ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Comprehension Passage 16 MCQ Test With Answers – DISCUSSING THE HARVARD CORE CURRICULUM

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https://englishtestsonline.com/reading-comprehension-passage-16-mcq-test-with-answers-discussing-the-harvard-core-curriculum-core/

1	D	2	A	3	D	4	E	5	E

Explanations

1. ***The Harvard Report On The Core Curriculum received a favourable response from the public, because***
✓ D) they think this will mean a list of basic reading, proving that the society in which they live is a unified and consensual whole.
Paragraph 1 says the public is pleased because it expects the core curriculum to supply **the basic requirements of common learning**. This idea gratifies **our need to perceive our society as a unified and consensual whole**. Not the option about minimal competency standards: the passage only compares the two ideas. It does not say the report was welcomed because of them.

2. ***The notion of a core curriculum is interpreted by the ordinary citizen to mean***
✓ A) a list of basic reading viable for all undergraduates.
Paragraph 1 says people expect a core curriculum to give undergraduates **the basic requirements of common learning**, a single set of facts and ideas shared by all educated people. In other words, they see it as **a list of basic reading** for every student. Paragraph 2 echoes this with the phrase **viable for all students**.

3. ***The author claims that people need to perceive society as***
✓ D) an integrated and unified whole.
The author writes that the idea **gratifies our need to perceive our society as a unified and consensual whole**. **An integrated and unified whole** expresses the same idea. Not **satisfyingly simple**: this phrase describes the notion of shared knowledge, not society.

4. ***The Report On The Core Curriculum***
✓ E) is not proposing any one list of basic reading for all undergraduates to study and grasp sooner or later.
Paragraph 2 quotes the report: it is **definitely not proposing an identical set of courses**, and it does not believe in **a single set of Great Books that every educated person must sooner or later read and master**. So the report does not propose one list of basic reading for everyone. All the other options say the opposite of this.

5. ***The Harvard Report***
✓ E) claims to be a modest effort toward improving teaching standards.
The report **expressly denies** trying to define a common core for all students, so its aims are limited. The title of the article also calls it **A Timid Reform, A Modest Advance**. Not **will disappoint everyone**: the passage says only those who look to Harvard to define a common body of knowledge are likely to be disappointed.

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