ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Comprehension MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 07

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Explanations

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

‘Cut your coat to suit your cloth’ is an old English proverb. Obviously, it isn’t really talking about coats but is advising us to be content with what we have. It’s a good proverb because many people want what they cannot have, which makes them discontented. Therefore, they don’t enjoy the things they do have.

This proverb ____.
✓ A) teaches us the real meaning of happiness
The passage says the proverb advises us to **be content with what we have**. People who always want more are unhappy, so the proverb shows what real happiness is. Not **shows us the importance of money**, because the proverb is about being satisfied, not about money.

2. **People are happy ____.**
✓ D) as long as they are satisfied with the things they have
The passage says wanting what we cannot have makes people **discontented**. So people are happy **as long as they are satisfied with the things they have**. Being rich is never mentioned.

3. **The passage suggests that ____.**
✓ B) a lot of people who should be happy are not
The passage says **many people want what they cannot have** and so **don’t enjoy the things they do have**. They have reasons to be happy but are not. Not **happiness depends upon possessions**: the passage says the opposite.

4. “James and I set off an hour before sunset when it was getting cooler and the shadows were long. We took it in turns to row the little boat and moved slowly, following the edge of the lake, and looking rather lazily about us for fish. We had no intention of catching any, but it was pleasant to watch them swim so close to us.”

In this passage, ____.
✓ B) the writer expresses a feeling of contentment
The writer describes a slow, lazy, **pleasant** evening on the lake, so the main feeling is **contentment**. Not **fishing**: the friends had **no intention of catching any** fish. They went out before sunset, not at dawn.

5. **The two friends ____.**
✓ D) took the boat out to enjoy themselves rather than to catch fish
The passage says **We had no intention of catching any**, but it was pleasant to watch the fish. So they went out **to enjoy themselves rather than to catch fish**. Not **rowed across the lake**: they followed **the edge of the lake**.

6. **The writer and his friend enjoyed ____.**
✓ E) observing the movements of fish around their boat
The writer says **it was pleasant to watch them swim so close to us**, so they enjoyed **observing the movements of fish** around the boat. Not **rowing together**: they **took it in turns to row**, and they caught no fish.

7. “John Fuller has really surprised us all. At school, he seemed such a boring and ordinary boy. As far as I can remember, he made no close friends. I don’t think we actually disliked him, but we certainly ignored him. I would really like to meet him again now. It’s clear from his wonderful films that he must be a most interesting man.”

The writer ____.
✓ D) was at school with John Fuller
The writer says **At school, he seemed such a boring and ordinary boy** and that they **ignored him**, so the writer **was at school with John Fuller**. Not **one of his close friends**: John Fuller made **no close friends**, and the writer would like to meet him again.

8. **The writer was surprised ____.**
✓ B) to see how John Fuller had changed over the years
The boring, ordinary schoolboy now makes **wonderful films** and must be **a most interesting man**. The writer is surprised by how much he has changed. Not **when he met** him: the writer only **would like to meet him again**, and money is never mentioned.

9. **Which of the following TITLES would be suitable for this passage?**
✓ C) No Longer Ordinary
The main idea is that John Fuller was **boring and ordinary** at school but is now an interesting, successful film-maker. **No Longer Ordinary** sums this up. Not **An Unexpected Meeting**: the writer has not met him again yet.

10. Mr. Smith made a mistake when he gave his son, Tom, a camera. Soon, Tom became so interested in photography that he began to neglect his schoolwork. A large part of his conversation soon revolved around photographs. When the newspapers arrived, he examined the photographs first and critiqued them before starting to read the news.

Mr Smith gave his son a camera _____.
✓ B) before he was particularly interested in photography
The passage says **Soon, Tom became so interested in photography** after he got the camera. So before the gift he was not particularly interested in it. No reason for the gift, such as a reward or a newspaper job, is mentioned.

11. **After he was given the camera, Tom _____.**
✓ E) began to give much more time to photography than to his lessons
Tom **began to neglect his schoolwork** because he was so interested in photography, so he gave **much more time to photography than to his lessons**. Not **stopped reading the newspapers**: he looked at the photos first, then read the news.

12. **Tom _____.**
✓ C) talked about photography more than anything else
The passage says **A large part of his conversation soon revolved around photographs**, so he talked about photography more than anything else. Not **read the news first**: he **examined the photographs first**. Not **always talked about his camera**: he talked about photographs, not about the camera itself.

13. Leslie comes from a big city. During the holiday, she went to spend a week on her uncle's farm. It was her first visit there. Her uncle, who was very pleased to see his niece, did his best to make her stay an enjoyable one. On the farm, she rode a horse, fed chickens, ran in the fields, and ate fruit fresh from the trees. She enjoyed her holiday so much that when the day for her to return to the city came, she was very sad to leave.

Leslie's _____.
✓ A) holiday lasted for a week
Leslie **went to spend a week on her uncle's farm**, so her holiday lasted for a week. Not **parents often sent her**: it was **her first visit there**. Riding a horse was just one of the things she enjoyed.

14. **Leslie _____.**
✓ D) thoroughly enjoyed her holiday on the farm
The passage says **She enjoyed her holiday so much** that she was very sad to leave, so she **thoroughly enjoyed** it. Not **visited once a week**: she stayed **for a week**, and it was her first visit.

15. **Which of the following is the most suitable TITLE for this passage?**
✓ B) A Different Sort of Life
Leslie is a city girl who tries farm life for the first time: riding, feeding chickens and eating fresh fruit. **A Different Sort of Life** fits best. Not **Longing for the City**: she was sad to go back to the city.

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