ENGLISH READING PASSAGES TESTS

Reading Passages Advanced Level Test – Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers) 1

24 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/reading-passages-advanced-level-test-quiz-online-exercise-with-answers-1/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 24

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

Many countries in the world are faced with the appalling connected problems of increasing population and a shortage of food. It has been estimated that by the year 2050, the world's population will have risen to about ten thousand million. It, therefore, seems that more countries could find themselves in this situation in the future. There are a number of possible solutions to the problem, but none of them is easy. Firstly, the governments in such countries could discourage people from having large families. Secondly, the people ought to bring in new agricultural machinery, modernise their farming methods and develop more land so as to produce enough food to satisfy the needs of the people. And finally, countries with a food shortage should try to import some of the food they need from other countries by exporting their oil, wood, iron or whatever they have. All of these possible solutions (and there are of course many more) simplify the problem. However, they show that, if people mean to solve the problems of increasing population and food shortages, there are means of doing so.

1. **The passage is mainly concerned with _____.**
   A) the problems of many countries in the world related to the multiplying population and shortage of food as well as several solutions
   B) the connection between the problems of increasing population and shortage of food
   C) the adverse effects of the decreasing number of people in the world because of the shortage of food
   D) a possible way to deal with the rapid rise in the world population and inadequate food supply for the people in many countries
   E) the easy solutions to meet the needs of the people living in most of the countries in the world

2. **We may infer from the passage that _____.**
   A) countries which cannot produce enough food for their own people already use the most modern farming methods available
   B) the possible solutions to the problems of increasing population and shortage of food in the world should not be restricted to the ones mentioned in the passage
   C) people need to find some alternative solutions which should be much more effective than the ones they have now
   D) having six or seven children is more common than being the parents of one or two in our world today
   E) the governments of the populous countries should have the biggest responsibility to cope with the problem of lack of food supply for their people

3. **As included in the passage, mentioning the problems of the increasing world population and a shortage of food as well as several solutions, the writer tries to warn us _____.**
   A) because he's too desperate for the future
   B) although he doesn't care about any of the problems he mentioned beforehand
   C) against thinking that it will be easy to solve the problems of increasing world population and a shortage of food in the world
   D) since he himself lives in a poor and populated country
   E) against the governments who do not want to take measures in order to solve the problem of poverty in underdeveloped countries

Oscar Niemeyer was a Brazilian architect and the greatest South American exponent of modern architecture. He was fortunate to work in a country relatively unhampered by traditional forms and wealthy enough to finance large projects. Shortly after graduating, he joined the team of designers of the new Ministry of Education and Health building in Rio de Janeiro. Le Corbusier went over to Brazil for a time in 1936 to work on the same project, and Niemeyer was very much influenced by the established master. Over the next few years, his own idiom developed rapidly: the debt to Corbusier remained but was modified increasingly by Niemeyer's own fertile and lyrical imagination. Curved forms, curves cut by verticals or horizontals, and the expressive power of low, long and uniform facades became the hallmarks of his style. He has been associated with four great schemes in Brazil. The first of them was a group of buildings near the airport in Belo Horizonte in the early 1940s, and there he displayed that wide variety of structures that were already to be his speciality. His greatest opportunity came with the decision to found a new capital in

Brasilia, and between 1956 and 1960 Niemeyer was engaged in the design of the public buildings. One of these included the President's Palace with its elegant curving concrete forms supporting the overhang of the roof and the daring design for the cathedral.

4. According to the passage, Niemeyer was lucky in where he worked because _____.

A) Brazil had little traditional architecture
B) there were few architects around to compete with him
C) he was able to receive the best training
D) Brazil had a long architectural tradition
E) he worked in Rio de Janeiro

5. As is mentioned in the passage, Le Corbusier was _____.

A) the architect who designed Brasilia
B) the best-known Brazilian architect
C) the founder of South American modern architecture
D) affected by Niemeyer very much
E) the architect who initially influenced Niemeyer

6. As concluded in the passage, Niemeyer _____.

A) was not appreciated in his native country
B) was mainly involved in public housing projects
C) worked for the Brazilian government extensively
D) has greatly influenced world architecture
E) was quite conventional in terms of style

FUBU started in 1992 when Daymond John decided to try and make some money by designing and selling the kind of hats he wanted to wear himself but could never find. Daymond turned half of his home in Queens, New York into a factory and the other half into a living space for the 'Team'. The 'Team' consisted of a group of neighbourhood friends, all of whom are an integral part of the company. By 1995 FUBU was making shirts, rugby shirts, sweatshirts, denim, underwear, outerwear, boots and shoes with raw materials from around the world. Today FUBU make women's and children's clothes as well. The collection is also sold internationally in France, Japan, Germany and Australia. Top musical artists such as Mariah Carey and Snoop Doggy Dogg have given FUBU their stamp of approval.

7. The passage is mainly concerned with _____.

A) the advantages of working at home
B) the importance of raw material in the textile industry
C) the fact that FUBU clothes are now very famous among celebrities
D) designing and selling the kind of hats that youngsters like to wear
E) how a way of life developed into an international business

8. It's understood from the passage that _____.

A) when FUBU first started the clothing business, it was not selling children's and women's clothes
B) FUBU was a family firm initiated in 1990s
C) by 1995 FUBU had managed to sell all kinds of clothing for people
D) some top musical artists joined the team of FUBU after 1995
E) the FUBU collection never managed to enter the world market

9. One may conclude from the passage that _____.

A) the FUBU company started in a large factory in Manhattan before it grew into an international business
B) Daymond John began the business by selling shoes he had imported from abroad
C) FUBU has gained a popularity which has even drawn the attention of famous singers
D) FUBU entered the world market in 1995
E) FUBU staff is made up of personalities from all parts of the globe

Hilaria Supa wears ancestral clothing and a round hat typical of peasant women from her village near Cusco, the former Inca capital in Peru. She also speaks Quechua, the language of the Inca Empire, which is still used widely in the Peruvian Andes. She claims that she has no real need for Spanish because her neighbours all speak Quechua. But that doesn't go for other members of Peru's Congress, to which Ms Supa has just been elected. Along with a colleague, Ms Supa, who speaks fluent Spanish, has insisted on speaking to the legislature in her first language. This, she says, will increase respect for Andean Indian culture and help the language to survive. It has forced Congress to hire translators. Although Quechua has long been in slow decline, chiefly because the children of migrants to the cities rarely speak it, it is now getting a lot more attention, as a result of Ms Supa's struggles.

10. It is implied in the passage that Hilaria Supa _____.

A) knows only a little Spanish
B) is about to lose her position in the congress since she speaks Quechua
C) is a volunteer supporter of a traditional language called Quechua, which has long been in slow decline
D) has to learn Spanish to survive in the Peruvian Andes
E) is thought to be a racist because of her insistence on speaking to the members of the Congress in Quechua

11. We can understand from the passage that in some parts of Peru _____.

A) there is no need to recognize and overcome its ethnic inequalities

B) people who speak Quechua are looked down on by other people who speak Spanish

C) Ms Supa has a lot of fans that are ready to act as she wants them to do

D) it is enough to know just Quechua to communicate with the people around rather than Spanish

E) there are people who have asserted that the results of the recent election don't show the reality

12. It is clear in the passage that the main reason why Quechua, the language of the Inca Empire, has long been in slow decline is that _____.

A) it is forbidden to speak Quechua in the parliament of Peru

B) the cost of hiring a translator is very high in Cusco

C) the new generation among local people growing up in the cities hardly ever speak Quechua

D) Quechua isn't taught in the schools in Peru

E) the usage of Quechua is now limited to the highland areas where it is predominant by law

Do you sudoku? Even if you don't have any chance to do it, you absolutely know somebody who does. Once little-known outside Japan, this addictive brainteaser has become a staple of newspaper puzzle pages the world over. Sudoku's dazzling success owes much to its simplicity: requiring neither mathematical ability nor general knowledge, and with just a sentence or two of instructions, the puzzle is absurdly easy to learn yet hard to master. "All you need is the ability to recognise the difference between nine different symbols that don't even have to be numeric," explains Michael Mepham, a veteran puzzler and sudoku compiler. Some clever marketing has helped. Western newspapers were quick to identify sudoku as a circulation booster and worked hard at promoting the puzzle. "Without this," says Mr Mepham, "it would not have taken off."

13. We may infer from the passage that thanks to Sudoku, _____.

A) the circulation amounts of Western newspapers increased

B) the aid of the witty marketing was seen

C) people learnt how to overcome the difficulties of a puzzle

D) people began to work harder to improve the puzzles available on the market

E) puzzles became available online

14. As is stated in the passage, Sudoku's achievement mostly results from _____.

A) the sophistication and intricateness of words

B) the proportion of its profits compared to its counterparts

C) the desire of people who want to improve their skills while coping with it

D) a great mathematical ability and general knowledge

E) its lack of complexity

15. As concluded in the passage, Sudoku took off because _____.

A) of its complexity

B) people finally found a suitable field to improve their skills

C) most of the people know and like Sudoku

D) some clever marketing blocked the sales of other puzzles

E) Western newspapers worked hard at promoting the puzzle since they saw it as a circulation booster

Photography often blurs the distinction between art and reality. Modern technology has made that blurring easier. In the digital darkroom, photographers can manipulate images and threaten the integrity of endeavours that rely on them. Several journalists have been fired for such activity in recent months, including one from Reuters for faking pictures in Lebanon. Earlier this year, the investigation into Hwang Woo-suk showed the South Korean scientist had changed images purporting to show cloning. In an effort to rein in photography, camera makers are making it more obvious when images have been altered by using several coding systems.

16. The passage mainly explains that _____.

A) the real photographs taken by the photographers can be distinguished from the fake ones with the help of technology

B) alteration or manipulation on a photograph will certainly cause a journalist to be dismissed from his position

C) it is difficult to notice a fault on a photo in the modern world because of the lack of necessary technological techniques

D) it isn't ethically wrong to fake pictures so as to make people believe something unreal in the press

E) camera-makers and manufacturers haven't found a method to distinguish a real photo from its imitation yet

17. One point made in the passage is that _____.

A) digital images have natural statistical patterns in the intensity and texture of their pixels

B) photoshop was the program used by the journalists fired by Reuters

C) sometimes the best scrutiny is a simple gaze at the photos to see the manipulations on them

D) one way of blurring the distinction between the real photos and the unreal ones is to use image authentication systems to reveal if someone has tampered with a picture

E) even scientists have resorted to faking photos in order to deceive the scientific world

18. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.

A) there is more than one way to make it clear that a photo is not real but a fake one today

B) up to now only one journalist has lost his job because of faking photos

C) analyzing the shadows and lighting to see if subjects and surroundings are consistent is a more successful way than image-authentication system

D) the internet has been proven as an effective check on digital forgery

E) digital forgery or digital alterations on a photo can be done in any environment

Oscar Wilde was born in Dublin in 1854, to parents who were both prominent citizens. In her youth, Wilde's mother had achieved a transatlantic reputation as the author of inspiring nationalistic poetry, published under the name of "Speranza". Wilde's father, William, knighted by the British queen in 1864, was a medical specialist in complaints of the eye, who, although a staunch Protestant, showed his nationalism in collecting and preparing for print tales of Irish folklore. Oscar Wilde attended public school at Portora Royal School and gained undergraduate degrees in classics at Dublin's Trinity College and Oxford's Magdalen College. As a student, he showed promise not simply as a linguist, but as a witty exponent of the ideas and philosophy of life which he found in the writings of the ancients. One day, at the university, when challenged about his ambitions in life, Wilde replied prophetically: "I'll be a poet, a writer, a dramatist, somehow or other. I'll be famous, and if not famous, I'll be notorious." When you read about Oscar Wilde's life in detail, you will notice that he achieved all his ambitions about which he had dreamed in his university years successfully.

19. It is stated in the passage that Oscar Wilde was the son of parents _____.

A) that were successful opticians and at the same time religious people

B) who got undergraduate degrees in classics in Dublin's Trinity College and Oxford's Magdalen College

C) who displayed their love towards their nation through their literary works

D) from whom Oscar Wilde definitely took his inspirations and ability in writing

E) who were the initial and the most fervent exponents of the nationalistic literature in Ireland

20. From the information given in the passage, we can infer that Oscar Wilde _____.

A) used a new style of his own that made the spirit of ancient Greek and the Hellenic Age come together in his works

B) always gave prophetic answers to the people who asked him questions about his character

C) seemed to be determined to be recognized and known by people throughout the world one day when he was at the university

D) had a family which was not very important for the British Royal Family

E) was not a hardworking and successful student when he was in the public school

21. One may conclude from the passage that Oscar Wilde _____.

A) could become famous only for the criticism he wrote during his academic career

B) gained a bad fame in the world of literature

C) wasn't able to make his dreams about life come true

D) was never interested in philosophy and ancient writings

E) wrote different works in almost all the genres of literature

Although most things in Darien are cheap, travel is not. One needs substantial amounts of time or money, preferably both. For two reasons: it is not easy to get around, and it is not safe. It is not easy because, south of Yaviza, there are no roads. It is unsafe because of the Colombian civil war. Neither the Panamanian nor the Colombian government has control over the border, so guerrillas, paramilitaries and bandits freely cross back and forth. Despite their lack of control over the border area, Panama's police force is reasonably professional and not particularly corrupt. Unfortunately, for most visitors, this only makes travel more difficult, as the police periodically close regions of Darien to foreigners. Knowing they have no control over certain regions, they'd rather foreign travellers did not go at all to avoid the chance of kidnappings.

22. It may be understood from the passage that _____.

A) Darien can be insecure for foreigners because of the political unrest in the region

B) Colombia and Panama are at war because of a regional problem

C) governments of both Panama and Colombia have strict control over the border, so people can wander around freely

D) Darien is one of the cheapest places in the world in terms of accommodation and travel

E) travelling around Darien is easy because good roads link all its regions

23. According to the passage _____.

A) Colombian civil war led to a governmental change in Panama

B) guerrillas, paramilitaries and bandits have taken over the administrative power in the country

C) Yaviza is a safer place to visit than Darien

D) the officers in the Panama Police Center have to complete a hard training program before being assigned at the borders

E) Panama Police Force's being professional does not make travelling easier for most of the foreigners

24. As it is suggested in the passage, visitors wanting to travel in Darien need time and money because _____.

A) everything is very expensive and there lies a huge country under their feet

B) the bureaucracy is too slow and they always have to bribe the policemen at the border

C) they will be in need of hiring bodyguards who will be in charge of shielding them against kidnappers

D) it is troublesome and risky to wander around on account of the lack of roads and the civil war in Colombia

E) if they are kidnapped, the only way to survive is to accept paying a huge amount of ransom to the gangsters who have kidnapped them

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