ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# Reading Comprehension MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 11

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## Explanations

**1.** **Antarctica is used _____.**
✓ **D) as a natural laboratory for scientific studies**
The passage says the treaty keeps Antarctica **set aside for scientific studies** and calls it a **natural laboratory**. Not **by various countries of the world for their own use**: the countries work together, and the treaty stops anyone from claiming the land.

**2.** **The Antarctic continent was _____.**
✓ **A) first discovered in 1820**
The first sentence says the **first confirmation** of the ice continent came from the Bellingshausen expedition in **1820**. Not **a possession of Imperial Russia**: the expedition only worked for Russia, and Russia did not own the continent.

**3.** **The Antarctic Treaty _____.**
✓ **E) protects it from any country that might want to claim it as their own**
The passage says the treaty **protects the continent from territorial claims by any country**, so no country can claim it as its own. It was signed in 1959, not 1820, and it does not stop scientific expeditions.

**4.** The child followed his grandmother into the garden. As they walked slowly towards the little building at the back, the child heard strange noises and suddenly stopped. The grandmother turned and laughed warmly at her grandson's frightened expression. He had never been this close to animals before and was too young to recognise the sounds he heard. She handed him the bowl she had been carrying in her hand and picked him up. In the safety of her arms, he relaxed and together, they entered the coop to feed the chickens.

**The child was frightened of _____.**
✓ **B) the animal noises from the coop**
The child **heard strange noises and suddenly stopped**. He was **too young to recognise the sounds**, so it was the noises that frightened him. Not **the chickens**: he had not seen them yet and did not know what was making the sounds.

**5.** **The grandmother picked up her grandson _____.**
✓ **B) to reassure him**
**In the safety of her arms, he relaxed**, so she picked him up to **reassure** him, which means to make him feel safe and calm.

**6.** **They were going _____.**
✓ **A) to feed the chickens**
The last sentence says they **entered the coop to feed the chickens**. That is why the grandmother was carrying a bowl.

**7.** One of the most magnificent tourist sights in the Black Sea region of Turkey is the Sumela Monastery. The white walls of the monastery stand out sharply against the one-thousand-foot cliff from which it was carved. It is a seven-storey complex that was carved into the cliff walls. Monks had lived in the caves of this cliff for hundreds of years before the monastery reached its final form. It was abandoned in 1923 and left to decay for decades.

**The Sumela Monastery is unique because _____.**
✓ **E) it was not built on the cliff but in it**
The passage says the monastery was **carved from** and **carved into** the cliff, so it is part of the cliff rather than a building placed on it. Not **one thousand feet tall**: that is the height of the cliff, not the monastery.

**8.** **It has decayed because _____.**
✓ **A) no one has resided there for many years**
The passage says it **was abandoned in 1923 and left to decay for decades**. **Abandoned** means people left and **no one has resided** (lived) there since.

**9.** **The monks _____.**
✓ **B) lived in its caves**
The passage says **monks had lived in the caves of this cliff for hundreds of years**. Not **used to hide in its 7 floors**: nothing in the passage says the monks were hiding.

**10.** After finishing school, they secured jobs at a medical school hospital with which their university was affiliated. The four years of intense training they had undergone made them suitable for positions not often given to new graduates. After a brief in-service programme, they were assigned to their wards and began working with patients who had undergone major surgery. The new group of nurses proved to be excellent professionals. At the same time, they were able to maintain the close bonds of friendship that had developed among them before graduation.

**The new nurses were trained _____.**
✓ **B) for four years in an intensive university programme**
The passage mentions **the four years of intense training they had undergone** before they started work, and this was at their university. The hospital programme was only **brief**, so they were not trained in the hospital for four years.

**11. Their training _____.**
**✓ A) was better than that of other students**
Their training made them **suitable for positions not often given to new graduates**, so it must have been better than other students' training. Not **was not usually given to new graduates**: the passage says this about the **positions**, not the training.

**12. The best TITLE for this passage is _____.**
**✓ D) The New Professionals**
The passage is about new graduates who start work and **proved to be excellent professionals**, so **The New Professionals** covers the whole text. The other titles describe only one part of it.

**13.** Algae are a group of organisms that include some of the largest and smallest life forms known. Most algae are made of one cell and can only be seen under a microscope. Other types can grow over forty metres long. An example that is known to most people is brown seaweed. One of the most important groups of algae is plankton. Many sea animals form their diet from this organism, and the natural balance of sea life would be greatly disturbed without it.

**Algae _____.**
**✓ C) include some of the largest and smallest forms of life**
The first sentence says algae **include some of the largest and smallest life forms known**. Not **are only seen under a microscope**: only **most** algae are that small, and some grow over forty metres long.

**14. Plankton is _____.**
**✓ C) an important food for many sea animals**
The passage says **many sea animals form their diet from this organism**, so plankton is an important food for them. Not **known to most people**: the passage says that about brown seaweed.

**15. Without algae, _____.**
**✓ E) the balance of sea life would be greatly disturbed**
The last sentence says **the natural balance of sea life would be greatly disturbed** without plankton, which is a group of algae. Not **all fish would starve**: the passage never says this, and **all** is too strong.

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