ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Comprehension MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 08

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Explanations

1. **Meteors that hit the Earth _____.**
✓ A) are known as meteorites
The passage says that when pieces of meteors reach the surface of the Earth, **these are then called meteorites**. Not **are called falling stars**: that name is used for meteors we see as streaks of light in the sky, not for the ones that land.

2. **The Earth's atmosphere _____.**
✓ C) and the friction it causes prevent many meteors from becoming meteorites
The passage says **the friction between these rocks and the atmosphere causes most of them to burn up** before they reach the surface. So the atmosphere stops many meteors from becoming meteorites. Not **prevents most meteors from falling into the Earth's gravitational pull**: the meteors do fall into the pull, and then they burn up.

3. **Meteors are _____.**
✓ B) pieces of rock that travel through space
The passage says meteors **travel through space** and calls them **these rocks**. So meteors are pieces of rock moving through space. Not **huge stars**: they only look like stars, which is why people call them **falling stars**.

4. **The majority of the bat population _____.**
✓ C) feed on a diet of insects
The passage says **Most bats feed on a diet of insects**. **The majority** means **most**. Not **are vampires** or **are dangerous to man**: only the vampire bats are dangerous, and they are a small group.

5. **According to the passage, the bat is misunderstood because _____.**
✓ B) it has been associated with fear in the West
The last sentence says **the misunderstood bat has represented fear and terror in the West**, while in the East it is a sign of good luck. So people misunderstand it because they link it with fear. Not **it is capable of transmitting rabies**: that is true only of vampire bats, and the passage does not call this a misunderstanding.

6. **The insect population of the world _____.**
✓ E) is maintained at normal levels in certain areas because bats eat insects
The passage says the bats' diet **helps control the insect population in various areas of the world**. So in some places bats keep the number of insects at normal levels. Not **is controlled only by vampire bats**: vampire bats drink blood; it is the other bats that eat insects.

7. **A good TITLE for this passage is _____.**
✓ C) IBM: Yesterday and Today
The passage tells the company's history, from its new name in 1924, through its first computers and its first personal computer in 1981, to its situation **now**. So **IBM: Yesterday and Today** covers the whole text. The other titles cover only one detail, such as **Financial Difficulties** or **The First Computer**.

8. **IBM's first personal computer _____.**
✓ D) was produced after other types of computers had been marketed
The first computers were made for scientists in the 1950s. **Over time, many other forms of the computer were produced**, and only **in 1981** came the first personal computer. So it came after other types of computers. Not **was manufactured for scientists**: that describes the first computers, not the personal computer.

9. **IBM _____.**
✓ D) has been around since 1952 as a computer manufacturer
The passage says that in **1952** Thomas Jr. took over and began to **manufacture their first computers**. So IBM has made computers since 1952. Not **went bankrupt**: the passage says the company is in financial difficulty, not that it went bankrupt.

10. Sumo wrestling is an extremely popular sport in Japan. The sumo champions are exceptionally large men who are not only tall but also weigh 130 kilograms or more. The reason these wrestlers are so big is that the objective of the game is for one wrestler to either throw his opponent out of the ring or force him to the ground. The larger a wrestler is, the greater his chances of winning a match. These matches are usually very short, with most lasting less than one minute.

Sumo wrestlers are extremely large _____.
✓ A) because they must use their bodies against their opponents
The passage says the goal is to **throw his opponent out of the ring** or **force him to the ground**, and **the larger a wrestler is, the greater his chances of winning**. So wrestlers are big because they use their body weight against their opponents. Not **due to their great strength**: the passage talks about size and weight, not strength.

11. **The length of these matches _____.**
✓ D) is generally under a minute
The last sentence says the matches are **very short**, with **most lasting less than one minute**. So their length is generally under a minute. Not **is usually more than one minute**: this is the opposite of what the passage says.

12. To win the match, _____.
✓ E) one wrestler must push the other out of the ring or to the ground
The passage says the objective is **for one wrestler to either throw his opponent out of the ring or force him to the ground**. That is how a match is won. Not **the larger wrestler's weight must be more than 130 kilos**: weight helps, but it does not decide the winner.

13. Although all spiders kill their prey by injecting them with venom, only a few are dangerous enough to cause harm to people or large animals. The venom of the spider is delivered through a pair of powerful fangs. This venom is fatal for most insects and sometimes small animals. Among the most dangerous spiders are the black widow spiders. The European black widow can cause serious illness in humans, whereas the North American black widow has been known to cause fatalities on several occasions.

Most spiders _____.
✓ B) inject venom with their fangs
The passage says spiders kill their prey **by injecting them with venom**, which **is delivered through a pair of powerful fangs**. Not **can cause the death of people**: the passage says **only a few** spiders are dangerous to people.

14. The venom of the spider _____.
✓ C) is deadly to most insects and sometimes to small animals
The passage says the venom **is fatal for most insects and sometimes small animals**. **Deadly** means the same as **fatal**. Not **is dangerous to most people**: the passage says **only a few** spiders can harm people.

15. The black widow spiders _____.
✓ D) are among the most dangerous spiders
The passage says **Among the most dangerous spiders are the black widow spiders**. The European one can make people seriously ill, and the North American one has even killed people. Not **are only dangerous when they are found in Europe**: the North American black widow is even more dangerous.

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