ENGLISH READING PASSAGES TESTS

Reading Comprehension Passage 04 MCQ Test With Answers – GORBACHEV'S TRAGEDY

5 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/reading-comprehension-passage-04-mcq-test-with-answers-gorbachevs-tragedy/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 5

(Please note: The following questions are related to a specific reading passage, which is available solely before the first question. Remember, it may be helpful to refer back to the reading text while answering the questions to ensure accuracy.)

GORBACHEV'S TRAGEDY

Where his predecessors had put to use the Red Army to crush democratic aspirations in Eastern Europe, Gorbachev welcomed them. With no hint of regret, he just watched the satellites break away from Soviet control and dissolve their Communist parties. He simply stepped aside and looked on unconcernedly as the Berlin Wall collapsed and Germany was reunified. He said things that amazed and delighted the West: "We no longer think we are unquestionably right. We have now decided firmly and unequivocally to base our policies on the principle of freedom of choice."

Only when the Soviet Union itself began to disintegrate did he begin to have second thoughts. But by then, obviously, it was too late.

1. ***Choose the appropriate interpretation:***
   A) The Soviet leaders had formerly been very harsh and intolerant toward any democratic demands in Eastern Europe.
   B) The former Soviet leaders had not taken any interest whatsoever in the democratic aspirations of the Eastern Europeans.
   C) Mr. Gorbachev should have followed the example set by the former Soviet leaders.
   D) Mr. Gorbachev knew right from the start that someday he would regret his own indulgent attitude.
   E) Mr. Gorbachev had formerly agreed with his predecessors' putting to use the Red Army to crush democratic aspirations in Eastern Europe and had indeed welcomed their decisions to that effect.

2. ***Choose the inappropriate interpretation:***
   A) Indeed, we witnessed no signs of regret on Mr. Gorbachev's part as the former satellites broke away from Soviet control.
   B) Mr. Gorbachev took great pleasure in seeing the satellites break away from Soviet control.
   C) Mr. Gorbachev just didn't intervene in the whole business of German re-unification.
   D) The world witnessed Mr. Gorbachev just watch and remain indifferent as the communist parties in Eastern European countries were dissolved one after the other.
   E) Mr. Gorbachev proved to be very different from the type of Soviet leader that the West had learned from experience to expect.

3. ***The Red Army***
   A) had been the only obstacle on the road to democracy in Eastern Europe.
   B) was dissolved soon after Mr. Gorbachev got into office.
   C) had been known in the past to be powerful enough to put down any uprising in Eastern European countries.
   D) was in profound disagreement with Mr. Gorbachev over the question of German re-unification.
   E) was unwilling to become entangled in all these unexpected developments in Eastern Europe.

4. ***Mr. Gorbachev***
   A) was a puppet of the West.
   B) was unquestionably the best leader that the Soviet Union had ever had.
   C) took great pleasure in amazing and delighting the West.
   D) wasn't so sure of his political stand when the Soviet Union itself began to crumble and fall.
   E) was obviously too late in persuading the Soviet people to base their policies on the principle of freedom of choice.

5. ***An appropriate subtitle for the passage might be:***
   A) Too Late To Disintegrate
   B) The Situation In Eastern Europe
   C) Second Thoughts On A Great Soviet Leader
   D) Soviet History Repeats Itself
   E) Not Quite So Sure Now