into a decade-long volcanic winter, and triggered the onset of the last ice age, a deep freeze of the planet which lasted many tens of thousands of years, all of which, some speculate, just about wiped out the human race. We can rest in the assurance, however, that such

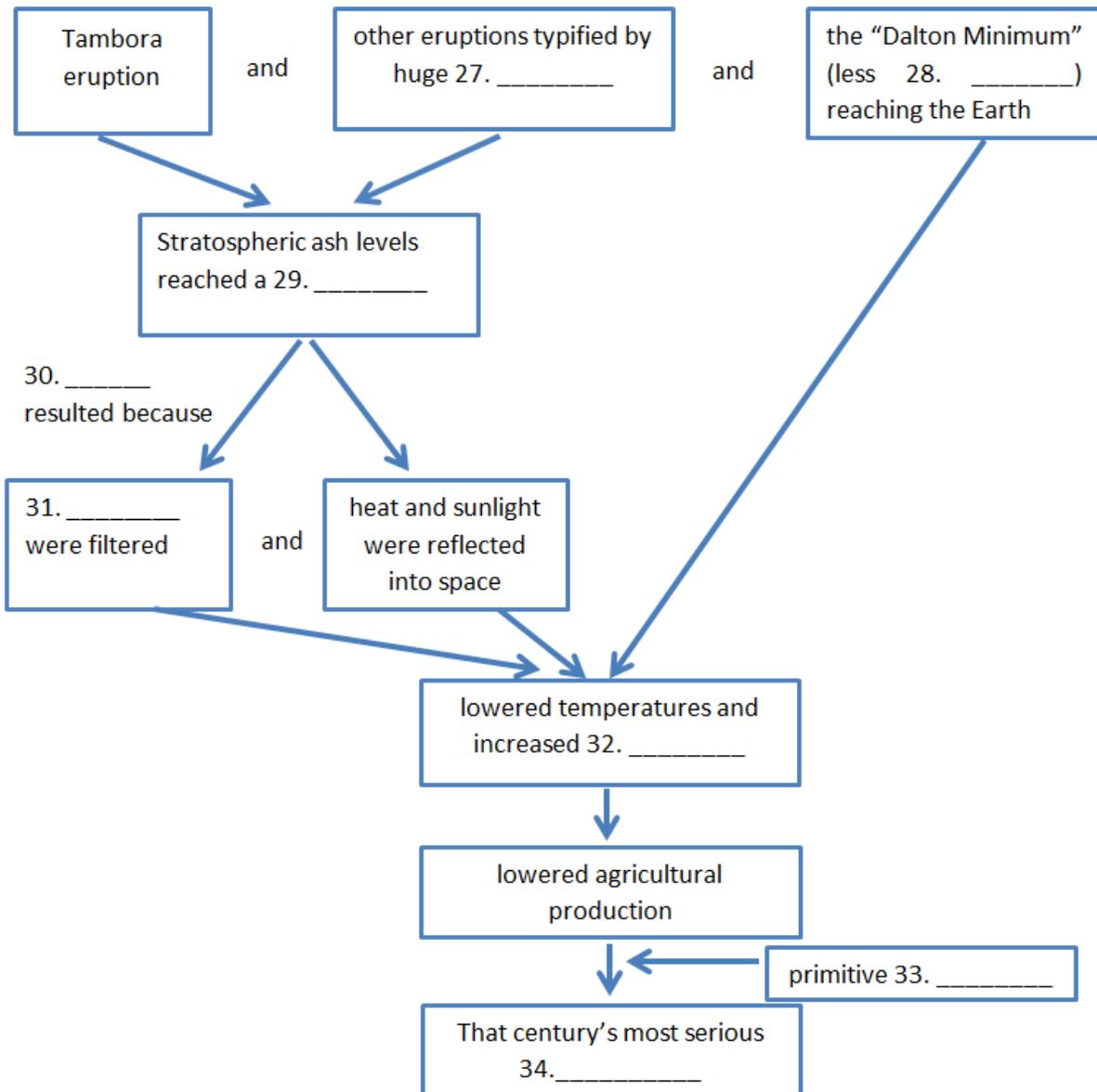
events are extremely few and far between. You will certainly be able to enjoy your summer holidays, for a long time to come.

Questions 27-34

Complete the flowchart.

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

A Year without a summer



- 27 _____
- 28 _____
- 29 _____
- 30 _____
- 31 _____

32

33

34

Questions 35-40

Answer the questions.

Write the correct letter, A-G, next to the questions.

Which location saw

A	America
B	Lake Toba
C	London
D	Northern Europe
E	Philippines
F	Switzerland
G	Tambora

35 a positive effect of a volcanic eruption?

36 the biggest volcanic eruption?

37 scientific observation?

38 a series of eruptions?

39 buildings destroyed?

40 a book written?



Solution:

- 1 G
- 2 F
- 3 E
- 4 C
- 5 thorns
- 6 pith
- 7 pocket(s)
- 8 TRUE
- 9 FALSE
- 10 NOT GIVEN
- 11 mesh bag(s)
- 12 lower(-)grade durian
- 13 (a) hardhat(s)
- 14 FALSE
- 15 NOT GIVEN
- 16 TRUE
- 17 FALSE
- 18 hostile
- 19 idealism
- 20 international communication

21 state funds

22 I

23 B

24 E

25 I

26 B

27 dust clouds

28 solar radiation

29 historic high

30 Volcanic winter

31 sun's rays

32 rainfall

33 road systems

34 famine

35 D

36 B

37 C

38 G

39 E

40 F

Review and Explanations

1 Answer: **G**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q1: spread outside of Asia?	G The market is principally other Asian nations, although interest is growing in the West as Asian immigrants take their tastes and eating preferences with them — for example, in Canada and Australia.
<p>Note: The reason here is that Asian immigrants take their tastes and eating preferences with them and the word as is used with the meaning of because Therefore, the correct answer is G.</p>	

2 Answer: **F**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q2: ... variety of forms?	F Since that time, modern breeding and cultivating techniques have resulted in the introduction of hundreds of cultivars.
<p>Note: The reason for variety of forms is that modern breeding and cultivating techniques. The verb resulted in is with the meaning cause Therefore, the correct answer is F</p>	

3 Answer: **E**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q3: ... variety of food uses?	E In actual fact, the flavour can vary considerably depending on the stage of ripeness and methods of storage. [...] Whatever the ease, it is this soft creamy consistency which easily allows durian to blend with other Southeast Asian delicacies, from candy and cakes, to modern milkshakes and ice cream. It can also appear in meals, mixed with vegetables or chili, [...] more practices in a variety of local rice dishes
<p>Note The reason here is that the stage of ripeness and methods of storage The phrase depending on is used to emphasize the meaning because of Therefore, the correct answer is E</p>	

4 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q4: ... defining characteristics?</p>	<p>C This leads one to wonder why nature designed such a smelly fruit in such an inconvenient package. Nature is, however, cleverer than one might think. For a start, that pungent odour allows easier detection by animals in the thick tropical forests [...] The second clever fact is that, since the inner seeds are rather large, the durian tree needs correspondingly larger animals to eat, ingest, and transport these seeds away, hence the use of that tough spiny cover.</p>
<p>Note: The reasons here are that pungent odour allows easier detection by animals in the thick tropical forests and the durian tree needs correspondingly larger animals to eat, ingest, and transport these seeds away The words used to state reasons: hence, allows, why Therefore, the correct answer is C</p>	

5 Answer: **thorns**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q5:</p>	<p>As big as a basketball, up to three kilograms heavy, and most noticeably, covered with a thick and tough thorn-covered husk, it demands a royal respect. The thorns are so sharp that even holding the massive object is difficult.</p>
<p>Note: It is described in the paragraph B that the outside of a durian is a thorn-cover husk and these thorns are very sharp. This description matches the pictures, so the answer for number 5 is thorns</p>	

6 Answer: **pith**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q6</p>	<p>Upon prising open the large pod, one is presented with white fibrous pith in which are nestled pockets of soft yellowish flesh, divided into lobes. Each lobe holds a large brown seed within.</p>

Note

In paragraph **D**, it is stated that just inside the **thorns** is the fabric **pith** (*the white substance between the skin and the flesh of citrus fruits such as oranges, or the soft, white inside part of the stem of some plants*). This **pith** are **nestled** (*protect something*) flesh which are yellow and separated into **pockets**.

Therefore, the answer for Q6 is **pith**

7 Answer: **pocket(s)**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q7	Upon prising open the large pod, one is presented with white fibrous pith in which are nestled pockets of soft yellowish flesh , divided into lobes. Each lobe holds a large brown seed within.

Note

In paragraph **D**, it is stated that just inside the **thorns** is the fabric **pith** (*the white substance between the skin and the flesh of citrus fruits such as oranges, or the soft, white inside part of the stem of some plants*). This **pith** are **nestled** (*protect something*) flesh which are yellow and separated into **pockets**.

Therefore, the answer for Q7 is **pockets**

8 Answer: **TRUE**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 8 : The seeds can be eaten.	Although these seeds themselves can be cooked and eaten , it is the surrounding flesh over which all the fuss is made.

Note

The paragraph D has already stated that the seeds of the durians can be eaten. Hence, the statement in Q8 is **TRUE**.

9 Answer: **FALSE**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q9 . Durian trees are grown in many parts of Australia.	Such popularity has seen the widespread cultivation of durian, although the tree will only respond to tropical climates'—for example, only in the very northern parts of Australia , where it was introduced in the early 1960s

Note

The paragraph F has stated that the durian trees only fit in with the climates of the northern parts of Australia. So, the durian trees are not widespread in the whole country.

The statement here is opposite to what is said in the passage. Hence, the correct answer is **FALSE**.

10 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q10.. Thailand consumes the most durians.	Thailand, where durian remains very popular, now exports most of this fruit, with five cultivars in large-scale commercial production.
Note In this passage, it is only stated that Thailand exports most of this fruit, (in paragraph G). the passage has not mentioned about where the durians is consumed the most. Hence, the answer for this question is NOT GIVEN .	

11 Answer: **mesh bag(s)**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q11..What can help to carry durians around?	In supermarkets, they are usually put into mesh bags to ease handling,
Note To ease (v): means to make something easier. It is stated in the passage that “mesh bags” can ease handling, which means mesh bags make it easier for us to carry the durians. Therefore, the answer is mesh bags	

12 Answer: **lower(-)grade durian**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q12. Which sort of durian is usually fermented into paste?	lower-grade durian (otherwise unfit for human consumption) is fermented into paste, used in a variety of local rice dishes.

Note

This question is not too difficult as the passage repeats the same phrase used in the question (*fermented into paste*). The question asks for the **sort of durian**, mean “type of durian”.

“ferment” (v): If food or drink ferments or if you ferment it, the sugar in it changes into alcohol because of a chemical process

Therefore, the answer is **lower-grade durian**

13 Answer: **(a) hardhat(s)**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q13. What should one wear when walking among durian trees?	one does not walk within a durian plantation without a hardhat

Note

The passage said that to avoid serious injury, one should wear a **hardhat** when walking under durian trees. “plantation” means a group of many trees. The hardhat can protect people from durians which fall down when ripened (Para F)

The correct answer is **hardhat**

14 Answer: **FALSE**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q14: The number of Esperanto speakers is quite large.	Compared to any natural language, the number of Esperanto speakers remains pitifully small — a far cry from the high hopes of its inventor (2nd Paragraph)

Note:

The 2nd Paragraph already mentioned that “the number of Esperanto speakers is pitifully small” - meaning that *very few people speak this language*

“**be a far cry from sth**”: to be completely different from something

The statement is opposite to what has been stated in the passage, so it is **FALSE**

15 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

Keywords in Questions
Q15: Zamenhof spoke many languages.
Note: In this passage, it is only stated that Zamenhof was the inventor of the language, and the reasons behind this language. It hasn't mentioned such information like in Q15. Hence, the answer for this question is NOT GIVEN .

16 Answer: **TRUE**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q16: Esperanto is easier to learn than other languages.	In this complex and uneasy mixture of Poles, Jews, Russians, and Germans, each speaking their own language, [...] He resolved to create an easily learnt and politically neutral language, one that would transcend nationality, ethnicity, race, colour, and creed. It would be a universal second language, and his first book detailing this idea was published in 1887.
Note In comparison with other languages, Esperanto is regarded to be an easy language. Hence, this statement is TRUE .	

17 Answer: **FALSE**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q17: Esperanto World Congresses have been held every year since 1905.	From there, then to the West, then into the Americas and Asia, Esperanto journals, magazines, and clubs, were formed, ultimately leading to the first world congress of Esperanto speakers in France, in 1905. These congresses have been held every year since then, apart from when world wars delayed proceedings.
Note: Although Esperanto World Congress is an annual event, during the World Wars years, the Congresses were delayed. Therefore, the statement is FALSE .	

18 Answer: **hostile**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q18: The different ethnic groups in Zamenhof's hometown were frequently _____	[...] a high-minded Zamenhof lamented how these languages so obviously categorised the city's residents into different, and often hostile, groups [...]
Note: As stated in the second paragraph, the groups in Zamenhof's neighborhood are hostile . "lament" (v): to express sadness and feeling sorry about something	

19 Answer: **idealism**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 19: The first Esperanto speakers _____ shared Zamenhof's _____	It seems that in a linguistically divided Eastern Europe, many people possessed the same idealism which drove Zamenhof.
Note idealism (n) means “the practice of forming or pursuing ideals, especially unrealistically.” The phrase “possess the same” is paraphrased into “share” in this question. Based on the information from the 3rd paragraph, the answer to Q19 is idealism .	

20 Answer: **international communication**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 20 : English now essentially provides the means of _____	Would international communication indeed be better if we all spoke Esperanto? Are there not other factors involved? And why cannot the English language take that role (which it virtually has)?
Note Learners have to be carefully with this question. It is not stated clearly that English provide the international communications. But it can be implied that English takes this role, and the question “whether Esperanto can take this role” is raised as in P5. Based on the information from paragraph 5, the correct answer to Q20 is international communication .	

21 Answer: **state funds**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 21 : Official support of Esperanto could be considered a waste of _____	Why divert state funds to support what may always remain a marginalised speech community, especially when there exists so many other languages spoken by far more people, and of far greater utility? The answers are emotional, complex, and confusing.
Note In this short paragraph, the author used question type to emphasize his/her doubt over the support of Esperanto language. Based on the information give, the correct answer is state funds .	

22 Answer: |

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q22.. had many stages in its development?	A large number defected to Ido, which then underwent further changes through committee after committee, and eventually the formation of an independent academy.
<p>Note As stated in the passage, the Ido language did undergo several changes (many states) before becoming an independent academy. For Esperanto, the author has not mentioned such information. So the answer is I (Ido).</p>	

23 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q23.. had its development affected by World War One?	(E) These congresses have been held every year since then, apart from when world wars delayed proceedings. (I) However, Ido suffered substantial decline when its best-known advocate was killed in a car accident, and with the advent of World War One. After the war, its most vocal proponent published his own constructed language,
<p>Note As mentioned in the passage, the Esperanto was affected by both World Wars One and Two (the proceedings of the Congresses) and the World War One influenced Ido with a substantial decline (because its best-known advocate was killed with the advent of the WW1). Hence, the answer is B (Both).</p>	

24 Answer: **E**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 24 : has some strange words?	There is also a large and imposing vocabulary, with many nouns rather idiosyncratically chosen, and a certain unnecessary complexity which Zamenhof
<p>Note “idiosyncratically” (adv) means that “in a very strange and usual way” Based on the information from the 6th paragraph, the correct answer is E (Esperanto)</p>	

25 Answer: **I**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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<p>Q 25 : was designed by many people?</p>	<p>In the meantime, another artificial language had emerged. Called 'Ido', it was a product of various academics who embedded the changes that Esperanto was thought to have needed.</p>
<p>Note As stated in the passage, Ido was a product of various academics - meaning that the language was designed by many people. However, the passage only mentioned the only inventor of Esperanto - Zamenhof. Hence, the answer is I (Ido)</p>	

26 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q26.. has never achieved its aim?</p>	<p>- Esperanto may lead the field, but it falls far short of the aim of both its creator and many of its speakers — that of a truly global second language uniting all in mutual understanding. - However, Ido suffered substantial decline when its best-known advocate was killed in a car accident, and with the advent of World War One. After the war, its most vocal proponent published his own constructed language, ...</p>
<p>Note Both languages have the aim to become a second international language. However, both turned out to be unsuccessful. Esperanto “falls far short of” and Ido “suffered substantial decline”. Hence, the correct answer is B (Both).</p>	

27 Answer: **dust clouds**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q27: other eruptions typified by huge _____</p>	<p>Adding further complexity to the issue, there had been other significant volcanic eruptions in the years prior to Tambora — in the Caribbean, Japan, and the Philippines — in which massive dust clouds were the characterising feature.</p>
<p>Note: As stated in the 4th paragraph, massive dust clouds were the characterising feature of other eruptions. Hence, the answer is dust clouds.</p>	

28 Answer: **solar radiation**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q28: the Dalton Minimum (less _____ reaching the Earth)</p>	<p>This period has officially become known as the 'Dalton Minimum', after John Dalton, a London-based meteorologist who noted that the sun at that time did not seem as active in its production of sunspots and solar flares. Whether there is a correlation between this and the average amount of solar radiation emitted is still unclear. If this does exist, the effect would be small—a fraction of a percent less, but, arguably, significant to our small planet orbiting so far away.</p>
<p>Note: As stated in the 3rd paragraph, the sun became less active during Dalton Minimum, which led to less solar radiation reaching our planet. Hence, the correct answer is solar radiation</p>	

29 Answer: **historic high**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q 2 9 stratospheric ash levels reached a _____</p>	<p>As a result, the accumulation of ash in the stratosphere rose to a historic high, to which the mammoth Tambora explosion substantially added, sending a savage cold spike throughout the already cooler globe.</p>
<p>Note According to the information presented in the 4th paragraph, the correct answer for Q29 is historic high</p>	

30 Answer: **Volcanic winter**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q30 _____ resulted because... ... sun rays were filtered and heat and sunlight were reflected into space.</p>	<p>However, on a (quite literally) darker note, it set into motion a 'volcanic winter' due to the filtering of the sun's rays, and the increased reflectivity of the atmosphere, where heat and sunlight are bounced back into space.</p>

Note:

The phrase “due to” is replaced by “because”. These two are used to express reasons. We have to follow the chart to understand exactly what is caused here.

The reasons are mentioned after that: “sun rays were filtered” and “heat and sunlight were reflected into space”.

According to the information mentioned in the 3rd paragraph, the correct answer for Q30 is **volcanic winter**.

31 Answer: **sun's rays**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q31 volcanic winter resulted because... _____ were filtered and heat and sunlight were reflected into space.</p>	<p>However, on a (quite literally) darker note, it set into motion a ‘volcanic winter’ due to the filtering of the sun’s rays, and the increased reflectivity of the atmosphere, where heat and sunlight are bounced back into space.</p>

Note:

This question asks for the reasons, the causes of “volcanic winter”. There are two reasons for this phenomena based on 3rd paragraph: “the filtering of the sun’s rays” and “heat and sunlight are bounced back into space”. These two causes are paraphrased into “sun’s rays were filtered” and “heat and sunlight were reflected into space”.

According to the information mentioned in the 3rd paragraph, the correct answer for Q 31 is **sun’s rays** respectively.

32 Answer: **rainfall**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q32 lowered temperatures and increased _____</p>	<p>The consequences were dire. With the dramatic temperature swings, falling to near-freezing within hours, and with the sudden summer frosts and sustained drenching rainfall, all across the Northern Hemisphere, staple crops such as maize and wheat failed to mature, and much livestock were killed.</p>

Note:

This question asks for the results of event mentioned in the previous stages of the diagram. As stated, “The consequences were dire” which means the results are very serious. The problems caused includes the fall of temperatures (lowered temperatures) and the growth of rainfall (drenching rainfall).

According to the information mentioned in the 3rd paragraph, the correct answer for Q 31 is **rainfall**.

33 Answer: **road systems**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q 33: lowered agricultural production - primitive _____</p>	<p>With agricultural production already low due to the cooler preceding years, and with the rudimentary road systems of those times rendering the importation and distribution of emergency food supplies limited, this final blow was devastating.</p>
<p>Note “primitive” (adj) and “rudimentary” (adj) mean that “basic, in an early stage” As stated in the passage, besides the weather, another reason for lowered agricultural production was the bad road systems. The answer for this question is road systems</p>	

34 Answer: **famine**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q 34: that century's most serious _____</p>	<p>It resulted in widespread malnutrition, starvation, and outbreaks of diseases such as typhus and cholera. It created streams of starving refugees, large shifts of population, riots, looting of food warehouses, and other breakdowns of civic order. [...] There was such mortality that the famine is now considered the worst of that century.</p>
<p>Note The aforementioned reasons and problems led to the famine, which is the worst at that time. Its seriousness has also been proven by the results of the <i>lowered agricultural production</i>. Hence, the correct answer is famine</p>	

35 Answer: **D**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q 35saw a positive effect of a volcanic eruption?</p>	<p>On a somewhat benign note, this airborne ash resulted in beautiful pastel-coloured sunsets and extended twilights in Northern Europe.</p>
<p>Note The positive effect here is “beautiful pastel-coloured sunsets and extended twilights” Based on the information presented 3rd paragraph, the correct answer for Q35 is D (Northern Europe)</p>	

36 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q36... ... the biggest volcanic eruption?	The most extreme case occurred about 70,000 years ago, when the world's largest known eruption took place at Lake Toba (relatively close to Tambora).
Note The phrase "the world's largest" is paraphrased into "the biggest". Based on this information from this passage. The biggest eruption is located in Lake Toba. Be carefully with the phrase "relatively close to Tambora", which means that the eruption is near Tambora, but not in Tambora. According to the information stated in the passage, the answer for this question is B (Lake Toba)	

37 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q37: ... scientific observation?	a London-based meteorologist who noted that the sun at that time did not seem as active in its production of sunspots and solar flares.
Note According to the information in the 2nd paragraph, the correct answer is C (London)	

38 Answer: **G**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 3 8 : ... a series of eruptions?	In the years leading to this, the mountain had experienced minor eruptions, but the 18.15 event was the culmination — a huge explosive outburst of the central volcanic vent with subsequent caldera collapse
Note Based on the information in the passage, G (Tambora) is a place seeing a series of eruptions.	

39 Answer: **E**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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<p>Q 39 buildings destroyed?</p>	<p>Looking at the Philippino example, 1814 saw the most destructive eruption of Mt Mayon ever. Killing thousands, burying whole towns and villages, the volcano spewed out millions of tons of ash and rock into the high atmosphere.</p>
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Note
 With the information in the 4th paragraph - stating the example of Philippines, the correct answer for this question is **E (Philippines)**

40 Answer: **F**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q40 ____ a book written?</p>	<p>Mary Shelley, author of Frankenstein, while holidaying in Switzerland, complained of 'incessant rainfall', a feeling which may have put her in the mood for writing her most famous work.</p>

Note
 As stated in the first paragraph, Switzerland is the inspiration for Mary Shelley's masterpiece. During her holiday in Switzerland, the book was written.
 Hence, the correct answer is **F (Switzerland)**