

IELTS Practice Tests Plus Volume 1

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 1 below.



Tackling Obesity in the Western World

A Obesity is a huge problem in many Western countries and one which now attracts considerable medical interest as researchers take up the challenge to find a 'cure' for the common condition of being seriously overweight. However, rather than take responsibility for their weight, obese people have often sought solace in the excuse that they have a slow metabolism, a genetic hiccup which sentences more than half the Australian population (63% of men and 47% of women) to a life of battling with their weight. The argument goes like this: it doesn't matter how little they eat, they gain weight because their bodies break down food and turn it into energy more slowly than those with a so-called normal metabolic rate.

B 'This is nonsense,' says Dr Susan Jebb from the Dunn Nutrition Unit at Cambridge in England. Despite the persistence of this metabolism myth, science has known for several years that the exact opposite is in fact true. Fat people have faster metabolisms than thin people. 'What is very clear,' says Dr Jebb, 'is that overweight people actually burn off more energy. They have more cells, bigger hearts, bigger lungs and they all need more energy just to keep going.'

C It took only one night, spent in a sealed room at the Dunn Unit to disabuse one of their patients of the beliefs of a lifetime: her metabolism was fast, not slow. By sealing the room and measuring the exact amount of oxygen she used, researchers were able to show her that her metabolism was not the culprit. It wasn't the answer she expected and probably not the one she wanted but she took the news philosophically.

D Although the metabolism myth has been completely disproved, science has far from discounted our genes as responsible for making us whatever weight we are, fat or thin. One of the world's leading obesity researchers, geneticist Professor Stephen O'Rahilly, goes so far as to say we are on the threshold of a complete change in the way we view

not only morbid obesity, but also everyday overweight. Prof. O'Rahilly's groundbreaking work in Cambridge has proven that obesity can be caused by our genes. 'These people are not weak-willed, slothful or lazy,' says Prof. O'Rahilly, 'They have a medical condition due to a genetic defect and that causes them to be obese.'

E In Australia, the University of Sydney's Professor Ian Caterson says while major genetic defects may be rare, many people probably have minor genetic variations that combine to dictate weight and are responsible for things such as how much we eat, the amount of exercise we do and the amount of energy we need. When you add up all these little variations, the result is that some people are genetically predisposed to putting on weight. He says while the fast/slow metabolism debate may have been settled, that doesn't mean some other subtle change in the metabolism gene won't be found in overweight people. He is confident that science will, eventually, be able to 'cure' some forms of obesity but the only effective way for the vast majority of overweight and obese people to lose weight is a change of diet and an increase in exercise.

F Despite the \$500 million a year Australians spend trying to lose weight and the \$830 million it costs the community in health care, obesity is at epidemic proportions here, as it is in all Western nations. Until recently, research and treatment for obesity had concentrated on behaviour modification, drugs to decrease appetite and surgery. How the drugs worked was often not understood and many caused severe side effects and even death in some patients. Surgery for obesity has also claimed many lives.

G It has long been known that a part of the brain called the hypothalamus is responsible for regulating hunger, among other things. But it wasn't until 1994 that Professor Jeffery Friedman from Rockefeller University in the US sent science in a new direction by studying an obese mouse. Prof. Friedman found that unlike its thin brothers, the fat mouse did not produce a hitherto unknown hormone called leptin. Manufactured by the fat cells, leptin acts as a messenger, sending signals to the hypothalamus to turn off the appetite. Previously, the fat cells were thought to be responsible simply for storing fat. Prof. Friedman gave the fat mouse leptin and it lost 30% of its body weight in two weeks.

H On the other side of the Atlantic, Prof. O'Rahilly read about this research with great excitement. For many months two blood samples had lain in the bottom of his freezer, taken from two extremely obese young cousins. He hired a doctor to develop a test for leptin in human blood, which eventually resulted in the discovery that neither of the children's blood contained the hormone. When one cousin was given leptin, she lost a stone in weight and Prof. O'Rahilly made medical history. Here was the first proof that a genetic defect could cause obesity in humans. But leptin deficiency turned out to be an extremely rare condition and there is a lot more research to be done before the 'magic' cure for obesity is ever found.

Questions 1-8

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Reading Passage 1 has seven paragraphs A-H.

From the list of headings below choose the most suitable heading for each paragraph.

Write the appropriate numbers (i-xi) in boxes 1-8 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings	
i	Obesity in animals
ii	Hidden dangers
iii	Proof of the truth
iv	New perspective on the horizon
v	No known treatment
vi	Rodent research leads the way
vii	Expert explains energy requirements of obese people
viii	A very uncommon complaint
ix	Nature or nurture
x	Shifting the blame
xi	Lifestyle change required despite new findings

Paragraph A 1

Paragraph B 2

Paragraph C 3

Paragraph D 4

Paragraph E 5

Paragraph F 6

Paragraph G 7

Paragraph H 8

Questions 9-13

Complete the summary of Reading Passage 1 (Questions 9-13) using words from the box.

Write your answers in boxes 9-13 on your answer sheet.

Weight	Exercise	Sleep	Mind	Body
Metabolism	Less	Behaviour	More	
Physical	Use	Metal	Consume	Genetic

OBSITY

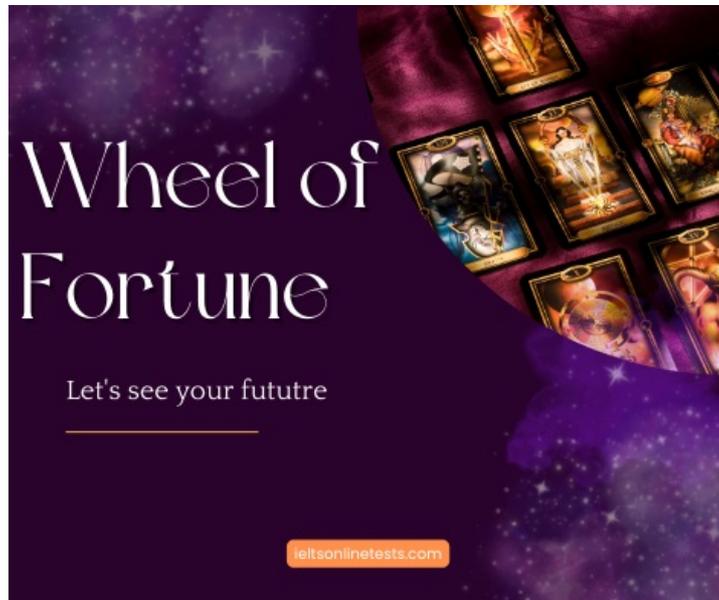
Example

People with a **weight** problem often try to deny responsibility.

They do this by seeking to blame their 9 _____ for the fact that they are overweight and erroneously believe that they use 10 _____ energy than thin people to stay alive. However, recent research has shown that a 11 _____ problem can be responsible for obesity as some people seem programmed to 12 _____ more than others. The new research points to a shift from trying to change people's 13 _____ to seeking an answer to the problem in the laboratory.

Reading Passage 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14-26, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below:



Wheel of Fortune

Emma Duncan discusses the potential effects on the entertainment industry of the digital revolution

A Since moving pictures were invented a century ago, a new way of distributing entertainment to consumers has emerged about once every generation. Each such innovation has changed the industry irreversibly; each has been accompanied by a period of fear mixed with exhilaration. The arrival of digital technology, which translates music, pictures and text into the zeros and ones of computer language, marks one of those periods.

B This may sound familiar, because the digital revolution, and the explosion of choice that would go with it, has been heralded for some time. In 1992, John Malone, chief executive of TCI, an American cable giant, welcomed the '500-channel universe'. Digital television was about to deliver everything except pizzas to people's living rooms. When the entertainment companies tried out the technology, it worked fine - but not at a price that people were prepared to pay.

C Those 500 channels eventually arrived but via the Internet and the PC rather than through television. The digital revolution was starting to affect the entertainment business in unexpected ways. Eventually it will change every aspect of it, from the way cartoons are made to the way films are screened to the way people buy music. That much is clear. What nobody is sure of is how it will affect the economics of the business.

D New technologies always contain within them both threats and opportunities. They have the potential both to make the companies in the business a great deal richer, and to sweep them away. Old companies always fear new technology. Hollywood was hostile to television, television terrified by the VCR. Go back far enough, points out Hal Varian, an economist at the University of California at Berkeley, and you find publishers complaining that 'circulating libraries' would cannibalise their sales. Yet whenever a new technology has come in, it has made more money for existing entertainment companies. The proliferation of the means of distribution results, gratifyingly, in the proliferation of dollars, pounds, pesetas and the rest to pay for it.

E All the same, there is something in the old companies' fears. New technologies may not threaten their lives, but they usually change their role. Once television became widespread, film and radio stopped being the staple form of entertainment. Cable television has undermined the power of the broadcasters. And as power has shifted the movie studios, the radio companies and the television broadcasters have been swallowed up. These days, the grand old names of entertainment have more resonance than power. Paramount is part of Viacom, a cable company; Universal, part of Seagram, a drinks-and-entertainment company; MGM, once the roaring lion of Hollywood, has been reduced to a whisper because it is not part of one of the giants. And RCA, once the most important broadcasting company in the world, is now a recording label belonging to Bertelsmann, a large German entertainment company.

F Part of the reason why incumbents got pushed aside was that they did not see what was coming. But they also faced a tighter regulatory environment than the present one. In America, laws preventing television broadcasters from owning programme companies were repealed earlier this decade, allowing the creation of vertically integrated businesses. Greater freedom, combined with a sense of history, prompted the smarter companies in the entertainment business to re-invent themselves. They saw what happened to those of their predecessors who were stuck with one form of distribution.

So, these days, the powers in the entertainment business are no longer movie studios, or television broadcasters, or publishers; all those businesses have become part of bigger businesses still, companies that can both create content and distribute it in a range of different ways.

G Out of all this, seven huge entertainment companies have emerged - Time Warner, Walt Disney, Bertelsmann, Viacom, News Corp, Seagram and Sony. They cover pretty well every bit of the entertainment business except pornography. Three are American, one is Australian, one Canadian, one German and one Japanese. 'What you are seeing', says Christopher Dixon, managing director of media research at PaineWebber, a stockbroker, 'is the creation of a global oligopoly.'

It happened to the oil and automotive businesses earlier this century; now it is happening

to the entertainment business.' It remains to be seen whether the latest technology will weaken those great companies, or make them stronger than ever.

Questions 14-21

Reading Passage 2 has seven paragraphs A-G.

Which paragraph mentions the following (Questions 14-21)?

Write the appropriate letters (A-G) in boxes 14-21 on your answer sheet.

NB Some of the paragraphs will be used **more than once**.

- 14 the contrasting effects that new technology can have on existing business
- 15 the fact that a total transformation is going to take place in the future in the delivery of all forms of entertainment
- 16 the confused feelings that people are known to have experienced in response to technological innovation
- 17 the fact that some companies have learnt from the mistakes of others
- 18 the high cost to the consumer of new ways of distributing entertainment
- 19 uncertainty regarding the financial impact of wider media access
- 20 the fact that some companies were the victims of strict government policy
- 21 the fact that the digital revolution could undermine the giant entertainment companies

Questions 22-25

The writer refers to various individuals and companies in the reading passage.

Match the people or companies (A-E) with the points made in Questions 22-25 about the introduction of new technology.

A	John Malone
B	Hal Valarian
C	MGM
D	Walt Disney
E	Christopher Dixon

Write the appropriate letter (A-E) in boxes 22-25 on your answer sheet.

22 Historically, new forms of distributing entertainment have alarmed those well-established in the business.

23 The merger of entertainment companies follows a pattern evident in other industries.

24 Major entertainment bodies that have remained independent have lost their influence.

25 News of the most recent technological development was published some years ago.

Questions 26-27

Choose the appropriate letters A-D and write them in boxes 26-27 on your answer sheet.

26 How does the writer put across his views on the digital revolution?

- A by examining the forms of media that will be affected by it
- B by analysing the way entertainment companies have reacted to it
- C by giving a personal definition of technological innovation
- D by drawing comparisons with other periods of technological innovation

27 Which of the following best summarises the writer's views in Reading Passage 2?

- A The public should cease resisting the introduction of new technology.
- B Digital technology will increase profits in the entertainment business.

- C Entertainment companies should adapt to technological innovation.
- D Technological change only benefits big entertainment companies.

Reading Passage 3

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



Nurturing talent within the family

What do we mean by being 'talented' or 'gifted'? The most obvious way is to look at the work someone does and if they are capable of significant success, label them as talented. The purely quantitative route - 'percentage definition' - looks not at individuals, but at simple percentages, such as the top five per cent of the population, and labels them - by definition - as gifted. This definition has fallen from favour, eclipsed by the advent of IQ tests, favoured by luminaries such as Professor Hans Eysenck, where a series of written or verbal tests of general intelligence leads to a score of intelligence.

The IQ test has been eclipsed in turn. Most people studying intelligence and creativity in the new millennium now prefer a broader definition, using a multifaceted approach where talents in many areas are recognised rather than purely concentrating on academic achievement. If we are therefore assuming that talented, creative or gifted individuals may need to be assessed across a range of abilities, does this mean intelligence can run in families as a genetic or inherited tendency? Mental dysfunction - such as schizophrenia - can, so is an efficient mental capacity passed on from parent to child?

Animal experiments throw some light on this question, and on the whole area of whether it is genetics, the environment or a combination of the two that allows for intelligence and creative ability. Different strains of rats show great differences in intelligence or 'rat reasoning'. If these are brought up in normal conditions and then mn through a maze to reach a food goal, the 'bright' strain make far fewer wrong turns that the 'dull' ones. But if the environment is made dull and boring the number of errors becomes equal. Return the

rats to an exciting maze and the discrepancy returns as before - but is much smaller. In other words, a dull rat in a stimulating environment will almost do as well as a bright rat who is bored in a normal one. This principle applies to humans too - someone may be born with innate intelligence, but their environment probably has the final say over whether they become creative or even a genius.

Evidence now exists that most young children, if given enough opportunities and encouragement, are able to achieve significant and sustainable levels of academic or sporting prowess. Bright or creative children are often physically very active at the same time, and so may receive more parental attention as a result - almost by default - in order to ensure their safety. They may also talk earlier, and this, in turn, breeds parental interest. This can sometimes cause problems with other siblings who may feel jealous even though they themselves may be bright. Their creative talents may be undervalued and so never come to fruition. Two themes seem to run through famously creative families as a result. The first is that the parents were able to identify the talents of each child, and nurture and encourage these accordingly but in an even-handed manner. Individual differences were encouraged, and friendly sibling rivalry was not seen as a particular problem. If the father is, say, a famous actor, there is no undue pressure for his children to follow him onto the boards, but instead their chosen interests are encouraged. There need not even be any obvious talent in such a family since there always needs to be someone who sets the family career in motion, as in the case of the Sheen acting dynasty.

Martin Sheen was the seventh of ten children born to a Spanish immigrant father and an Irish mother. Despite intense parental disapproval he turned his back on entrance exams to university and borrowed cash from a local priest to start a fledgling acting career. His acting successes in films such as *Badlands* and *Apocalypse Now* made him one of the most highly-regarded actors of the 1970s. Three sons - Emilio Estevez, Ramon Estevez and Charlie Sheen - have followed him into the profession as a consequence of being inspired by his motivation and enthusiasm.

A stream seems to run through creative families. Such children are not necessarily smothered with love by their parents. They feel loved and wanted, and are secure in their home, but are often more surrounded by an atmosphere of work and where following a calling appears to be important. They may see from their parents that it takes time and dedication to be master of a craft, and so are in less of a hurry to achieve for themselves once they start to work.

The generation of creativity is complex: it is a mixture of genetics, the environment, parental teaching and luck that determines how successful or talented family members are. This last point - luck - is often not mentioned where talent is concerned but plays an undoubted part. Mozart, considered by many to be the finest composer of all time, was lucky to be living in an age that encouraged the writing of music. He was brought up

surrounded by it, his father was a musician who encouraged him to the point of giving up his job to promote his child genius, and he learnt musical composition with frightening speed - the speed of a genius. Mozart himself simply wanted to create the finest music ever written but did not necessarily view himself as a genius - he could write sublime music at will, and so often preferred to lead a hedonistic lifestyle that he found more exciting than writing music to order.

Albert Einstein and Bill Gates are two more examples of people whose talents have blossomed by virtue of the times they were living in. Einstein was a solitary, somewhat slow child who had affection at home but whose phenomenal intelligence emerged without any obvious parental input. This may have been partly due to the fact that at the start of the 20th Century a lot of the Newtonian laws of physics were being questioned, leaving a fertile ground for ideas such as his to be developed. Bill Gates may have had the creative vision to develop Microsoft, but without the new computer age dawning at the same time he may never have achieved the position on the world stage he now occupies.

Questions 28-29

Complete the notes, which show how the approaches to defining 'talent' have changed.

Choose **ONE or TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer

Write your answers in boxes **28-29** on your answer sheet.

'percentage definition'

↓

28

↓

29

Questions 30-32

Which **THREE** of the following does the writer regard as a **feature of creative families**?

Write the appropriate letters **A-F** in boxes **30-32** on your answer sheet.

- A** a higher than average level of parental affection

- B competition between brothers and sisters
- C parents who demonstrate vocational commitment
- D strong motivation to take exams and attend university
- E a patient approach to achieving success
- F the identification of the most talented child in the family

Questions 33-34

Choose the appropriate letters A—D and write them in boxes 33-34 on your answer sheet.

33 The rat experiment was conducted to show that

- A certain species of rat are more intelligent than others.
- B intelligent rats are more motivated than 'dull' rats.
- C a rat's surroundings can influence its behaviour.
- D a boring environment has little impact on a 'bright' rat.

34 The writer cites the story of Martin Sheen to show that

- A he was the first in a creative line.
- B his parents did not have his creative flair.
- C became an actor without proper training.
- D his sons were able to benefit from his talents.

Questions 35-39

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

In boxes 35-39 on your answer sheet write

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

35

Intelligence tests have now been proved to be unreliable.

36

their own potential.

The brother or sister of a gifted older child may fail to fulfil

37

ignored.

The importance of luck in the genius equation tends to be

38

Mozart was acutely aware of his own remarkable talent.

39

era.

Einstein and Gates would have achieved success in any

Question 40

From the list below choose the most suitable title for the whole of Reading Passage 3.

Write the appropriate letter **A-D** in box **40** on your answer sheet.

40

A	Geniuses in their time
B	Education for the gifted
C	Revising the definition of intelligence
D	Nurturing talent within the family



Solution:

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1 x | 2 vii |
| 3 iii | 4 iv |
| 5 xi | 6 ii |
| 7 vi | 8 viii |
| 9 metabolism | 10 less |
| 11 genetic | 12 consume |
| 13 behaviour | 14 D |
| 15 C | 16 A |
| 17 F | 18 B |
| 19 C | |

20 F

21 G

22 B

23 E

24 C

25 A

26 D

27 C

28 IQ/intelligence

29 multifaceted/multi-faceted approach

$\frac{30}{32}$ B,C,E

33 C

34 A

35 NOT GIVEN

36 YES

37 YES

38 NO

39 NO

40 D

Review and Explanations

1 Answer: **x**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q1. Paragraph A	However, rather than take responsibility for their weight, obese people have often sought solace in the excuse that they have a slow metabolism , a genetic hiccup which sentences more than half the Australian population (63% of men and 47% of women) to a life of battling with their weight.
<p>After reading paragraph A,</p> <p><i>“Blame”</i> and <i>“Take responsibility”</i> have <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p><i>“However, rather than take responsibility for their weight, obese people have often sought solace in the excuse”</i> refers to <i>“Shifting the blame”</i></p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q1 should be “x- Shifting the blame”</p>	

2 Answer: **vii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q2. Paragraph B	Fat people have faster metabolisms than thin people. 'What is very clear,' says Dr Jebb, 'is that overweight people actually burn off more energy
<p>Paragraph B show the details of Dr Jebb’s opinion relate to consuming energy of overweight people</p> <p><i>“Obese people”</i> and <i>“overweight people”</i> are <i>interchangeable</i> in this context.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q2 should be “vii- Expert explains energy requirements of obese people.”</p>	

3 Answer: **iii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q3. Paragraph C	By sealing the room and measuring the exact amount of oxygen she used, researchers were able to show her that her metabolism was not the culprit.
<p>After reading Paragraph C,</p> <p><i>“Measuring the exact amount”</i> refers to <i>“proof”</i></p> <p><i>“Not the culprit”</i> and <i>“the truth”</i> have the <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q3 should be “iii- Proof the truth”</p>	

4 Answer: **iv**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q4. Paragraph D	goes so far as to say we are on the threshold of a complete change in the way we view not only morbid obesity, but also everyday overweight . Prof. O'Rahilly's groundbreaking work in Cambridge has proven that obesity can be caused by our genes
<p>After reading Paragraph D,</p> <p><i>“New Perspective”</i> and <i>“a complete change in the way we view”</i> have same meaning in this context.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q4 should be “iv- New perspective in the horizon”</p>	

5 Answer: **xi**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q5. Paragraph E	He is confident that science will, eventually, be able to 'cure' some forms of obesity but the only effective way for the vast majority of overweight and obese people to lose weight is a change of diet and an increase in exercise .
<p>After reading Paragraph E,</p> <p><i>“A change of diet and an increase in exercise”</i> refers to <i>“lifestyle change”</i></p> <p><i>“But the only effective way”</i> refers to the mean of contradiction with the findings mentioned above in the paragraph E.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q5 should be “xi- Lifestyle change required despite new findings”</p>	

6 Answer: **ii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q6. Paragraph F	How the drugs worked was often not understood and many caused severe side effects and even death in some patients. Surgery for obesity has also claimed many lives.
<p>After reading Paragraph F,</p> <p><i>“Was often not understood”</i> refers to <i>“hidden”</i></p> <p><i>“Side effects and even death”</i> and <i>“dangers”</i> have <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q6 should be “ii- Hidden dangers”</p>	

7 Answer: **vi**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q7. Paragraph G	But it wasn't until 1994 that Professor Jeffery Friedman from Rockerfeller University in the US sent science in a new direction by studying an obese mouse.
<p>After reading Paragraph G,</p> <p><i>"Studying an obese mouse"</i> refers to <i>"rodent research"</i></p> <p><i>"Direction"</i> and <i>"lead the way"</i> have <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q7 should be "vi- rodent research leads the way"</p>	

8 Answer: **viii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q8. Paragraph H	But leptin deficiency turned out to be an extremely rare condition and there is a lot more research to be done before the 'magic' cure for obesity is ever found.
<p>After reading Paragraph D,</p> <p><i>"An extremely rare"</i> and <i>"very uncommon"</i> are <i>interchangeable</i> in this case.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q8 should be "viii- A very uncommon complaint"</p>	

9 Answer: **metabolism**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q9-10. They do this by seeking to blame their _____ for the fact that they are overweight and erroneously believe that they use _____ energy than thin people to stay alive	... obese people have often sought solace in the excuse that they have a slow metabolism ,
<p>From the question, we can assume that the answer for Q9 may be a noun.</p> <p><i>"Seeking to blame"</i> and <i>"sought solace in the excuse"</i> have the <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p>"They (obese people) have a <i>slow metabolism</i>". Depend on using words from box, the correct answer for Q9 should be "metabolism".</p> <p><i>"Slow metabolism"</i> refers to <i>"using less energy than thin people"</i>.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q10 should be "less"</p>	

10 Answer: **less**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q9-10. They do this by seeking to blame their _____ for the fact that they are overweight and erroneously believe that they use _____ energy than thin people to stay alive</p>	<p>...obese people have often sought solace in the excuse that they have a slow metabolism,</p>
<p>From the question, we can assume that the answer for Q9 may be a noun.</p> <p><i>“Seeking to blame”</i> and <i>“sought solace in the excuse”</i> have the <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p>“They (obese people) have a <i>slow metabolism</i>”. Depend on using words from box, the correct answer for Q9 should be “metabolism”.</p> <p><i>“Slow metabolism”</i> refers to <i>“using less energy than thin people”</i>.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q10 should be “less”</p>	

11 Answer: **genetic**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q11. However, recent research has shown that a _____ problem can be responsible for obesity...</p>	<p>O'Rahilly's groundbreaking work in Cambridge has proven that obesity can be caused by our genes. 'These people are not weak-willed, slothful or lazy,' says Prof. O'Rahilly, 'They have a medical condition due to a genetic defect and that causes them to be obese.'</p>
<p>From the question, we can assume that the answer for Q11 may be an adjective.</p> <p>“due to a genetic defect and that (genetic defect) causes them to be obese” means that “genetic problem can be responsible for obesity”</p> <p><i>“Responsible for obesity”</i> and <i>“due to sth, causes to be obese”</i> have <i>same meaning</i> in this case.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q11 should be “genetic”</p>	

12 Answer: **consume**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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<p>Q12. as some people seem programmed to _____more than others</p>	<p>while major genetic defects may be rare, many people probably have minor genetic variations that combine to dictate weight and are responsible for things such as how much we eat, the amount of exercise we do and the amount of energy we need</p>
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After reading **Paragraph E**, we can assume that the answer for Q12 may be a verb.

“Programmed” and *“combine to dictate”* have the *same meaning* in this context.

“How much we eat, the amount of exercise we do and the amount of energy we need” refers to *“consume energy”*.

Follow the words are recommended, **the correct answer** for **Q12** should be **“consume”**

13 Answer: **behaviour**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q13. The new research points to a shift from trying to change people’s _____ to seeking an answer to the problem in the laboratory</p>	<p>Until recently, research and treatment for obesity had concentrated on behaviour modification, drugs to decrease appetite and surgery.</p>

From the question, we can assume that the answer for Q13 may be a noun.

“Point to” and *“concentrate on”* have *same meaning* in this context

“Change” and *“modification”* have *same meaning* in this context.

Using words recommended, **the correct answer** for **Q13** should be **“behavior”**

Weight, exercise, sleep, mind, bodies, metabolism, less, more, behavior, physical, use, mental, consume, genetic.

14 Answer: **D**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q14. the contrasting effects that new technology can have on existing business</p>	<p>New technologies always contain within them both threats and opportunities.</p>

After reading **Paragraph D**,

“Contrasting effects” and *“both threats and opportunities”* refer to the *same meaning* in this context.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q14** should be **“D”**

15 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q15. the fact that a total transformation is going to take place in the future in the delivery of all forms of entertainment	Eventually it will change every aspect of it , from the way cartoons are made to the way films are screened to the way people buy music.

After reading **Paragraph C**,

“It will change every aspect of it” and *“transformation is going to take place in the future ...all forms of entertainment”* have the *same meaning* in this context.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q15** should be **“C”**

16 Answer: **A**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q16. the confused feelings that people are known to have experienced in response to technological innovation	Each such innovation has changed the industry irreversibly; each has been accompanied by a period of fear mixed with exhilaration.

After reading **Paragraph A**,

“Confused feelings” and *“fear mixed with exhilaration”* have the *same meaning* in this context.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q16** should be **“A”**

17 Answer: **F**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q17. the fact that some companies have learnt from the mistakes of others	Greater freedom, combined with a sense of history, prompted the smarter companies in the entertainment business to re-invent themselves. They saw what happened to those of their predecessors who were stuck with one form of distribution.

After reading **Paragraph F**,

“What happened to those of their predecessors” refers to *“mistakes of others”*.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q17** should be **“F”**

18 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q18. the high cost to the consumer of new ways of distributing entertainment	When the entertainment companies tried out the technology, it worked fine - but not at a price that people were prepared to pay.

After reading **Paragraph B**,

“High cost” and *“not at a price that people were prepared to pay”* have the *same meaning* in this context.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q18** should be **“B”**

19 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q19. uncertainty regarding the financial impact of wider media access	What nobody is sure of is how it will affect the economics of the business.

After reading **Paragraph C**,

“Uncertainty” and *“nobody is sure”* have the *same meaning* in this context.

“Financial impact” and *“affect the economics”* are *interchangeable* in this case.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q19** should be **“C”**

20 Answer: **F**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q20. the fact that some companies were the victims of strict government policy	Part of the reason why incumbents got pushed aside was that they did not see what was coming. But they also faced a tighter regulatory environment than the present one.

After reading **Paragraph F**,

“Strict government policy” and *“tighter regulatory”* have the *same meaning* in this context.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q20** should be **“F”**

21 Answer: **G**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q21. the fact that the digital revolution could undermine the giant entertainment companies</p>	<p>It remains to be seen whether the latest technology will weaken those great companies, or make them stronger than ever.</p>
<p>After reading Paragraph G,</p> <p><i>“Undermine”</i> and <i>“weaken”</i> have the <i>same meaning</i> in this context.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q21 should be “G”</p>	

22 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q22. Historically, new forms of distributing entertainment have alarmed those well-established in the business.</p>	<p>Go back far enough, points out Hal Varian, an economist at the University of California at Berkeley, and you find publishers complaining that 'circulating libraries' would cannibalize their sales. Yet whenever a new technology has come in, it has made more money for existing entertainment companies</p>
<p>After reading Paragraph D,</p> <p><i>“Well-established in the business”</i> and <i>“made more money for existing entertainment companies”</i> have the <i>same meaning</i> in this case.</p> <p>Q22 refers to the introduction of new technology of Hal Varian.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q22 should be “B”</p>	

23 Answer: **E**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q23. The merger of entertainment companies follows a pattern evident in other industries.</p>	<p>Three are American; one is Australian, one Canadian, one German and one Japanese. 'What you are seeing', says Christopher Dixon, managing director of media research at PaineWebber, a stockbroker, 'is the creation of a global oligopoly.</p> <p>It happened to the oil and automotive businesses earlier this century; now it is happening to the entertainment business.</p>

After reading **Paragraph G**,

“It happened to the oil and automotive businesses **earlier** this century; **now** it is happening to the entertainment business.”, means that “the merger of entertainment companies follows the evident of oil and automotive businesses”

Q23 refers to the introduction of new technology of **Christopher Dixon**.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q23** should be “**E**”

24 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q 24. Major entertainment bodies that have remained independent have lost their influence .	MGM , once the roaring lion of Hollywood, has been reduced to a whisper because it is not part of one of the giants

After reading **Paragraph E**,

“*Independent*” and “*not part of one of the giants*” have the *same meaning* in this case.

“*Lost their influence*” and “*reduced to a whisper*” have the *same meaning* in this case.

Q24 refers to the introduction of new technology of **MGM**

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q24** should be “**C**”

25 Answer: **A**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q25. News of the most recent technological development was published some years ago	In 1992 , John Malone , chief executive of TCI, an American cable giant, welcomed the '500-channel universe'

After reading **Paragraph B**,

“*Most recent technological development*” refers to “*the 500-channel universe*”

“*Some years ago*” and “*in 1992*” refers to the *same period of time*.

Q25 refers to the introduction of new technology of **John Malone**.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q25** should be “**A**”

26 Answer: **D**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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<p>Q26. How does the writer put across his views on the digital revolution?</p> <p>A. by examining the forms of media that will be affected by it</p> <p>B . by analyzing the way entertainment companies have reacted to it</p> <p>C . by giving a personal definition of technological innovation</p> <p>D . by drawing comparisons with other periods of technological innovation</p>	<p>The arrival of digital technology, which translates music, pictures and text into the zeros and ones of computer language, marks one of those periods.</p> <p>In 1992, John Malone, chief executive of TCI, an American cable giant, welcomed the '500-channel universe'.</p> <p>So, these days, the powers in the entertainment business are no longer movie studios, or television broadcasters, or publishers; all those businesses have become part of bigger businesses still, companies that can both create content and distribute it in a range of different ways.</p>
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After reading **Passage 2**, we could **rule out option A, B and C** because:

+ **Option A &C:** we **could not find any information** confirming that the writer put across his views on the digital revolution by examining the forms of media that will be affected by it or by giving a personal definition of technological innovation.

+ **Option B:** He mentioned the threats and opportunities of new technology and how entertainment companies adapt to technological innovation, **not analyze** the way they have reacted to it.

Option D is the **correct answer** because:

He **compared** the development of digital technology in some of periods(**in the past, now**)

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q26** should be **“D”**

27 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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<p>Q27. Which of the following best summaries the writer's views in Reading Passage 2?</p> <p>A. The public should cease resisting the introduction of new technology.</p> <p>B . Digital technology will increase profits in the entertainment business.</p> <p>C . Entertainment companies should adapt to technological innovation.</p> <p>D. Technological change only benefits big entertainment companies.</p>	<p>It happened to the oil and automotive businesses earlier this century; now it is happening to the entertainment business.</p>
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After reading **Passage 2**, we could **rule out option A, B and D** because:

- + **Option A:** Despite of mentioning the threats of new technology, we **could not find any information** confirming that the public should cease resisting the introduction of new technology
- + **Option B:** "It remains to be seen whether the latest technology will weaken those great companies, or make them stronger than ever", **not confirm** that digital technology will increase profits in the entertainment business.
- + **Option D:** We **could not find any information** confirming that technological change benefits small entertainment companies or not.

After reading **passage 2**, according to its opportunities, it **confirmed** that **how entertainment companies should adapt to technological innovation.**

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q27** should be **"C"**

28 Answer: **IQ/intelligence**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q28.</p>	<p>This definition has fallen from favor, eclipsed by the advent of IQ tests, favoured by luminaries such as Professor Hans Eysenck, where a series of written or verbal tests of general intelligence leads to a score of intelligence.</p>

After reading **Paragraph 1**,

"This definition has fallen from favor, **eclipsed by the advent of IQ tests**... where a series of written or verbal tests of general intelligence **leads to a score of intelligence**". It means that the approach to definite "talent" have changed into intelligence or IQ

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q28** should be **"IQ/intelligence"**

29 Answer: **multifaceted/multi-faceted approach**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q29.</p>	<p>The IQ test has been eclipsed in turn. Most people studying intelligence and creativity in the new millennium now prefer a broader definition, using a multifaceted approach where talents in many areas are recognized rather than purely concentrating on academic achievement</p>
<p>After reading Paragraph 2, we can easily see that most people now prefer a broader definition, using a multifaceted approach to definite “talent”</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q29 should be “multifaceted approach”</p>	

30-32 Answer: **B,C,E**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q30-32. Which THREE of the following does the writer regard as a feature of creative families?</p> <p>A a higher than average level of parental affection</p> <p>B competition between brothers and sisters</p> <p>C parents who demonstrate vocational commitment</p> <p>D strong motivation to take exams and attend university</p> <p>E a patient approach to achieving success</p> <p>F the identification of the most talented child in the family</p>	<p>Individual differences were encouraged, and friendly sibling rivalry was not seen as a particular problem.</p> <p>... But are often more surrounded by an atmosphere of work and where following a calling appears to be important. They may see from their parents that it takes time and dedication to be master of a craft, and so are in less of a hurry to achieve for themselves once they start to work.</p>

After reading **Passage 3**, we could easily find **the answer** for **Q30, 31 and 32** should be **“B, C and E (in any order)”** because:

+ **Option B:**

“*Competition*” and “*rivalry*” are *interchangeable* in this context.

“*Brothers and sisters*” and “*sibling*” have the *same meaning* in this case

+ **Option C:**

“*Demonstrate vocational commitment*” and “*follow a calling*” have the *same meaning* in this case.

+ **Option E:**

“*Patient approach*” and “*take time and dedication*” have the *same meaning* in this case.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q30,31 and 32** should be **“B, C and E (in any order)”**

33 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q 33 . T h e r a t e x p e r i m e n t was conducted to show that</p> <p>A . certain species of rat are more intelligent than others.</p> <p>B . intelligent rats are more motivated than ‘dull’ rats.</p> <p>C . a rat’s surroundings can influence its behaviour.</p> <p>D . a boring environment has little impact on a ‘bright’ rat.</p>	<p>In other words, a dull rat in a stimulating environment will almost do as well as a bright rat who is bored in a normal one.</p>

After reading **Paragraph 3**, we could **rule out option A, B and D** because:

+ **Option A&D:** we **could not find any information** relating to option A and option D

+ **Option B:** “But if the environment is made dull and boring the number of **errors becomes equal**”, it is **contradicted** with option B.

Option C should be the **correct answer** because:

“*Stimulating environment*” is mentioned as the influence of behavior of rats.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q33** should be **“C**

34 Answer: **A**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage

<p>Q 34. The writer cites the story of Martin Sheen to show that</p> <p>A. he was the first in a creative line.</p> <p>B. his parents did not have his creative flair.</p> <p>C. he became an actor without proper training.</p> <p>D. his sons were able to benefit from his talents.</p>	<p>There need not even by any obvious talent in such a family since there always needs to be someone who sets the family career in motion, as in the case of the Sheen acting dynasty.</p>
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After reading **Paragraph 4 and 5**, we could **rule out option B, C and D** because:

- + **Option B:** we **could not find any information** relating to option B.
- + **Option C:** “Despite intense parental disapproval he turned his back on entrance exams to university and borrowed cash from a local priest to start a fledgling acting career”, it **is contradicted** with option C
- + **Option D:** we **could not find any information** confirming that “his sons were able to benefit from his talents or not”

“*First in creative line*” and “*sets the family career in motion*” have the *same meaning* in this case.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q34** should be **“A”**

35 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

Keywords in Questions	
Q35. Intelligence tests have now been proved to be unreliable	
<p>After reading Passage 3,</p> <p>“The IQ test has been eclipsed in turn”, but it did not mention that Intelligence tests have now been proved to be unreliable or not.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q35 should be “NOT GIVEN”</p>	

36 Answer: **YES**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q36. The brother or sister of a gifted older child may fail to fulfil their own potential.</p>	<p>This can sometimes cause problems with other siblings who may feel jealous even though they themselves may be bright. Their creative talents may be undervalued and so never come to fruition.</p>

After reading **Paragraph 4**,

“Fail to fulfill their own potential” and *“never come to fruition”* have the *same meaning* in this case.

“Brother or sister” and *“siblings”* are *interchangeable* in this context.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q36** should be **“YES”**

37 Answer: **YES**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q37. The importance of luck in the genius equation tends to be ignored	This last point - luck - is often not mentioned where talent is concerned but plays an undoubted part.

After reading **Paragraph 7**,

“Tends to be ignored” and *“is often not mentioned”* have the *same meaning* in this case.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q37** should be **“YES”**

38 Answer: **NO**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q38. Mozart was acutely aware of his own remarkable talent.	Mozart himself simply wanted to create the finest music ever written but did not necessarily view himself as a genius

After reading **Paragraph 7**,

“Acutely aware of his own remarkable talent” and *“did not necessarily view himself as a genius”* have **contradicted** meaning in this case.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q38** should be **“NO”**

39 Answer: **NO**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
Q39. Einstein and Gates would have achieved success in any era	Albert Einstein and Bill Gates are two more examples of people whose talents have blossomed by virtue of the times they were living in.

After reading **Paragraph 8**,

“In any era” and *“the times they were living in”* are **contradicted** with each other.

Thus, **the correct answer** for **Q39** should be **“NO”**

40 Answer: **D**

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Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>Q40. From the list below choose the most suitable title for the whole of Reading Passage 3.</p> <p>A. Geniuses in their time B. Education for the gifted C. . Revising the definition of intelligence D. Nurturing talent within the family</p>	<p>Evidence now exists that most young children A stream seems to run through creative families The generation of creativity is complex...</p>
<p>After reading Passage 3, we could easily rule out option B and C because they only mentioned one part of whole passage.</p> <p>About option A, it is not enough, because the content of passage from paragraph 1 to paragraph 3 did not mention “Geniuses in their time”.</p> <p>Option D is most suitable for the title of whole passage.</p> <p>Thus, the correct answer for Q40 should be “D”</p>	

Great thanks to volunteer **Thủy Nguyễn** has contributed these explanations.

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