ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Comprehension MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 01

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Explanations

1. **In Mr Wilson's opinion, horror films _____.**
✓ D) are less damaging to young people than films of violent crime
Mr Wilson says other films are **far more dangerous** and that crime films are **more damaging** because they are set in everyday life. So in his opinion, horror films are **less damaging** than films of violent crime.

2. **For Mr Wilson, the main difference between a horror film and one showing violent crime is that the former _____.**
✓ C) is unrelated to real life, whereas the latter is
The former means the horror film, and **the latter** means the crime film. Mr Wilson says horror films are **set in unreal situations**, while crime films are **set in everyday life**. Not 'is mainly concerned with everyday situations', because that describes the crime film.

3. **The interviewer wanted to find out whether _____.**
✓ A) young people were being harmed by horror films
The first sentence says Mr Wilson **was questioned about the harmful effects of horror movies on teenagers**. So the interviewer wanted to know whether young people were being harmed. Not 'the effects of crime films were being exaggerated', because Mr Wilson talks about exaggeration in connection with horror films, not crime films.

4. The famous Tower of London was built as a fortress by William the Conqueror. Early in the Middle Ages, the kings used it as a palace; later on, it was turned into a prison, but only distinguished prisoners, including statesmen and princes, were held there. Today, the Tower is a national museum, where, among other things, the jewellery of the English kings and queens is on display.

It is obvious from the passage that the functions of the Tower of London _____.
✓ C) have varied greatly over the centuries
The passage lists several uses: first a **fortress**, then a **palace**, later a **prison**, and today a **national museum**. So its functions **have varied greatly over the centuries**. Not 'are all of a military nature', because a palace and a museum are not military.

5. **We learn from the passage that the Tower _____.**
✓ B) was never a prison for ordinary people
The passage says **only distinguished prisoners, including statesmen and princes, were held there**. So it was never a prison for ordinary people. Not 'was never a residence of English kings', because the kings used it as a palace.

6. **William the Conqueror's original purpose in building the Tower of London _____.**
✓ A) was one of defence
The passage says the Tower **was built as a fortress** by William the Conqueror. A fortress is a strong building for protection, so his purpose was **defence**. The jewellery display belongs to today's museum, not to his original purpose.

7. **The passage emphasizes that whatever goes on in the world today _____.**
✓ D) is of great interest to everyone
The passage begins: **Never before in history have people been so aware of what is going on in the world.** The media **stimulate our interest**, so world events are of great interest to everyone. Not 'only concerns the sociologist', because the passage says this knowledge matters to you too.

8. **It is pointed out in the passage that, among other things, sociologists are very much interested in _____.**
✓ C) the reasons for social change
The passage says the sociologist wants to know **why it changes in the ways that it does**, which means the reasons for social change. Not 'how people make a living', because **make your way** in the last sentence means living your life, not earning money.

9. **One may conclude from the passage that the studies made by sociologists _____.**
✓ A) are extremely useful both to decision-makers and to ordinary people
The last sentence says such knowledge is valuable **not only for those who make great decisions but also for you**. So the studies are useful both to **decision-makers** and to **ordinary people**.

10. **Swimming the Channel is not as easy as it might seem _____.**
✓ E) for there are very strong currents
The distance is **only about twenty miles**, but **because of the strong currents** swimmers usually have to cover twice as far. Here **for** means 'because'. Not 'only two people have managed', because the passage says **there have been many successful swims**.

11. **The first time anyone swam across the Channel _____.**
✓ A) was in the nineteenth century
Captain Webb made the first crossing in **August 1875**, which is in the **nineteenth century** (the 1800s). Not 'he reached Dover', because he started at Dover and landed in France.

12. **The time Captain Webb needed to swim across the Channel ____.**
✓ B) has since been reduced by nearly half
Webb took **21 hours 45 minutes**, and a French swimmer later crossed in **11 hours and 5 minutes**. This is about half the time, so the time has been **reduced by nearly half**. Not 'still remains a record', because the passage says **the time has been shortened**.

13. A new discovery of a dinosaur fossil in Antarctica has confirmed the idea that dinosaurs lived not only in the Northern Hemisphere but in the Southern Hemisphere as well. Up until this discovery, scientists had found dinosaur remains on every continent except Antarctica. This new discovery now confirms the idea that dinosaurs were distributed worldwide. If the dinosaur fossil is shown to be related to other dinosaurs of the same period in South America, it will also support the idea that South America and Antarctica were once linked together.

It is only recently that ____.
✓ C) a dinosaur fossil has been discovered in Antarctica
The passage says that **up until this discovery**, dinosaur remains had been found on every continent **except Antarctica**. So only recently has a dinosaur fossil been discovered there.

14. **One can understand from the passage that ____.**
✓ A) dinosaurs, at one time in the past, lived in both hemispheres
The first sentence says dinosaurs lived **not only in the Northern Hemisphere but in the Southern Hemisphere as well**. So they lived in **both hemispheres**. Not 'more commonly found in the Southern Hemisphere', because the passage never compares numbers.

15. **It is hoped that the discovery of the dinosaur fossil in Antarctica ____.**
✓ D) could answer the question of whether South America and Antarctica were originally connected
The last sentence says that if the fossil is related to South American dinosaurs, **it will also support the idea that South America and Antarctica were once linked together**. This is what scientists hope the discovery can show. Not 'lived only in the Southern Hemisphere', because the passage says dinosaurs lived in **both** hemispheres.

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