



# IELTS Mock Test 2021 January Reading Practice Test 2

## 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 One.



## It's Only a Cockroach

I turn on the light in my kitchen that night, and then I see it. I draw back, and my first instinct is to scream. I control myself with difficulty, but find myself shuddering, unable to deal with the creature before me. It's only a cockroach, but its large size, long antennae, shiny appearance, and spiny legs, all present a particularly disgusting appearance. And this is not just to me, but to everyone it seems, even to the point of phobic responses.

This is certainly the over-riding reason I want these creatures totally eradicated from my apartment, but with their offensive odour, passive transportation of microbes, and trails of droppings, they also pose a distinct threat to domestic hygiene. Clearly, cohabitation is not possible. So, I do all I can to keep these pests away. Food is stored in sealed containers, garbage cans have tight lids, my kitchen is kept spotlessly clean, and my apartment swept and mopped nightly. I have also sealed up possible entry points, but still, these loathsome things find their way inside. I need a way to kill them.

The most precise cockroach killer is, typically, another insect. A specific species of wasp targets these creatures. With a quick accurate swoop, it bites the cockroach at the main nerve centre of its body, which results in a temporary paralysis. This is very necessary, as we all know just how fast cockroaches can run. The wasp has only a few minutes to prepare its next sting, in the exact area of the brain which controls the cockroaches' instinct to escape. After the paralysis departs, the cockroach is subdued and docile, and doomed. The wasp bites off the antennae to further discourage flight, then drags its victim away.

Faced with such predation, cockroaches usually conceal themselves during the day, and with their ability to flatten their bodies, they can disappear into just about any tiny nook, crevice, and cranny. There, they wait patiently for darkness before emerging to search for food, and will usually run away when exposed to light. Given this, I am told that the slim and agile house centipede is probably the most effective cockroach predator, able to track down and root out the most carefully hidden prey. Unfortunately, I would say that centipedes are even more disgusting to have in one's house, if that's possible. I just can't win this game.

Can anyone win? These insects are just about the hardiest, on the planet. Some can wait for up to three months before meals, some can survive on the barest hint of nutrition (such as the glue on the back of postage stamps), and some can live without air for over half an hour. They do not, however, handle cold weather well, preferring the warm conditions and security found within buildings.

Hidden there, the female lays egg capsules containing around 40 eggs, and with the insect's relatively long lifespan (about a year), some 300 to 400 offspring can ultimately be produced. The result: once these insects have infested a building, they are very difficult to eradicate.

Cockroaches do, however, have some subtleties. They leave chemical messages in their droppings, as well as emit airborne pheromones to signal other cockroaches about sources of food and water, and alert them to their own presence. The latter is more important, for these insects are actually somewhat gregarious. Research has shown that cockroaches make group-based decisions, and tend to co-operate. One study placed a large number of cockroaches in a dish with three small shelters, and the insects divided themselves equally between two of them, leaving the third one empty. When these shelters were exchanged for two very large ones, all the cockroaches arranged themselves in just one. These creatures, it seems, prefer the company of others, and a rather fair allocation of resources.

Should I therefore feel any admiration? It is hard - in fact, in Western culture, cockroaches are almost universally depicted as repulsive and dirty pests. In the insect's most famous literary appearance - Franz Kafka's 'The Metamorphosis' - a man, Gregor, is transformed overnight into a monstrous insect, probably a cockroach (although the story never quite makes that clear). Gregor's transformation results in very predictable responses from his family and friends, who can never accept him again. He eventually dies, outcast and lonely, despised and mistreated - a potent symbol of alienation and rejection. Yet in the Pixar animated feature 'Wall-E', a cockroach provides essential companionship to a lone robot living on a planet scorched by a nuclear holocaust.

Whatever the case, I am faced with a big problem: a large ugly cockroach crawling slowly across my sink, antennae waving as it explores around. If I try to grab it, it will dart away, and I doubt whether I'll be able to catch it before it disappears into the numerous cracks and crevices of my old apartment. So, I carefully remove my slipper, determined to squash the insect, but then almost scream again as it lifts on its legs, raises membranous wings, and with a loud buzzing noise, flies away. Oh, just what I need they can fly, too.

## Questions 1-4

Answer the questions.

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

What aspect of cockroaches makes the author want them removed from the home?

1

What human aspect do they endanger?

2

Which insect is the best cockroach killer?

3

What can cockroaches do to easily hide?

4

## Questions 5-8

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           |

5  The author finds cockroaches more repulsive than centipedes.

6  Cockroaches live longer than many other insects.

7  Cockroaches will fight over food.

8  Cockroaches are often the subject of research.

## Questions 9-11

Complete the summary of the second half of the passage.

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

Cockroaches use 9  in the air to communicate, and show a willingness to 10 , yet the author struggles to feel 11  for these insects.

## Questions 12-13

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

12 Gregor

- ☐ A becomes a cockroach.
- ☐ B is a famous character.
- ☐ C despises his friends.
- ☐ D needs companionship.

13 The author wants to

- ☐ A catch the cockroach.
- ☐ B kill the cockroach.
- ☐ C touch the cockroach.
- ☐ D fly like a cockroach.

# Reading Passage 2

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



## Such a Fascinating Game

It is one of the world's most popular games, played by millions of people at home, in clubs, online, by correspondence, and in tournaments. It is chess, a humble arrangement where two players stare at a checkered board with 64 squares arranged in an eight-by-eight grid, eyeing their 16 pieces each as the first move is played. When the opponent's king is checkmated, the game is over, but between the beginning and the end, a wealth of elegant, complicated, and fascinating moves and combinations can unfold.

The origins of chess lie in Northwest India, around the 6th century. At that time there existed a game known as caturanga, which means 'four division', those divisions being of the military, represented by the infantry, cavalry, elephants, and chariotry. These pieces were eventually to become the pawn, knight, bishop, and rook, respectively, in the modern descendant of the game. Around 600 AD, caturanga spread to Persia, then, after the Muslim conquest of that region (beginning around that time), the game gained ground throughout the Islamic world, from where it eventually spread to Europe.

Around 1200 AD, Southern Europe began modifying the rules, and within 300 years the game had become recognisably the one we play today. The queen had long replaced the earlier vizier to become the most powerful piece, while the pawns were given the option of advancing two squares on the first move in order to accelerate play. These new rules quickly spread across Western Europe, creating the game now known as 'western chess' or 'international chess', to distinguish it from older or regional variants of the game.

As for the players themselves, one would think that the best of them are necessarily smart, with extremely high IQs; however, research has not been able to confirm this link. Some studies have shown that good chess players may have strong IQs, but there appears to be no direct correlation between this and chess ability. Paradoxically, the

academically brilliant may even be less able at chess, and vice versa. Evidently, there are other factors involved, such as spacio-visual insight and subliminal memory, not necessarily picked up by conventional intelligence tests, readily noticeable, or even useful in real life.

But there are non-mental factors which clearly play a role. No one can doubt that raw talent is necessary, but even the best and brightest must systematically undergo at least 10 to 15 years of theoretical study and competitive practice before reaching world championship levels. The American chess genius, Bobby Fischer, was only 13 when he produced the 'Game of the Century', but he was not world champion until he was 29. The Russian chess player, Garry Kasparov, was the youngest world champion ever, at 22, but he began dedicated state-sponsored training from the age of ten onwards, complete with personal chess coaches.

All this shows the fixed place chess has in western culture, meaning also that this region has, historically, produced all the greatest players. However, interest in chess is now growing in the East, although there is one problem being the stiff competition it faces with local board games, such as Xiangqi and Go. These are more popular by a wide margin, but regarding China for example, with its huge population and state-sponsored training, it is fast becoming a major chess power. The reigning women's world chess champion is Chinese, and the country performs well in chess Olympiads. The future for the game in this country looks bright indeed.

Talking about the future inevitably leads to the subject of computer chess. Serious chess-playing machines began to emerge in the 1970s and 1980s, but their abilities were far below that of the top human players. Progress, although slow, was steady, and with increasing memory and faster processing, it was inevitable that one day a computer would be able to match humans. Yet this is merely by brutally going through all the possible moves, millions per second, deeper and deeper into the position. The final move-choices give the appearance of intuition and long-term strategy, when in actual fact they are simply based on an unthinking and directionless material count.

In 1989, the computer 'Deep Thought' scored some wins against top human players, although the world champion at that time, Garry Kasparov, easily defeated the machine in some arranged games. In 1996, however, IBM brought out the next generation computer, 'Deep Blue', Pitting it in a match with this same player. Although it managed to score the first win against a reigning world champion, by losing three and drawing two of the remaining games, it lost the match. However, a return match the following year saw Kasparov facing an even better machine, 'Deeper Blue'. This time, the computer triumphed 3 1/2 - 2 1/2. And they are only getting better.

As impressive as these results seem, most people agree that it is similar to a forklift beating a weightlifter - somehow not a valid contest, and of little significance. Yes,

computers can win games, but creativity and intelligence are still the province of human players. It is these factors, as well as the tense psychological struggle of minds and the personalities involved, together with the limitless artistry of the positions themselves, which will always make chess such a fascinating game

## Questions 14-16

Write

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>TRUE</b>      | if the statement agrees with the information |
| <b>FALSE</b>     | if the statement contradicts the information |
| <b>NOT GIVEN</b> | If there is no information on this           |

- 14  There are 32 pieces at the beginning of a chess game.
- 15  Caturanga was more complicated than modern chess.
- 16  The popularity of caturanga increased after the Muslims took control.

## Questions 17-19

Answer the questions.

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

Which piece replaced the elephant?

17

Why were pawns given an extra ability?

18

Who was the youngest world champion?

19

## Questions 20-24

Give **TWO** examples of the following categories.

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

| Categories | An Example | Another Example |
|------------|------------|-----------------|
|------------|------------|-----------------|



|   |                       |                          |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mental abilities which great chess players must have              | spacio-visual insight | 20 _____                 |
| requirements, apart from talent, which create great chess players | 21 _____              | competitive practice     |
| reasons accounting for China's chess success                      | 22 _____              | state-sponsored training |
| factors which enable computers to equal human chess players       | increasing memory     | 23 _____                 |
| assets which human players have, that computers do not            | creativity            | 24 _____                 |

## Questions 25-26

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

25 Deep Blue

- ☐ A was stronger than Deeper Blue.
- ☐ B was stronger than Deep Thought.
- ☐ C won several games against Kasparov.
- ☐ D eventually triumphed over Kasparov.

26 Computers

- ☐ A have significant creativity.
- ☐ B provide tense psychological struggles.
- ☐ C are comparable to forklifts.
- ☐ D analyse billions of positions per second.

# Reading Passage 3

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



## What's in Blood?

A.

Blood is the most specialised fluid within living animals, playing an absolutely critical role. It symbolises life ('new blood'), health ('get your blood running'), personality ('good or bad blood'), and family ('your bloodline'). This red fluid itself is something which most people would rather not see, yet it contains such a complex soup of proteins, sugars, ions, hormones, gases, and basic cellular components that it is certainly worth considering in some detail.

B.

By volume, half of blood is the liquid part, called plasma. The rest comprises specialised components, the main one being red blood cells (technically known as erythrocytes). These transport oxygen molecules throughout the body, and also give blood its colour (from the hemoglobin protein within, which turns red when combined with oxygen). Red blood cells, as with all cells in the human body, have a limited operating life. They are produced within the marrow of bones, principally the larger ones, and live for about four months before they fall inactive, to be then reabsorbed by the spleen and liver, with waste products absorbed into the urine.

C.

This contrasts with the other main cells of human blood: the white blood cells, technically known as leukocytes. Similarly produced in the bone marrow, they are active only for three or four days, yet they are essential in defending the body against infections. White blood cells come in many different types, each designed to deal with a different sort of invader bacteria, virus, fungus, or parasite. When one of these enters the body, the white blood cells quickly determine its nature, then, after mustering sufficient numbers of a

specific type (the period in which you are sick), they launch themselves into the fight, enveloping each individual invasive cell, and breaking it down (leading to recovery).

#### **D.**

That leaves the last main component of blood: platelets. Their technical name is thrombocytes, and they are much smaller than red and white blood cells. Also circulating freely, they are responsible for clotting the blood, and this is necessary to heal both external and internal injuries. Again, they are produced in the bone marrow, and have the interesting ability to change shape. There are several diseases related to the breakdown in the regulation of their numbers. If too low, excessive bleeding can occur, yet if too high, internal clotting may result, causing potentially catastrophic blockages in parts of the body and medical ailments we know as strokes, heart attacks, and embolisms.

#### **E.**

Blood's complexity presents particular difficulties in the advent of emergency transfusions. These are avoided whenever possible in order to lower the risk of reactions due to blood incompatibility. Unexpected antigens can trigger antibodies to attack blood components, with potentially lethal results. Thus, if transfusions are to take place, a thorough knowledge and classification of blood is essential, yet with 30 recognised blood-group systems, containing hundreds of antigens, this presents quite a challenge. The ABO system is the most important. On top of this is the Rhesus factor, which is not as simple as positive or negative (as most people think), but comprises scores of antigens. These can, however, be clustered together into groups which cause similar responses, creating some order.

#### **F.**

Of course, the simplest system to avoid adverse transfusion reactions is for patients to receive their own blood - for example, in a series of blood donations in anticipation of an operation scheduled some months in advance. The second best system is to undertake cross-matching, which involves simply mixing samples of the patients' blood with the donors', then checking microscopically for clumping - a key sign of incompatibility. Both of these systems are obviously impractical in an emergency situation, which is why meticulous testing, documentation, and labeling of blood are necessary.

#### **G.**

In a true emergency, a blood bank is needed, with an array of various types of blood on hand. Hence, blood donations must be a regular occurrence among a significant segment of the population. In the developed world, unpaid volunteers provide most of the blood for the community, whereas in less developed nations, families or friends are mostly involved. In the era of HIV and other insidious blood-borne diseases, potential donors are carefully screened and tested, and a period of about two months is recommended before

successive whole blood donations.

**H.**

Given the vital role which blood plays, it is strange to think that for almost 2000 years bloodletting was a widespread medical practice. It was based on the belief that blood carried 'humours', whose imbalances resulted in medical illnesses. Bleeding a patient was supposed to remove an undesirable excess of one of these. Furthermore, the fact that blood circulated around the body was unknown. It was instead assumed to be quickly created, and equally quickly exhausted of its value, after which it could stagnate unhealthily in the bodily extremities. Although the logic was there, it goes without saying that very few patients responded positively to such treatment.

## Questions 27-33

Reading Passage Three has eight paragraphs, A-H.

Choose the correct heading for Paragraphs B-H from the list of headings.

Write the correct number, i-x, for each answer.

| List of headings |  |
|------------------|--|
| i                | Not as big, but needing just enough      |
| ii               | Some attitudes to blood                  |
| iii              | Good, but not so quick                   |
| iv               | Two ideas see a wrong conclusion         |
| v                | Complicated identification               |
| vi               | An interesting treatment                 |
| vii              | A shorter life, but just as important    |
| viii             | The Principal part that adds some colour |
| ix               | Bone marrow and blood                    |
| x                | Maintaining supplies                     |

| Example     | Answer                  |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| Paragraph A | ii                      |
| Paragraph B | 27 <input type="text"/> |
| Paragraph C | 28 <input type="text"/> |

|             |                         |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| Paragraph D | 29 <input type="text"/> |
| Paragraph E | 30 <input type="text"/> |
| Paragraph F | 31 <input type="text"/> |
| Paragraph G | 32 <input type="text"/> |
| Paragraph H | 33 <input type="text"/> |

## Questions 34-37

Complete the table.

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

| Blood Component         | Associated Fact   |
|-------------------------|---|
| red cells               | upon dying, dealt with by 34 <input type="text"/>         |
| white cells             | require 35 <input type="text"/> before attacking invaders |
| platelets               | Their numbers need careful 36 <input type="text"/>        |
| 37 <input type="text"/> | Many varieties exist.                                     |

## Questions 38-40

Write

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>TRUE</b>      | if the statement agrees with the information |
| <b>FALSE</b>     | if the statement contradicts the information |
| <b>NOT GIVEN</b> | If there is no information on this           |

38  Blood cross-matching can be done without special equipment.

39  In poorer countries, family members often donate blood.

40

Bleeding people was a painful process.



## Solution:

20 subliminal memory

22 huge population

24 intelligence

26 C

28 vii

30 v

32 x

34 spleen and liver

36 regulation

38 FALSE

21 theoretical study

23 faster processing

25 B

27 viii

29 i

31 iii

33 iv

35 sufficient numbers

37 antigens

39 TRUE

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 40 NOT GIVEN            | 1 disgusting appearance |
| 2 domestic hygiene      | 3 wasp                  |
| 4 flatten (bodies)      | 5 FALSE                 |
| 6 TRUE                  | 7 FALSE                 |
| 8 NOT GIVEN             | 9 pheromones            |
| 10 co-operate           | 11 admiration           |
| 12 D                    | 13 B                    |
| 14 TRUE                 | 15 NOT GIVEN            |
| 16 TRUE                 | 17 (the) bishop         |
| 18 (to) accelerate play | 19 (Garry) Kasparov     |



## Review and Explanations

20 Answer: **subliminal memory**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q 20 : Mental abilities which great chess players must have, spacio-visual insight  | As for the players themselves, one would think that the best of them are necessarily smart, with extremely high IQs [...] spacio-visual insight and subliminal memory, not necessarily picked up by conventional intelligence tests, readily noticeable, or even useful in real life. |
| In the passage, the writer argues that IQs is not necessarily a determining factor that can tell whether one is good chess player or not. On the contrary, he/she claims that it is spacio-visual insight and subliminal memory that actually helpful mental skills. Based on the clue "spacio-visual insight", <b>subliminal memory</b> is the answer. |   |

21 Answer: **theoretical study**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q21: requirements, apart from talent, which create great chess players, competitive practice   | But there are non-mental factors which clearly play a role. No one can doubt that raw talent is necessary, but even the best and brightest must systematically undergo at least 10 to 15 years of theoretical study and competitive practice before reaching world championship levels. |
| It seems to the writer that alongside with being naturally talented, a good player also needs /demands training as well as practising process. In support of this, he/she claims that 10 to 15 years of theoretical study and competitive practice is necessary to even the most intelligent champion to achieve their glory. Thus, <b>theoretical study</b> is the answer |   |

22 Answer: **huge population**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q22: reasons accounting for China's chess success, state-sponsored training  | These are more popular by a wide margin, but regarding China for example, with its huge population and state-sponsored training, it is fast becoming a major chess power. |
| In terms of examining the factors that prompt China's significant achievement in chess, the writer points out that their dominance in the field of chess originates from both state-sponsored training and huge population. Thus, <b>huge population</b> is the answer |   |

23 Answer: **faster processing**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage   |
|---|--|
| Q23: factors which enable computers to equal human chess players, increasing memory   | computer chess, Progress, although slow, was steady, and with increasing memory and faster processing, |
| Today, playing chess with the computer is available. Furthermore, there are some progress made to computers which now possess not only increasing memory but also faster processing. Thus, <b>faster processing</b> is the answer |  |

24 Answer: **intelligence**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q24: <b>assets</b> which <b>human</b> players have, that <b>computers do not</b> , <b>creativity</b>   | Yes, <b>computers</b> can win games, but <b>creativity</b> and <b>intelligence</b> are still <b>the province of human players</b> . |
| Despite the fact that computer chess emerges and challenges humans, the <b>assets</b> <b>privileged to us</b> are our <b>creativity</b> as well as <b>intelligence</b> , which <b>are limited in machines like computers</b> . Thus, <b>intelligence</b> is the answer |   |

25 Answer: **B**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q25: <b>Deep Blue</b><br>A was <b>stronger</b> than <b>Deeper Blue</b> .<br>B was <b>stronger than Deep Thought</b> .<br>C <b>won several games</b> against Kasparov.<br>D <b>eventually triumphed</b> over Kasparov.   | In 1996, however, IBM brought out <b>the next generation computer</b> , ' <b>Deep Blue</b> ', Pitting it in s match with this same player. Although it managed to score the first win against a reigning world champion, by losing three and drawing two of the remaining games, <b>it lost the match</b> . However, a return match the following year saw Kasparov facing <b>an even better machine</b> , ' <b>Deeper Blue</b> '. This time, <b>the computer triumphed 3 1/2 - 2 1/2</b> . And they are only getting better. |
| Consider each option:<br>+ A. After " <b>Deep Blue</b> ", " <b>Deeper Blue</b> " is introduced and promoted to be an " <b>even better machine</b> ". This tells us A is incorrect.<br>+ B. " <b>Deep Blue</b> ", which is created by IBM in 1966, is <b>the next generation of "Deep Thought"</b> , from which we can infer that it is <b>more advanced and stronger than "Deep Thought"</b> . Thus, B is correct.<br>+ C. when playing with <b>Kasparov</b> , " <b>Deep Blue</b> " <b>won only the first game</b> and lost the others, which means <b>"several games"</b> is not correct here.<br>+ D. the generation that <b>ultimately beats Kasparov</b> is " <b>Deeper Blue</b> ", not " <b>Deep Blue</b> ". Thus, D is a trap and is incorrect.<br>Overall, <b>B</b> is correct |   |

26 Answer: **C**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage   |
|--|--|
| Q26: <b>Computers</b><br>A <b>have</b> <b>significant creativity</b> .<br>B <b>provide tense psychological struggles</b> .<br>C <b>are comparable to forklifts</b> .<br>D <b>analyse billions</b> of positions per second. | Yet this is merely by brutally going through all the possible moves, <b>millions</b> per second [...] As impressive as these results seem, most people agree that <b>it is similar to a forklift</b> beating a weightlifter - somehow not a valid contest, and of little significance. Yes, <b>computers</b> can win games, but <b>creativity and intelligence are still the province of human players</b> . It is these factors, as well as <b>the tense psychological struggle of minds</b> and the personalities involved, together with the limitless artistry of the positions themselves, which will always make chess such a fascinating game |

In the text, the event when the Deeper Blue triumphed Kasparov is referred as **similar to weightlifter is defeated by the forklift**. It means **forklift is comparable to computers**. Hence, C is the answer.

Meanwhile:

+ A is incorrect because the writer argues that **it is only humans that own creativity**.

+ in B, **"tense psychological struggles"** is referred to humans' skills in chess that is **absent in computers**. Thus, it is not correct.

+ D is incorrect because it is mentioned in **paragraph 7** that " Yet this is merely by brutally going through all the possible moves, **millions** per second". Since the option states **"billion"** rather than **million**, it is incorrect.

Overall, **C** is correct

27 Answer: **viii**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage   |
|---|--|
| Q27: Paragraph B<br>viii The <b>Principal part</b> that <b>adds some colour</b>   | <b>red blood cells</b> [...] These transport oxygen molecules throughout the body, and also <b>give blood its colour</b> (from the hemoglobin protein within, which <b>turns red</b> when combined with oxygen). |
| From the passage, we can infer that one component of blood, <b>the red blood cells</b> , is responsible for delivering oxygen molecules. As red blood cells contain hemoglobin, when they are added oxygen they <b>turn into red, contributing to blood color</b> . Thus, the <b>color of blood is added by red blood cells</b> mentioned in <b>Passage B</b> . Hence, <b>viii</b> is our answer. |  |

28 Answer: **vii**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q28: Paragraph C<br>vii A <b>shorter life</b> , but just as <b>important</b>   | <b>white blood cells</b> [...] Similarly produced in the bone marrow, they are <b>active only for three or four days</b> , yet they are <b>essential in defending the body against infections</b> |
| <b>Passage C</b> focuses on <b>white blood cells</b> . In <b>passage C</b> , it is stated that <b>white blood cells</b> only <b>survive within 3-4 days</b> , which is <b>a relatively short period of lifetime</b> . Nonetheless, they are referred to be so <b>essential</b> (synonym of important) as they prevent viruses from infecting into the body. As we can see, <b>vii</b> is the suitable heading. |   |

29 Answer: **i**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q29: Paragraph D<br>i <b>Not as big</b> , but <b>needing just enough</b> | <b>platelets</b> [...] they <b>are much smaller</b> [...] If <b>too low</b> , excessive bleeding can occur, yet if <b>too high</b> , internal clotting may result, causing potentially catastrophic blockages in parts of the body and medical ailments we know as strokes, heart attacks, and embolisms. |

Platelets are described in **paragraph D**. According to the writer, they are **tiny (small)** compared to red and white blood cells. As we can see, it matches with half of the statement in heading I (**Not as big**). The other half demonstrates that it is **need just sufficient, no more, no less**. Consider paragraph D where the writer comments that **small numbers** of platelets release much blood while **too many** of them can stagnant the process of bleeding in body, leading to severe problems. It means that our blood needs the **balance in the number of platelets**, it wants **neither too few nor too many of them**. Thus, the answer is **i**

30 Answer: **v**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q30: Paragraph E<br>v <b>Complicated identification</b>  | Blood's <b>complexity</b> presents particular difficulties in the advent of emergency transfusions, lower the risk of reactions due to blood incompatibility. Unexpected antigens can trigger antibodies to attack blood components, with potentially lethal results. Thus, if transfusions are to take place, a <b>thorough knowledge and classification of blood</b> is essential, yet with 30 recognised blood-group systems, containing hundreds of antigens, this presents <b>quite a challenge</b> . The ABO system is the most important. On top of this is the Rhesus factor, which is <b>not as simple as positive or negative</b> (as most people think), but comprises scores of antigens. |
| In <b>paragraph E</b> , it is illustrated that the emergent case of transfusing blood is a <b>daunting task</b> . First of all, it can <b>pose risks</b> when incompatible blood match reacts unexpectedly. Secondly, antigens may produce antibodies and <b>harm blood components</b> . Thus, it depends on deep understanding of <b>blood-group classification/identification</b> and the system of ABO or Rhesus factor. Overall, this process is assessed to be <b>"Complexity", "presents quite a challenge" and "not as simple"</b> which mean it is <b>complicated</b> . Thus, <b>v</b> is the answer |   |

31 Answer: **iii**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q31: Paragraph F<br>iii <b>Good</b> , but <b>not so quick</b>   | Both of <b>these systems</b> (receive their own blood and cross-matching) are obviously <b>impractical in an emergency situation</b> , which is why meticulous testing, documentation, and labeling of blood are necessary. |
| <b>One solution for the risk of blood incompatibility</b> is to transfer blood of the same person or from other people who have their blood matched with the patients' blood. However the <b>disadvantage</b> of this method lies on its <b>inability to deal with emergent situation</b> . Hence, we can infer that these <b>good methods</b> are <b>not quick enough to be used for emergency</b> . Therefore, <b>iii</b> is the answer |   |

32 Answer: **x**

| Keywords in Questions | Similar words in Passage |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Q32: Paragraph G<br>x <b>Maintaining supplies</b>   | In a true emergency, a <b>blood bank</b> is needed, with an array of various types of blood on hand. Hence, blood donations must be a <b>regular occurrence</b> among a <b>significant segment of the population</b> |
| Since blood transferring in emergency is impractical, there is a true demand of a <b>blood bank</b> prepared in advance in case of any emergent circumstance. Thus, the writer suggests that movements of donating blood should be <b>regularly held</b> in the <b>general public</b> to <b>provide and maintain supplies</b> to the <b>blood bank</b> . Hence, <b>x</b> is the correct heading |  |

33 Answer: **iv**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage   |
|---|--|
| Q33: Paragraph H<br>iv <b>Two ideas</b> see a <b>wrong conclusion</b>   | Although the logic was there, it goes without saying that <b>very few patients responded positively to such treatment.</b> |
| In the last paragraph, the writer mentions the belief of letting blood release rather than prevent it from bleeding. This perspective <b>roots from 2 ideas</b> . One idea is that bleeding will let extra imbalance in humours go to avoid diseases while the other maintains that it is quick for blood to be either produced or exhausted, and when exhausted it carries illness. After all, it is observed that this method is <b>not effective to the victims</b> which means <b>the two ideas are incorrect</b> . Hence, <b>iv</b> is the answer. |  |

34 Answer: **spleen and liver**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage   |
|---|--|
| Q 3 4 : <b>red cells</b> , <b>upon dying</b> , <b>dealt with by</b>   | live for about four months before they fall inactive, to be then <b>reabsorbed</b> by the <b>spleen and liver</b> , with waste products absorbed into the urine. |
| After accomplishing their role of <b>adding/dying color to blood</b> for approximately 4 months, <b>red cells</b> stop acting. At this stage, it is the <b>spleen and liver that reabsorb these cells</b> . Thus, <b>spleen and liver</b> is the answer |  |

35 Answer: **sufficient numbers**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q35: <b>white cells</b> , <b>require</b> , <b>before attacking invaders</b>  | When one of these enters the body, the <b>white blood cells</b> quickly determine its nature, then, <b>after mustering sufficient numbers of a specific type</b> (the period in which you are sick), they <b>launch themselves into the fight</b> |
| <b>Paragraph C</b> demonstrates the process that <b>white cells</b> inactivate the infections. Firstly, they have to identify the type of invaders to determine the appropriate type of white cells to fight with. Then they have to <b>muster (gather/collect, similar to require/gain) sufficient (enough) numbers of this type</b> before <b>getting ready to attack/launch fight to these invaders</b> . Thus, <b>sufficient numbers</b> is the answer |   |

36 Answer: **regulation**

| Keywords in Questions | Similar words in Passage |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Q 3 6 : <b>platelets</b> , <b>Their numbers need careful</b>  | There are several diseases related to the breakdown in the <b>regulation</b> of <b>their numbers</b> . If <b>too low</b> , excessive bleeding can occur, yet <b>if too high</b> , internal clotting may result, causing potentially catastrophic blockages in parts of the body and medical ailments we know as strokes, heart attacks, and embolisms. |
| As we were discussing in <b>Q29</b> , the number of <b>platelets</b> have significant impact on the normal function of blood. Thus, it requires the <b>careful regulation (control)</b> to <b>create the balance in their number in blood and keep it not too low or too high</b> . Thus, <b>regulation</b> is the answer |  |

37 Answer: **antigens**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q37: Many <b>varieties</b> exist.   | 30 recognised blood-group systems, containing <b>hundreds of antigens</b> |
| Note that the answer for <b>Q37</b> is <b>a noun</b> . When the question asks for something <b>various in types</b> , we know that it is related to <b>number</b> . Another clue is that the answer for <b>Q36</b> is in paragraph D so we <b>start scan from paragraph E</b> . In <b>paragraph E</b> it is reported that there are 30 blood-group systems which are comprised of <b>hundreds of antigens</b> . As we can see <b>antigens</b> is <b>various with up to hundreds kinds</b> . Thus, <b>antigens</b> is the answer |   |

38 Answer: **FALSE**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage   |
|---|--|
| Q 3 8 : <b>Blood cross-matching</b> can be done <b>without special equipment</b> .  | The second best system is to undertake <b>cross-matching</b> , which involves simply mixing samples of the patients' blood with the donors', then <b>checking microscopically for clumping</b> - a key sign of incompatibility |
| In terms of conducting a <b>cross-matching process</b> , in order to detect clumping to see whether the blood is matched inconsistently, <b>'checking microscopically'</b> is required. Note that the word <b>'microscopically'</b> comes from the noun <b>'microscope'</b> which indicates a <b>special equipment used in biology</b> . Thus, this statement is <b>False</b> |  |

39 Answer: **TRUE**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q39: In <b>poorer countries</b> , <b>family members</b> often <b>donate blood</b> .   | In the developed world, unpaid volunteers <b>provide most of the blood for the community</b> , whereas <b>in less developed nations</b> , <b>families or friends</b> are <b>mostly involved</b> . |
| Unlike developed nations where volunteers contribute to donate blood for the public, <b>blood donation</b> in <b>less developed/developing/poorer countries</b> comes from <b>members in family or friends</b> . Thus, Q39 is <b>True</b> |   |

40 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

| Keywords in Questions                                      | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q40: <b>Bleeding people</b> was a <b>painful process</b> . | <b>Bleeding a patient</b> was supposed to <b>remove an undesirable excess of one of these</b> . |



Although there is little evidence to support that **bleeding** is an useful method to relieve diseases which means **bleeding is likely to be a harmful process**, we **can not find any information to conclude whether this process is painful or not**. Thus, Q40 is **Not given**.

1 Answer: **disgusting appearance**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q 1 : What <b>aspect</b> of <b>cockroaches</b> makes <b>the author</b> want them removed from the home?   | It's only a <b>cockroach</b> , but its large size, long antennae, shiny appearance, and spiny legs, all present a particularly <b>disgusting appearance</b> [...] This is certainly the <b>over-riding reason</b> I want <b>these creatures</b> <b>totally eradicated from my apartment</b> |
| The question asks for <b>one specific characteristic of the cockroach</b> that terrifies <b>the author</b> and makes her <b>want to get rid of them</b> . As we can see, in the passage, the <b>cockroach</b> is described with a lot of traits namely "large size, long antennae, shiny appearance, and spiny legs" and overall, it is demonstrated as having <b>disgusting appearance</b> . Thus, we can infer that not any single characteristic but <b>its entire body</b> that the writer hates. Moving onto the next paragraph, the writer notes that "this is the <b>over-riding (main) reason</b> " why she wishes it to <b>totally eradicate (disappear) from her place</b> . Note that " <b>eradicate</b> " means <b>no longer exists</b> which is similar to " <b>move</b> " and " <b>this</b> " here indicates " <b>disgusting appearance</b> ". Thus, the answer is <b>disgusting appearance</b> |   |

2 Answer: **domestic hygiene**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q2: What <b>human aspect</b> do <b>they</b> <b>endanger</b> ?  | <b>they</b> also <b>pose a distinct threat</b> to <b>domestic hygiene</b> . |
| The answer can be found in <b>the first sentence of paragraph 2</b> . Note that " <b>they</b> " is referred to <b>the cockroaches</b> while the words " <b>endanger</b> " in the question is paraphrased to be " <b>pose a threat</b> " as they have the same meaning of <b>doing harm to something</b> . According to the passage, <b>cockroaches</b> can <b>possibly threaten</b> " <b>domestic hygiene</b> ". Thus, the answer is <b>domestic hygiene</b> |   |

3 Answer: **wasp**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q3: Which <b>insect</b> is <b>the best</b> <b>cockroach killer</b> ?  | <b>The most precise cockroach killer</b> is, typically, <b>another insect</b> . A specific species of <b>wasp</b> targets these creatures |
| Note that the question does not ask for general <b>cockroach killer</b> but emphasise on <b>the best or the most helpful and effective</b> one and it must be a kind of insect. From the passage, we acknowledge that <b>wasp</b> , which can paralyse cockroach temporarily, is the most precise <b>killer of cockroach</b> . In <b>paragraph 4</b> , it is said that <b>the most effective or the best cockroach predators</b> are the house centipedes. However, centipedes are not insects. Therefore, the only suitable answer to this question is <b>wasp</b> . |   |

4 Answer: **flatten (bodies)**

| Keywords in Questions | Similar words in Passage |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Q4: What can cockroaches do to easily hide?   | cockroaches usually conceal themselves during the day, and with their ability to flatten their bodies, they can disappear into just about any tiny nook, crevice, and cranny |
| Note the simple word "hide" in the question is replaced by an academic word, conceal which suggests the same meaning. It is observed that what facilitates the cockroaches to disappear and hide in tiny (small) spaces lie on their bodies which could be flexibly flatten. As the word limit is <b>NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS</b> , <b>flatten bodies</b> is our answer |  |

5 Answer: **FALSE**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage   |
|--|--|
| Q5: The author finds cockroaches more repulsive than centipedes.   | Unfortunately, I would say that centipedes are even more disgusting to have in one's house |
| Note that "repulsive" is the synonym of "disgusting". Even though the writer is suggested that house centipedes have the best ability to eliminate cockroach, she gives up the idea of raising a centipede at home. It is because compared to cockroaches, centipedes look even more strange/disgusting/repulsive. Since question 5 states the opposite side, the answer is <b>False</b> . |  |

6 Answer: **TRUE**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q 6 : Cockroaches live longer than many other insects.  | These insects are just about the hardest, on the planet [...] with the insect's relatively long lifespan (about a year) |
| One fact upsets the people who hate cockroaches is that they are capable of enduring harsh conditions. Consequently, they are illustrated to possess a lifespan which lasts for a relatively long time. Note that "lifespan" means how long a species can live which matches with the question's focus. As we can see, although the writer doesn't directly compare cockroaches with other insects, we can still infer that their lifetime is longer than that other insects. Thus, the answer is <b>True</b> . |   |

7 Answer: **FALSE**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q7: Cockroaches will fight over food.  | [...] signal other cockroaches about sources of food and water Research has shown that cockroaches make group-based decisions, and tend to co-operate |
| From research, the writer comments that the cockroaches' one habit is to make decision with the contribution of the whole group. One example is that when dealing with the affair of searching for food and water, instead of fighting against each other to gain the food, they have the tendency to co-operate by messaging others with chemicals or airborne pheromones. From that we can see statement in Q7 is <b>False</b> . |   |

8 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

| Keywords in Questions | Similar words in Passage |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------------|



|  |  |
|--|--|
| Q8: Cockroaches are often the subject of research.   | Research has shown that cockroaches make group-based decisions, and tend to co-operate |
| In the passage, the writer includes several researches about cockroaches to support her idea. Nonetheless, it doesn't mean that researches frequently focus on cockroach. Hence, <b>Not given</b> is the answer. |  |

9 Answer: **pheromones**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q9: Cockroaches use, in the air to communicate   | They leave chemical messages in their droppings, as well as emit airborne pheromones to signal other cockroaches about sources of food and water, and alert them to their own presence. |
| As we have pointed out in Q7, once the source of food or water is detected, the cockroach will not keep it for itself but send signals to muster other cockroaches. In addition to the chemicals released, they also communicate by the emissions of pheromones in the air. Hence, the answer is <b>pheromones</b> |   |

10 Answer: **co-operate**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage   |
|--|--|
| Q10: Cockroaches, show a willingness to  | Research has shown that cockroaches make group-based decisions, and tend to co-operate |
| As the conjunction "and" is used between Q9 and Q10, we anticipate that the answer for Q10 is related to the answer in Q9. Indeed, when mentioning about food searching, the writer notes that the cockroaches are less likely to be violent with each other. By contrast, they volunteer or have willingness to co-operate which means to share foods with others. Hence, the answer is <b>co-operate</b> . |  |

11 Answer: **admiration**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage                           |
|---|--|
| Q11: yet the author struggles to feel, for these insects  | Should I therefore feel any admiration? It is hard |
| Having observed that cockroaches set some good examples of collaboration, the writer, however, fails or struggles with feeling admire to this species. It is challenging/hard to think so, as justified by her, because their descriptions are typically dirty and disgusting. Hence, the answer is <b>admiration</b> . |  |

12 Answer: **D**

| Keywords in Questions | Similar words in Passage |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Q12: <b>Gregor</b><br>A. <b>becomes a cockroach.</b><br>B. is <b>a famous character.</b><br>C. <b>despises his friends.</b><br>D. <b>needs companionship.</b> | In the insect's <b>most famous literary appearance</b> - Franz Kafka's 'The Metamorphosis' - a man, <b>Gregor</b> , is <b>transformed overnight into a monstrous insect, probably a cockroach</b> (although the story never quite makes that clear). Gregor's transformation results in very predictable responses from <b>his family and friends</b> , who <b>can never accept him again</b> . He eventually dies, <b>outcast and lonely, despised and mistreated</b> - a potent symbol of <b>alienation and rejection</b> . |
|---|---|

Consider each option:

it is not exactly correct to the description of Gregor because the writer uses 'probably' as well as mentions that the story **doesn't show clearly that he is a cockroach**. Thus, she is **uncertain** about this belief.

It is said that Franz Kafka's 'The Metamorphosis' is a **famous literary work** and Gregor is mentioned as **one character**, but we **don't know whether he is a famous character in the work or not**. Thus, B is not the answer.

Gregor **does not despise (dislike)** his friends. Conversely, he is **despised and mistreated by them**.

Thus, A, B, C are incorrect.

D is the answer. What we can observe from his story is his tragedy in which his insect-like appearance leads to **his isolation as being rejected**. It means he **has lack of love and companionship**. Hence, **D** is correct.

13 Answer: **B**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q13: <b>The author</b> wants to<br>A. <b>catch</b> the cockroach.<br>B. <b>kill</b> the cockroach.<br>C. touch the cockroach.<br>D. fly like a cockroach.  | If I <b>try to grab it</b> , it will dart away, and <b>I doubt whether I'll be able to catch it</b> before it disappears into the numerous cracks and crevices of my old apartment. So, I carefully remove my slipper, <b>determined to squash</b> the insect |
| At first <b>the author</b> considers to <b>catch</b> the cockroach but she changes her minds as she might <b>fail to catch this fast-running pest</b> . Therefore, she manages to <b>squash/kill it</b> with her slipper. Thus, <b>B</b> is the answer |   |

14 Answer: **TRUE**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q14: There are <b>32 pieces</b> at the beginning of a chess game.  | eyeing their <b>16 pieces each</b> as <b>the first move is played</b> |
| According to the passage, <b>at the first move in the beginning of a chess play</b> , the contestants observe <b>16 pieces</b> at <b>each side</b> . That means the <b>total number</b> of <b>pieces both sides is 32</b> . Thus, Q14 is <b>True</b> |   |

15 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

| Keywords in Questions | Similar words in Passage |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Q15: Caturanga was more complicated than modern chess.   | At that time there existed a game known as caturanga, which means 'four division', those divisions being of the military, represented by the infantry, cavalry, elephants, and chariotry. These pieces were eventually to become the pawn, knight, bishop, and rook, respectively, in the modern descendant of the game |
| The writer only compares Caturanga with modern chess game in terms of the difference in how pieces are named. There is no comparison in the level of complexity. Thus, Q15 is <b>Not given</b> . |   |

16 Answer: **TRUE**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q16: The popularity of caturanga increased after the Muslims took control.   | Around 600 AD, caturanga spread to Persia, then, after the Muslim conquest of that region (beginning around that time), the game gained ground throughout the Islamic world, from where it eventually spread to Europe. |
| From the passage, we can see that caturanga has been dispersed to Persia around 600 AD. As the result of the fact that Persia has been conquered by Muslim, chess becomes popular in Islamic countries and then in European countries. Hence, Q16 is <b>True</b> |   |

17 Answer: **(the) bishop**

| Keywords in Questions   | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q17: Which piece replaced the elephant?   | infantry, cavalry, elephants, and chariotry. These pieces were eventually to become the pawn, knight, bishop, and rook, respectively, in the modern descendant of the game. |
| The difference that sets original and now-a-day chess apart is the component of a play. To be specific, traditional pieces are renamed in modern play. As the writer uses "respectively", we can infer that infantry becomes pawn, cavalry becomes knight, elephants become bishop and chariotry becomes rook. Thus, <b>(the) bishop</b> is in place of elephants and it is the answer. |   |

18 Answer: **(to) accelerate play**

| Keywords in Questions  | Similar words in Passage  |
|--|---|
| Q 18 : Why were pawns given an extra ability?  | the pawns were given the option of advancing two squares on the first move in order to accelerate play. |
| In addition to new name, several pieces are empowered with new ability. For example, instead of moving pawns only 1 square, players are allowed to move them 2 squares. The idea behind this is to accelerate the play which means to make it faster. Hence, the answer is <b>(to) accelerate play</b> |   |

19 Answer: **(Garry) Kasparov**

| Keywords in Questions                     | Similar words in Passage  |
|---|---|
| Q19: Who was the youngest world champion? | The Russian chess player, Garry Kasparov, was the youngest world champion ever, at 22 |

In order to support his/her opinion that apart from talent, practising chess plays a vital role to success, the writer provides some evidences from famous world chess champions. Both of them (Bobby Fischer and Garry Kasparov) have undergone long time of training and practising before making legendary victory in chess. Of the two, Garry Kasparov is known as the youngest chess champion who succeeded at the age of 22. Thus, our answer is **Garry Kasparov**