

IELTS Practice Tests Plus Volume 1

Reading Practice Test 1

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.



In Praise of Amateurs

Despite the specialization of scientific research, amateurs still have an important role to play.

During the scientific revolution of the 17th century, scientists were largely men of private means who pursued their interest in natural philosophy for their own edification. Only in the past century or two has it become possible to make a living from investigating the workings of nature. Modern science was, in other words, built on the work of amateurs. Today, science is an increasingly specialized and compartmentalized subject, the domain of experts who know more and more about less and less. Perhaps surprisingly, however, amateurs – even those without private means – are still important.

A recent poll carried out at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by astronomer Dr Richard Fienberg found that, in addition to his field of astronomy, amateurs are actively involved in such fields as acoustics, horticulture, ornithology, meteorology, hydrology and palaeontology. Far from being crackpots, amateur scientists are often in close touch with professionals, some of whom rely heavily on their co-operation.

Admittedly, some fields are more open to amateurs than others. Anything that requires expensive equipment is clearly a no-go area. And some kinds of research can be dangerous; most amateur chemists, jokes Dr Fienberg, are either locked up or have blown themselves to bits. But amateurs can make valuable contributions in fields from rocketry to palaeontology and the rise of the Internet has made it easier than before to collect data and distribute results.

Exactly which field of study has benefited most from the contributions of amateurs is a matter of some dispute. Dr Fienberg makes a strong case for astronomy. There is, he

points out, a long tradition of collaboration between amateur and professional sky watchers. Numerous comets, asteroids and even the planet Uranus were discovered by amateurs. Today, in addition to comet and asteroid spotting, amateurs continue to do valuable work observing the brightness of variable stars and detecting novae- 'new' stars in the Milky Way and supernovae in other galaxies. Amateur observers are helpful, says Dr Fienberg, because there are so many of them (they far outnumber professionals) and because they are distributed all over the world. This makes special kinds of observations possible: if several observers around the world accurately record the time when a star is eclipsed by an asteroid, for example, it is possible to derive useful information about the asteroid's shape.

Another field in which amateurs have traditionally played an important role is palaeontology. Adrian Hunt, a palaeontologist at Mesa Technical College in New Mexico, insists that this is the field in which amateurs have made the biggest contribution. Despite the development of high-tech equipment, he says, the best sensors for finding fossils are human eyes – lots of them.

Finding volunteers to look for fossils is not difficult, he says, because of the near universal interest in anything to do with dinosaurs. As well as helping with this research, volunteers learn about science, a process he calls 'recreational education'.

Rick Bonney of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology in Ithaca, New York, contends that amateurs have contributed the most in his field. There are, he notes, thought to be as many as 60 million birdwatchers in America alone. Given their huge numbers and the wide geographical coverage they provide, Mr Bonney has enlisted thousands of amateurs in a number of research projects. Over the past few years their observations have uncovered previously unknown trends and cycles in bird migrations and revealed declines in the breeding populations of several species of migratory birds, prompting a habitat conservation programme.

Despite the successes and whatever the field of study, collaboration between amateurs and professionals is not without its difficulties. Not everyone, for example is happy with the term 'amateur'. Mr Bonney has coined the term 'citizen scientist' because he felt that other words, such as 'volunteer' sounded disparaging. A more serious problem is the question of how professionals can best acknowledge the contributions made by amateurs. Dr Fienberg says that some amateur astronomers are happy to provide their observations but grumble about not being reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses. Others feel let down when their observations are used in scientific papers, but they are not listed as co-authors. Dr Hunt says some amateur palaeontologists are disappointed when told that they cannot take finds home with them.

These are legitimate concerns but none seems insurmountable. Provided amateurs and professionals agree the terms on which they will work together beforehand, there is no

reason why co-operation between the two groups should not flourish. Last year Dr S. Carlson, founder of the Society for Amateur Scientists won an award worth \$290,000 for his work in promoting such co-operation. He says that one of the main benefits of the prize is the endorsement it has given to the contributions of amateur scientists, which has done much to silence critics among those professionals who believe science should remain their exclusive preserve.

At the moment, says Dr Carlson, the society is involved in several schemes including an innovative rocket-design project and the setting up of a network of observers who will search for evidence of a link between low- frequency radiation and earthquakes. The amateurs, he says, provide enthusiasm and talent, while the professionals provide guidance 'so that anything they do discover will be taken seriously'. Having laid the foundations of science, amateurs will have much to contribute to its ever – expanding edifice.

Small Tip

Read through the summary at **normal speed** so that you have a **fair idea** of what it is about.

Check the instructions: you can use a **maximum** of two words for each answer and these words **must be taken** from the reading passage. If you use more than two words or words that are not in the passage, the answer will be marked wrong.

Skim the passage and find out where the part that has been **summarised** begins.

Read the **text** around each gap carefully. See if you can **predict** the answer or the **kind** of word(s) that you are looking for.

Select **the best word** from the text for each gap.

Re-read the summary, with the words you have selected for each gap, to make sure that it makes sense both **grammatically** and in terms of **meaning**.

Questions 1-8

Complete the summary below. Choose **ONE or TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes **1-8** on your answer sheet.

Summary

Prior to the 19th century, professional 1 _____ did not exist and scientific research was largely carried out by amateurs. However, while 2 _____ today is mostly the domain of professionals, a recent US survey highlighted the fact that amateurs play an important role in at least seven 3 _____ and indeed






many professionals are reliant on their 4 _____. In areas such as astronomy, amateurs can be invaluable when making specific 5 _____ on a global basis. Similarly in the area of palaeontology their involvement is invaluable and helpers are easy to recruit because of the popularity of 6 _____. Amateur birdwatchers also play an active role and their work has led to the establishment of a 7 _____. Occasionally the term 'amateur' has been the source of disagreement and alternative names have been suggested but generally speaking, as long as the professional scientists 8 _____ the work of the non-professionals, the two groups can work productively together.

Questions 9-13

Reading Passage 1 contains a number of opinions provided by four different scientists. Match each opinion (Questions 9-13) with the scientists A-D.

NB You may use any of the scientists A-D **more than once**.

Name of scientists	
A	Dr Fienberg
B	Adrian Hunt
C	Rick Bonney
D	Dr Carlson

- 9  Amateur involvement can also be an instructive pastime.
- 10  Amateur scientists are prone to accidents.
- 11  Science does not belong to professional scientists alone.
- 12  In certain areas of my work, people are a more valuable resource than technology.
- 13  It is important to give amateurs a name which reflects the value of their work.

Tip

Read through the questions, underlining the key words
e.g. Question 10: accidents.

Scan the passage for the **name** of the first scientist.

Read the text around the **name** carefully.

Check for any **opinions** that are expressed by that person. **Verbs** like 'says', 'felt', 'contends' are used to **express opinions**.

Re-read the questions and see whether any of these express a **similar** idea to the opinions you have noted in the passage.

If you find an answer, **skim** the rest of the passage to see whether the **same** name occurs again.

If so, repeat the above procedure. (At least one name must be used **twice** in this set as there are five questions and only four names.)

Reading Passage 2

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



READING THE SCREEN

Are the electronic media exacerbating illiteracy and making our children stupid? On the contrary, says Colin McCabe, they have the potential to make us truly literate.

The debate surrounding literacy is one of the most charged in education. On the one hand there is an army of people convinced that traditional skills of reading and writing are declining. On the other, a host of progressives protest that literacy is much more complicated than a simple technical mastery of reading and writing. This second position is supported by most of the relevant academic work over the past 20 years. These studies argue that literacy can only be understood in its social and technical context. In Renaissance England, for example, many more people could read than could write, and within reading there was a distinction between those who could read print and those who could manage the more difficult task of reading manuscript. An understanding of these earlier periods helps us understand today's 'crisis in literacy' debate.

There does seem to be evidence that there has been an overall decline in some aspects of reading and writing - you only need to compare the tabloid newspapers of today with those of 50 years ago to see a clear decrease in vocabulary and simplification of syntax. But the picture is not uniform and doesn't readily demonstrate the simple distinction between literate and illiterate which had been considered adequate since the middle of the 19th century.

While reading a certain amount of writing is as crucial as it has ever been in industrial

societies, it is doubtful whether a fully extended grasp of either is as necessary as it was 30 or 40 years ago. While print retains much of its authority as a source of topical information, television has increasingly usurped this role. The ability to write fluent letters has been undermined by the telephone and research suggests that for many people the only use for writing, outside formal education, is the compilation of shopping lists.

The decision of some car manufacturers to issue their instructions to mechanics as a video pack rather than as a handbook might be taken to spell the end of any automatic link between industrialisation and literacy. On the other hand, it is also the case that ever-increasing numbers of people make their living out of writing, which is better rewarded than ever before. Schools are generally seen as institutions where the book rules - film, television and recorded sound have almost no place; but it is not clear that this opposition is appropriate. While you may not need to read and write to watch television, you certainly need to be able to read and write in order to make programmes.

Those who work in the new media are anything but illiterate. The traditional oppositions between old and new media are inadequate for understanding the world which a young child now encounters. The computer has re-established a central place for the written word on the screen, which used to be entirely devoted to the image. There is even anecdotal evidence that children are mastering reading and writing in order to get on to the Internet. There is no reason why the new and old media cannot be integrated in schools to provide the skills to become economically productive and politically enfranchised.

Nevertheless, there is a crisis in literacy and it would be foolish to ignore it. To understand that literacy may be declining because it is less central to some aspects of everyday life is not the same as acquiescing in this state of affairs. The production of school work with the new technologies could be a significant stimulus to literacy. How should these new technologies be introduced into the schools? It isn't enough to call for computers, camcorders and edit suites in every classroom; unless they are properly integrated into the educational culture, they will stand unused. Evidence suggests that this is the fate of most information technology used in the classroom. Similarly, although media studies are now part of the national curriculum, and more and more students are now clamouring to take these course, teachers remain uncertain about both methods and aims in this area.

This is not the fault of the teachers. The entertainment and information industries must be drawn into a debate with the educational institutions to determine how best to blend these new technologies into the classroom.

Many people in our era are drawn to the pessimistic view that the new media are destroying old skills and eroding critical judgement. It may be true that past generations were more literate but - taking the pre-19th century meaning of the term - this was true of only a small section of the population. The word literacy is a 19th-century coinage to

describe the divorce of reading and writing from a full knowledge of literature. The education reforms of the 19th century produced reading and writing as skills separable from full participation in the cultural heritage.

The new media now point not only to a futuristic cyber-economy, they also make our cultural past available to the whole nation. Most children's access to these treasures is initially through television. It is doubtful whether our literary heritage has ever been available to or sought out by more than about 5 per cent of the population; it has certainly not been available to more than 10 per cent. But the new media joined to the old, through the public service tradition of British broadcasting, now makes our literary tradition available to all.

Questions 14-17

Choose the appropriate letters **A-D** and write them in boxes **14-17** on your answer sheet.

Tip

The questions follow the **order** of information in the passage.

Read the first question and the four options A-D. One of these completes the statement so that it expresses an idea that is also **given** in the passage.

Decide whether the question focuses on a **detail** in the passage or a **main** idea.

Note the **key words** in the question. These will help you locate the area of the passage where you will find the answer.

Read this part of the passage very carefully. You will find that some of the vocabulary in options A-D also occurs in the passage but **only one** of the options will complete the sentence correctly.

14 When discussing the debate on literacy in education, the writer notes that

- ☐ **A** children cannot read and write as well as they used to.
- ☐ **B** academic work has improved over the last 20 years.
- ☐ **C** there is evidence that literacy is related to external factors.
- ☐ **D** there are opposing arguments that are equally convincing.

15 In the 4th paragraph, the writer's main point is that

- ☐ **A** the printed word is both gaining and losing power.
- ☐ **B** all inventions bring disadvantages as well as benefits.
- ☐ **C** those who work in manual jobs no longer need to read.

- ☐ **D** the media offers the best careers for those who like writing.

16 According to the writer, the main problem that schools face today is

- ☐ **A** how best to teach the skills of reading and writing.
- ☐ **B** how best to incorporate technology into classroom teaching.
- ☐ **C** finding the means to purchase technological equipment.
- ☐ **D** managing the widely differing levels of literacy amongst pupils.

17 At the end of the article, the writer is suggesting that

- ☐ **A** literature and culture cannot be divorced.
- ☐ **B** the term 'literacy' has not been very useful.
- ☐ **C** 10 per cent of the population never read literature.
- ☐ **D** our exposure to cultural information is likely to increase.

Questions 18-23

Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in Reading Passage 2?

In boxes 18-23 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

- 18 It is not as easy to analyse literacy levels as it used to be.
- 19 Our literacy skills need to be as highly developed as they were in the past.
- 20 Illiteracy is on the increase.
- 21 Professional writers earn relatively more than they used to.
- 22 A good literacy level is important for those who work in television.

23

Computers are having a negative impact on literacy in schools

Tip

Questions 18-23 test your understanding of what the writer believes; i.e. his/her views or opinions. There are three choices: Yes - the writer believes this; No - the writer believes the opposite of this; Not Given - the writer doesn't give any views on this.

The questions follow the order of information in the passage.

Start with the first question and note the key words.

Skim or scan the passage until you come to the part where the writer is discussing his/her views on the topic or idea presented in the question. If you cannot find any information on this, the answer may be 'not given'. Check this carefully.

If you do find some information, decide whether the writer's views are the same or the opposite of those given in the question.

Questions 24-26

Complete the sentences below with words taken from Reading Passage 2.

Write your answers in boxes 24-26 on your answer sheet.

Use **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer.

In Renaissance England, the best readers were those able to read 24

The writer uses the example of 25 to illustrate the general fall in certain areas of literacy.

It has been shown that after leaving school, the only things that a lot of people write are 26

Tip

The questions follow the order of information in the passage.

Check the instructions: you can use a maximum of three words for each answer and these words must be taken from the reading passage. If you use more than three words or words that are not in the passage, the answer will be marked wrong.

Read the sentences and underline the key words.

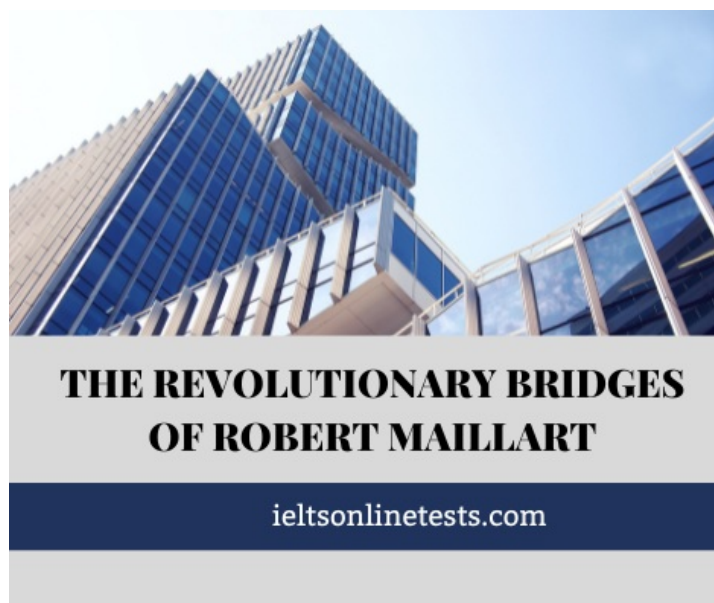
Read the words around each gap carefully. See if you can predict the answer or the kind of word(s) that you are looking for.

Scan or skim the passage until you come to the part that is relevant.

Re-read the sentence with the word you have chosen for the gap to check that it makes sense both grammatically and in terms of meaning.

Reading Passage 3

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



The Revolutionary Bridges of Robert Maillart

Swiss engineer Robert Maillart built some of the greatest bridges of the 20th century. His designs elegantly solved a basic engineering problem: how to support enormous weights using a slender arch.

A Just as railway bridges were the great structural symbols of the 19th century, highway bridges became the engineering emblems of the 20th century. The invention of the automobile created an irresistible demand for paved roads and vehicular bridges throughout the developed world. The type of bridge needed for cars and trucks, however, is fundamentally different from that needed for locomotives. Most highway bridges carry lighter loads than railway bridges do, and their roadways can be sharply curved or steeply sloping. To meet these needs, many turn-of-the-century bridge designers began working with a new building material: reinforced concrete, which has steel bars embedded in it. And the master of this new material was Swiss structural engineer, Robert Maillart.

B Early in his career, Maillart developed a unique method for designing bridges, buildings and other concrete structures. He rejected the complex mathematical analysis of loads and stresses that was being enthusiastically adopted by most of his contemporaries. At the same time, he also eschewed the decorative approach taken by many bridge builders of his time. He resisted imitating architectural styles and adding design elements solely for ornamentation. Maillart's method was a form of creative intuition. He had a knack for conceiving new shapes to solve classic engineering problems] And because he worked in a highly competitive field, one of his goals was economy - he won design and

construction contracts because his structures were reasonably priced, often less costly than all his rivals' proposals.

C Maillart's first important bridge was built in the small Swiss town of Zuoz. The local officials had initially wanted a steel bridge to span the 30-metre wide Inn River, but Maillart argued that he could build a more elegant bridge made of reinforced concrete for about the same cost. His crucial innovation was incorporating the bridge's arch and roadway into a form called the hollow-box arch, which would substantially reduce the bridge's expense by minimising the amount of concrete needed. In a conventional arch bridge the weight of the roadway is transferred by columns to the arch, which must be relatively thick. In Maillart's design, though, the roadway and arch were connected by three vertical walls, forming two hollow boxes running under the roadway (see diagram). The big advantage of this design was that because the arch would not have to bear the load alone, it could be much thinner - as little as one-third as thick as the arch in the conventional bridge.

D His first masterpiece, however, was the 1905 Tavanasa Bridge over the Rhine river in the Swiss Alps. In this design, Maillart removed the parts of the vertical walls which were not essential because they carried no load. This produced a slender, lighter-looking form, which perfectly met the bridge's structural requirements. But the Tavanasa Bridge gained little favourable publicity in Switzerland; on the contrary, it aroused strong aesthetic objections from public officials who were more comfortable with old-fashioned stone-faced bridges. Maillart, who had founded his own construction firm in 1902, was unable to win any more bridge projects, so he shifted his focus to designing buildings, water tanks and other structures made of reinforced concrete and did not resume his work on concrete bridges until the early 1920s.

E His most important breakthrough during this period was the development of the deck-stiffened arch, the first example of which was the Flienglibach Bridge, built in 1923. An arch bridge is somewhat like an inverted cable. A cable curves downward when a weight is hung from it, an arch bridge curves upward to support the roadway and the compression in the arch balances the dead load of the traffic. For aesthetic reasons, Maillart wanted a thinner arch and his solution was to connect the arch to the roadway with transverse walls. In this way, Maillart justified making the arch as thin as he could reasonably build it. His analysis accurately predicted the behaviour of the bridge but the leading authorities of Swiss engineering would argue against his methods for the next quarter of a century.

F Over the next 10 years, Maillart concentrated on refining the visual appearance of the deck-stiffened arch. His best-known structure is the Salginatobel Bridge, completed in 1930. He won the competition for the contract because his design was the least expensive of the 19 submitted - the bridge and road were built for only 700,000 Swiss

francs, equivalent to some \$3.5 million today. Salginatobel was also Maillart's longest span, at 90 metres and it had the most dramatic setting of all his structures, vaulting 80 metres above the ravine of the Salgina brook. In 1991 it became the first concrete bridge to be designated an international historic landmark.

G Before his death in 1940, Maillart completed other remarkable bridges and continued to refine his designs. However, architects often recognised the high quality of Maillart's structures before his fellow engineers did and in 1947 the architectural section of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City devoted a major exhibition entirely to his works. In contrast, very few American structural engineers at that time had even heard of Maillart. In the following years, however, engineers realised that Maillart's bridges were more than just aesthetically pleasing - they were technically unsurpassed. Maillart's hollow-box arch became the dominant design form for medium and long- span concrete bridges in the US. In Switzerland, professors finally began to teach Maillart's ideas, which then influenced a new generation of designers.

Questions 27-33

Reading Passage 3 has seven paragraphs A-G.

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

Write the appropriate numbers (i—x) in boxes 27-33 on your answer sheet.

List of headings	
i	The long-term impact
ii	A celebrated achievement
iii	Early brilliance passes unrecognised
iv	Outdated methods retain popularity
v	The basis of a new design is born
vi	Frustration at never getting the design right
vii	Further refinements meet persistent objections
viii	Different in all respects
ix	Bridge-makers look elsewhere
x	Transport developments spark a major change

27  Paragraph A

28  Paragraph B

- 29 Paragraph C
- 30 Paragraph D
- 31 Paragraph E
- 32 Paragraph F
- 33 Paragraph G

Tip

Although the instructions ask you to choose the 'most suitable' heading, **each** heading will **only fit one paragraph**.

Read through the list of headings. Note that each heading expresses a main idea.

There are ten headings and seven questions, so **three of the headings do not fit any** of the paragraphs.

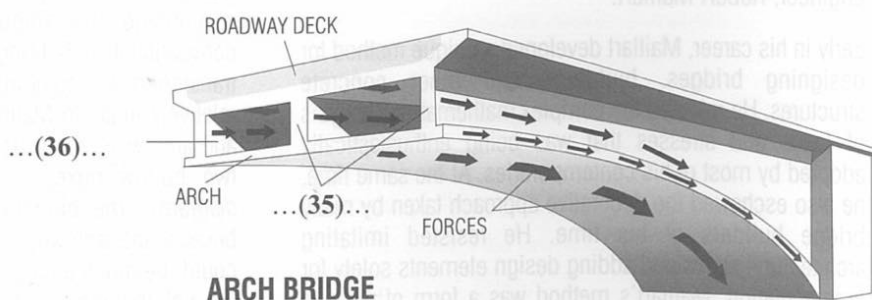
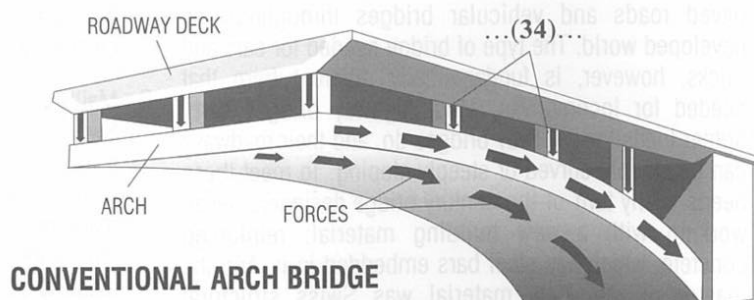
Skim through the whole passage so that you have a good idea of what it is about.

Read each paragraph carefully, noting the **main** idea or theme.

Do not worry if there are words that you do not understand. Select the heading that **best describes** the **main idea** of the paragraph.

Questions 34-36

Complete the labels on the diagrams below using **ONE or TWO WORDS** from the reading passage. Write your answers in boxes 34-36 on your answer sheet.



- 34
- 35
- 36

Tip





Check the instructions for Questions 34-36: you can use a **maximum** of two words for each answer and these words must be taken from the reading passage. If you use more than two words or words that are not in the passage, the answer will be marked wrong.

Skim/scan the passage until you come to the section that describes the two types of bridge. Read this part very carefully and select the words in the passage that fit the labels.

Questions 37-40

Complete each of the following statements (Questions 37-40) with the best ending (A-G) from the box below.

Write the appropriate letters **A-G** in boxes **37-40** on your answer sheet.

- 37  Maillart designed the hollow-box arch in order to
- 38  Following the construction of the Tavanasa Bridge, Maillart failed to
- 39  The transverse walls of the Flienglibach Bridge allowed Maillart to
- 40  Of all his bridges, the Salginatobel enabled Maillart to

A	prove that local people were wrong.
B	find work in Switzerland.
C	win more building commissions.
D	reduce the amount of raw material required.
E	recognise his technical skills.
F	capitalise on the spectacular terrain.
G	improve the appearance of his bridges.

Tip

The part-statements or questions follow the order of information in the passage.

There are four part- statements and seven endings so some of the endings will not be used at all.

Many of the endings A-G will fit each question grammatically.

You have already read the passage at least once. Can you guess any of the answers?

Do not re-read the whole passage. Underline the keywords in each statement then scan the passage for these words, e.g. Question 37: the hollow-box arch.

When you find the relevant part of the passage, read it very carefully. Question 37: Which paragraph discusses the design of hollow-box arch?

Select the option that best completes each sentence.

Re-read the completed sentence and compare this for meaning with the appropriate section of the passage.



Solution:

14 C

16 B

18 YES

20 NOT GIVEN

22 YES

24 manuscript

26 shopping lists

28 viii

30 iii

32 ii

15 A

17 D

19 NO

21 YES

23 NO

25 (the) (tabloid) newspapers

27 x

29 v

31 vii

33 i

34 columns

35 vertical walls

36 hollow boxes

37 D

38 C

39 G

40 F

1 scientists

2 science

3 (scientific) fields

4 co-operation/collaboration

5 observations

6 dinosaurs

7 conservation programme

8 acknowledge

9 B

10 A

11 D

12 B

13 C

Review and Explanations

14 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>14. When discussing the debate on literacy in education, the writer notes that ____.</p> <p>Answer: (C) there is evidence that literacy is related to external factors.</p>	<p>These studies argue that literacy can only be understood in its social and technical context.</p>
<p>+ The first option is wrong since it is never mentioned in the passage that children cannot read and write as they used to in the past.</p> <p>+ Also, the second option that says the academic work has improved is also not mentioned.</p> <p>+ The third option is correct since in the first paragraph in the passage, the writer says that there are social and technical contexts that help in understanding literacy.</p>	

15 Answer: **A**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>15. In the 4th paragraph, the writer's main point is that...</p> <p>Answer: A. the printed word is both gaining and losing power.</p>	<p>The decision of some car manufacturers... spell the end of any automatic link between industrialisation and literacy. On the other hand, it is also the case that ever-increasing numbers of people make their living out of writing, which is better rewarded than ever before.</p>
<p>+ The fourth paragraph mentions two opposite views. First the writer says that the car manufacturers have switched to video rather than handbook which means literacy is not considered very important these days or losing power.</p> <p>+ However, he also says that writers are better rewarded than before which means literacy is gaining power or becoming important these days. Hence, these are two opposite views and option A is the best choice. (A)</p>	

16 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
<p>16. According to the writer, the main problem that schools face today is...</p> <p>Answer: (B) how best to incorporate technology into classroom teaching.</p>	<p>How should these new technologies be introduced into the schools? ...unless they are properly integrated into the educational culture, they will stand unused. ... teachers remain uncertain about both methods and aims in this area.</p>

+ In the sixth paragraph, the author wonders how the **new technologies should be introduced** to schools. He then says that unless they are properly integrated, they will **stand unused**.

+ He also says that the teachers also **remain uncertain about these methods** and aims (about new technologies) and hence, he thinks that the **main problem for schools** is to learn how to best incorporate new technologies into classroom teaching. Hence, the best option is **B**.

17 Answer: **D**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
17. At the end of the article, the writer is suggesting that... Answer: (D) . o u r exposure to cultural information is likely to increase .	The new media now point not only to a futuristic cyber-economy, they also make our cultural past available to the whole nation . But the new media joined to the old, through the public service tradition of British broadcasting, now makes our literary tradition available to all .
+The last paragraph mentions that the new media make our cultural past available to the whole nation . Also, the writer says that the literary tradition will be available to all. It is another way to say that our exposure to cultural information (cultural past) is likely to increase . (D)	

18 Answer: **YES**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
18. It is not as easy to analyse literacy levels as it used to be.	But the picture is not uniform and doesn't readily demonstrate the simple distinction between literate and illiterate which had been considered adequate since the middle of the 19th century.
+ The second paragraph states that the picture does not readily demonstrate the distinction between literate and illiterate. Hence, it means that it is not easy to analyse literacy levels. Hence, the answer is YES .	

19 Answer: **NO**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
19. Our literacy skills need to be as highly developed as they were in the past .	While reading a certain amount of writing is as crucial as it has ever been in industrial societies, it is doubtful whether a fully extended grasp of either is as necessary as it was 30 or 40 years ago.

+ The third paragraph mentions that it is **doubtful** whether a fully extended grasp of **reading or writing** is as necessary as it was in the past. This means that our literacy skills might not need to be as **highly developed** as in the past.

+ Hence, the correct answer is **NO** as the statement contradicts the passage. **(NO)**

20 Answer: **NOT GIVEN**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
20. Illiteracy is on the increase .	There does seem to be evidence that there has been an overall decline in some aspects of reading and writing... But the picture is not uniform .
<p>+ The second paragraph mentions that it although there is some evidence to say that there is an overall decline in reading and writing, it says that the picture is not uniform.</p> <p>+ Hence, it cannot be said confidently that illiteracy is on the increase. The answer is NOT GIVEN.</p>	

21 Answer: **YES**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
21. Professional writers earn relatively more than they used to.	On the other hand, it is also the case that ever-increasing numbers of people make their living out of writing, which is better rewarded than ever before .
<p>+ The fourth paragraph mentions that the number of people making living out of writing is ever-increasing and writing is better rewarded now than in the past.</p> <p>+ Hence, the answer is TRUE.</p>	

22 Answer: **YES**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
22. A good literacy level is important for those who work in television .	While you may not need to read and write to watch television, you certainly need to be able to read and write in order to make programmes .
<p>+ In the fourth paragraph, the author mentions that we need to be able to read and write well to make television programmes, which means a good literacy level is important for these jobs. Hence, the answer is TRUE.</p>	

23 Answer: **NO**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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23. Computers are having a negative impact on literacy in schools.	<p>The computer has re-established a central place for the written word on the screen, which used to be entirely devoted to the image.</p> <p>There is even anecdotal evidence that children are mastering reading and writing in order to get on to the Internet.</p>
<p>+ In the fifth paragraph about media and computers, the writer mentions that computer has re-established a central place (become more important and useful) in schools.</p> <p>+ It is also mentioned that children are mastering (becoming better) reading and writing with the use of internet.</p> <p>+ So, the statement contradicts the passage and the answer is NO”.</p>	

24 Answer: **manuscript**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
24. In Renaissance England, the best readers were those able to read _____	<p>In Renaissance England, for example, many more people could read than could write, and within reading there was a distinction between those who could read print and those who could manage the more difficult task of reading manuscript .</p>
<p>+ In the first paragraph, it is mentioned that in Renaissance England, more people could read than write and that within reading, reading manuscript is a more difficult task than reading print.</p> <p>Hence, the correct answer is manuscript.</p>	

25 Answer: **(the) (tabloid) newspapers**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
25. The writer uses the example of _____ to illustrate the general fall in certain areas of literacy.	<p>There does seem to be evidence that there has been an overall decline in some aspects of reading and writing - you only need to compare the tabloid newspapers of today with those of 50 years ago to see a clear decrease in vocabulary and simplification of syntax.</p>
<p>+ In the second paragraph, it is mentioned that there is some decline in reading and writing. He also mentions that you only need to compare tabloid newspapers to see the clear decrease in vocabulary (related to literacy).</p> <p>+ Therefore, the answer is (tabloid) newspapers.</p>	

26 Answer: **shopping lists**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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26 It has been shown that after leaving school , the only things that a lot of people write are _____	The ability to write fluent letters has been undermined by the telephone and research suggests that for many people the only use for writing , outside formal education , is the compilation of shopping lists .
<p>+ In the third paragraph, it is mentioned that for most people the only use for writing is compilation of shopping lists outside formal education (after leaving school).</p> <p>+ Therefore, the answer is shopping lists.</p>	

27 Answer: **x**

Keywords in the best option	Similar words in Passage
27. Transport developments spark a major change (x)	<p>Just as railway bridges were the great structural symbols of the 19th century, highway bridges became the engineering emblems of the 20th century.</p> <p>The type of bridge needed for cars and trucks, however, is fundamentally different from that needed for locomotives.</p> <p>To meet these needs, many turn-of-the-century bridge designers began working with a new building material...</p>
<p>+ The first sentence in the paragraph mentions that highway bridges became the emblems of the 20th century. This means that the new developments, i.e. highway bridges created a major change.</p> <p>+ Also, it is mentioned that such bridge were fundamentally different from other bridges.</p> <p>+ Hence, the best option to match this paragraph is option x, which is "Transport developments spark a major change" (x)</p>	

28 Answer: **viii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
28. Different in all respects	<p>He rejected the complex mathematical analysis of loads and stresses that was being enthusiastically adopted by most of his contemporaries.</p> <p>He resisted imitating architectural styles and adding design elements solely for ornamentation.</p> <p>And because he worked in a highly competitive field, one of his goals was economy - he won design and construction contracts because his structures were reasonably priced, often less costly than all his rivals' proposals.</p>

+ The second paragraph mentions that Maillart was so different from his rivals that he **rejected** the complex mathematical analysis, he **resisted imitating the styles** and even the designs were **less costly than his rivals' proposals**.

+ This means that he was different in all respects. Other paragraphs do not try to say such idea, hence, the best answer is Paragraph **B**.

29 Answer: **v**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
29. The basis of a new design is born.	... but Maillart argued that he could build amore elegant bridge made of reinforced concrete for about the same cost. His crucial innovation was incorporating the bridge's arch and roadway into a form called the hollow-box arch, which would substantially reduce the bridge's expense by minimising the amount of concrete needed.
<p>+ Since the paragraph C talks about how Maillart argued that he could build amore elegant bridge, it means he was arguing for a new design of a bridge.</p> <p>+ It is also mentioned that his new idea for building bridge is his crucial innovation, which means that this was a basis for a new design. The correct answer is option v.</p>	

30 Answer: **iii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
30. Early brilliance passes unrecognized .	But the Tavanasa Bridge gained little favourable publicity in Switzerland; on the contrary, it aroused strong aesthetic objections from public officials who were more comfortable with old-fashioned stone-faced bridges. Maillart, who had founded his own construction firm in 1902, was unable to win any more bridge projects.
<p>+ In paragraph D, it is written that the Tavanasa Bridge, which was a new design did not gain favourable publicity, which means it was unrecognized.</p> <p>+ Also, Maillart also was unable to win any more new projects, which also means his early brilliance was unrecognized. Thus, the correct answer is option iii. (Early brilliance passes unrecognized.</p>	

31 Answer: **vii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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31. Further refinements meet persistent objections.	<p>In this way, Maillart justified making the arch as thin as he could reasonably build it.</p> <p>His analysis accurately predicted the behaviour of the bridge but the leading authorities of Swiss engineering would argue against his methods for the next quarter of a century.</p>
<p>+ In the paragraph E, it mentions that Maillart had to justify making the arch as thin as he could which was a further refinement to his design.</p> <p>+ It is mentioned that the Swiss engineering authorities argued against his methods which means he met persistent objections in the refinements.</p> <p>+ Thus, the answer is option vii. Further refinements meet persistent objections.</p>	

32 Answer: **ii**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
32. A celebrated achievement	<p>He won the competition for the contract...</p> <p>In 1991 it became the first concrete bridge to be designated an international historic landmark</p>
<p>+ The paragraph F mentions that Maillart won the competition for the contract because of the design which means his idea got respected.</p> <p>+ Also, it is written that the bridge he made became an international historic landmark, which means his work had become a celebrated achievement.</p> <p>+ The correct answer is option ii. A celebrated achievement</p>	

33 Answer: **i**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
33. The long-term impact	<p>... the architectural section of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City devoted a major exhibition entirely to his works.</p> <p>In Switzerland, professors finally began to teach Maillart's ideas, which then influenced a new generation of designers.</p>
<p>+ The paragraph G mentions that recognizing the works of Maillart, the Museum of Modern Art devoted a major exhibition to his works.</p> <p>+ It is also mentioned that in Switzerland, professors began to teach his ideas and that influenced a new generation of designers. Hence, it could be described as a long-term impact of his work.</p> <p>+ Hence, the best option is i. The long-term impact.</p>	

34 Answer: **columns**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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34. The vertical bars shown in the figure should help with guessing the answer.	In a conventional arch bridge the weight of the roadway is transferred by columns to the arch, which must be relatively thick.
<p>+ In the fourth paragraph, it is written that in the conventional bridge, the weight of the roadway is transferred by columns to the arch. As the figure shows the roadway with forces being shifted towards the corner, the vertical bars are called columns.</p> <p>+ Hence, the answer is columns.</p>	

35 Answer: **vertical walls**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
35. The three vertical walls and two hollow boxes in the picture.	In Maillart's design, though, the roadway and arch were connected by three vertical walls , forming two hollow boxes running under the roadway.
<p>+ In the fourth paragraph, it is mentioned that in Maillart's design, the roadway and arch were connected by three vertical walls. If you look at the picture, there are exactly three of those vertical walls. They also form two hollow boxes in between them.</p> <p>+ Hence, the correct answer is vertical walls.</p>	

36 Answer: **hollow boxes**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
36. The two hollow boxes in the picture formed between the three vertical columns.	In Maillart's design, though, the roadway and arch were connected by three vertical walls, forming two hollow boxes running under the roadway.
<p>+ Similar to question 35, there are two hollow boxes formed by the three vertical walls. If you closely look at the picture, there are exactly two hollow boxes in between the vertical columns.</p> <p>+ So, the answer is hollow boxes.</p>	

37 Answer: **D**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
37. Maillart designed the hollow-box arch in order to _____	His crucial innovation was incorporating the bridge's arch and roadway into a form called the hollow-box arch , which would substantially reduce the bridge's expense by minimising the amount of concrete needed.

+ It is mentioned in the article that Maillart's crucial innovation in the **hollow-box arch** was to reduce the expense by **minimizing the amount of concrete** needed. This means it helped to **reduce the amount of raw material** required.

+ Therefore, the answer should be **D**. (reduce the amount of raw material required). The other options are not related to this innovation at all.

38 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
38. Following the construction of the Tavanasa Bridge , Maillart failed to _____	But the Tavanasa Bridge gained little favourable publicity in Switzerland; on the contrary, it aroused strong aesthetic objections from public officials who were more comfortable with old-fashioned stone-faced bridges. Maillart, who had founded his own construction firm in 1902, was unable to win any more bridge projects
<p>+ In the fifth paragraph, it is mentioned that the Tavanasa Bridge was less famous (little favourable publicity). It aroused aesthetic objections also. It is written that Maillart was unable to win any more bridge projects which means he could not win more building commissions.</p> <p>+ Therefore, the closest answer is C. (win more building commissions)</p>	

39 Answer: **G**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
39. The transverse walls of the Flienglibach Bridge allowed Maillart to _____	For aesthetic reasons , Maillart wanted a thinner arch and his solution was to connect the arch to the roadway with transverse walls
<p>+ In paragraph E, it is mentioned that Maillart wanted a thinner arch and he connected the arch to the roadway with transverse walls. This was only for aesthetic reasons, which means it was supposed to improve the appearance of the bridges.</p> <p>+ Therefore, the answer is G. (improve the appearance of his bridges)</p>	

40 Answer: **F**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
40. Of all his bridges , the Salginatobel enabled Maillart to _____	Salginatobel was also Maillart's longest span, at 90 metres and it had the most dramatic setting of all his structures , vaulting 80 metres above the ravine of the Salgina brook. In 1991 it became the first concrete bridge to be designated an international historic landmark.

+ In paragraph F, it is mentioned that the Salginatobel bridge had the **most dramatic setting** out of all his structures which means it was able to gain an advantage (**capitalize**) on the **spectacular terrain**. It was above the ravine of the Salgina brook, so the spectacular terrain was an added benefit to it.

+ Out of the other options, none of them say anything about the **spectacular terrain** or outlook of the bridge.

+ Therefore, the answer is **F**. (capitalise on the spectacular terrain)

1 Answer: **scientists**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
1. professional _____ did not exist	scientists were largely men of private means...
+ The first sentence in the paragraph mentions that during the 17 th century, scientists were largely men of private means which means they were not professionals people who do work related to science. So, the correct answer is scientists .	

2 Answer: **science**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
2. However, while _____ today is mostly the domain of professionals .	Today, science is an increasingly specialized and compartmentalized subject, the domain of experts who know more and more about less and less.
+ The paragraph mentions that science today is very specialized and is a domain of the experts . This matches the question which says that the field is a domain of professionals . Hence, science is the correct answer.	

3 Answer: **(scientific) fields**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
3. amateurs play an important role in at least seven _____	In addition to his field of astronomy, amateurs are actively involved in such field as acoustics, horticulture, ornithology, meteorology, hydrology and paleontology. If you count the number of fields in this sentence with astronomy, this totals to seven which is the keyword here.
+ Since we are concerned about the number of fields that amateurs can play role in, seven is the correct answer as the total number of fields mentioned is seven.	

4 Answer: **co-operation/collaboration**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
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4. many professionals are reliant on their _____	professionals, some of whom rely heavily on their co-operation
+The last sentence on the second paragraph mentions that the professionals rely heavily on their co-operation. To rely heavily means to be reliant on something, hence, the correct answer is co-operation .	

5 Answer: **observations**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
5 .In areas such as astronomy, amateurs can be invaluable when making specific _____ on a global basis	Amateur observers are helpful, says Dr Fienberg, because there are so many of them (they far outnumber professionals) and because they are distributed all over the world. This makes special kinds of observations possible...
+ The paragraph mentions that the amateur observers are helpful because they are distributed all over the world and it makes special observations possible. On a 'global basis' means to be distributed all over the world and specific means to be special. Hence, the correct answer is observations .	

6 Answer: **dinosaurs**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
6 .Similarly in the area of paleontology their involvement is invaluable and helpers are easy to recruit because of the popularity of _____	Finding volunteers to look for fossils is not difficult, he says, because of the near universal interest in anything to do with dinosaurs
+ The sixth paragraph mentions that finding volunteers for work related to fossils is easy because of the universal interest in dinosaurs. Universal interest means popularity and the paragraph says this popularity is related to dinosaurs . + The correct answer is dinosaurs .	

7 Answer: **conservation programme**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
7 .Amateur bird watchers also play an active role and their work has led to the establishment of a _____	Their observations have uncovered previously unknown trends and cycles in bird migrations and revealed declines in the breeding populations of several species of migratory birds, prompting a habitat conservation programme.

+ The article mentions that the various observations from amateurs has prompted a habitat conservation programme. Here, **prompt** means **to lead**, hence the correct answer in this context is **habitat conservation programme**.

8 Answer: **acknowledge**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
8. Occasionally the term 'amateur' has been the source of disagreement and alternative names have been suggested but generally speaking, as long as the professional scientists _____ the work of the non-professionals , the two groups can work productively together.	A more serious problem is the question of how professionals can best acknowledge the contributions made by amateurs .
<p>+ The question talks about how the term 'amateur' has been the source of disagreement and that it works fine if the professionals do something to recognize the works of non-professionals. Non-professionals means amateurs and to recognize means to acknowledge the works of amateurs.</p> <p>+ Hence, the answer is acknowledge</p>	

9 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
9. Amateur involvement can also be an instructive pastime .	Adrian Hunt: As well as helping with this research, volunteers learn about science, a process he calls ' recreational education '
<p>+ In the paragraph about Adrian Hunt, it is mentioned that volunteers can get recreational education by helping in research which is also the synonym for instructive pastime. Hence, the correct answer is : B (Adrian Hunt)</p>	

10 Answer: **A**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
10. Amateur scientists are prone to accidents .	And some kinds of research can be dangerous; most amateur chemists , jokes Dr Fienberg, are either locked up or have blown themselves to bits .
<p>+ In the paragraph about Dr. Fienberg, he mentions that most amateurs chemists have either blown themselves to bits or are either locked up which means they are prone to accidents.</p> <p>+ So, the answer is "A". (Dr Fienberg)</p>	

11 Answer: **D**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
11. Science does not belong to professional scientists alone.	... professionals who ... believe science should remain their exclusive preserve .
<p>+ It is mentioned in the article Dr. S Carlson thinks that professionals believe science should remain their exclusive preserve which is to say that he thinks science does not belong to the scientists alone.</p> <p>+ Therefore, the answer should be D. (Dr. Carlson)</p>	

12 Answer: **B**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
12. In certain areas of my work, people are a more valuable resource than technology.	Adrian Hunt: Despite the development of high-tech equipment, he says, the best sensors for finding fossils are human eyes – lots of them.
<p>+ In the fifth paragraph, it is mentioned that Adrian Hunt thinks that human eyes are better than any technology to find fossils which is to say that people are more valuable than technology in certain areas.</p> <p>+ Therefore, the answer is B. (Adrian Hunt)</p>	

13 Answer: **C**

Keywords in Questions	Similar words in Passage
13. It is important to give amateurs a name which reflects the value of their work .	Mr Bonney has coined the term 'citizen scientist' because he felt that other words, such as 'volunteer' sounded disparaging .
<p>+ In the paragraph about Mr Bonney, it is mentioned that he coined the term 'citizen scientist' which means he gave a new name for 'amateurs' because he felt the name 'amateur' is disparaging (not good for the importance of the work they do).</p> <p>+ Therefore, the answer is C. (Rick Bonney)</p>	