ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Passages Advanced Level Test – Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers) 4

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Explanations

1. **It is understood from the passage that King George Tupou V _____.**
✓ D) hasn't been formally crowned yet
The passage says the new king **has been sworn in, but not formally crowned**. He already holds the royal title, but the coronation ceremony has not taken place yet. Not 'owes his father everything': the first sentence says he **may not inherit everything** from his father. Not 'lost his father during the democracy movement': the passage only says his father died on September 10th and that the pro-democracy movement is growing now, not that the death happened because of it.

2. **One may infer from the passage that in Tonga _____.**
✓ E) there is spreading demand for regime change
The passage mentions **the country's growing pro-democracy movement**, which wants to **limit his throne's huge powers**. This shows a spreading demand for a change in the way the country is ruled. The other options contradict the passage: he already has **the royal title and a good deal of respect** from his subjects.

3. **It can be concluded from the passage that the monarch in Tonga _____.**
✓ D) has enormous power in ruling the country
The last sentence asks whether the king will **limit his throne's huge powers**, so the Tongan monarch clearly has enormous power. Not 'has been supporting the pro-democracy movement': the passage only asks whether he **will bow to** its pleas, so he has not done so yet.

4. **According to the passage, Second Life _____.**
✓ A) is software enabling its users to create a 3-dimensional world in which they can be and do anything they wish
The passage describes Second Life as a three-dimensional world whose users, or **residents**, can create and be anything they want. People reach it by downloading free software. Not 'a computer game designed for university students': it is open to the public, and the professor simply chose to use it for teaching.

5. **It is stated in the passage that by means of Second Life, Peter Yellowlees _____.**
✓ E) produced sample hallucinations and tried to explain to his students how the schizophrenics suffer
The professor had never been able to explain **just how their patients suffer**, so he entered Second Life and **created hallucinations** (a flashing insult, a disappearing floor, a bleeding reflection) to show this. Not 'tried to improve his own understanding': he already knew the illness well. It was his students and the public who needed to understand it better.

6. **One may infer from the passage that patients who suffer from schizophrenia _____.**
✓ C) can commit suicide because of their hallucinations
The simulated hallucinations copy what patients really experience, including a voice shouting **"Go and kill yourself, you wretch!"**. We can infer that such hallucinations may push sufferers towards suicide. Not 'are the participants of the trial': the passage says Yellowlees invited **Second Life's public** into the ward, not patients.

7. **One may infer from the passage that as a politician, Talleyrand _____.**
✓ C) always managed to be in a good, high and powerful position under any circumstances in France
Talleyrand had **a talent for landing on his feet** and was **always at or never far from the center of power through every upheaval**. Under every regime, he kept a high and powerful position. Not 'had a view ... to which he stuck': his **frequent shifts** of loyalty show the opposite.

8. **It can be understood from the passage that Talleyrand _____.**
✓ A) served at least three rulers, having different political responsibilities
He was **a diplomat for Napoleon, a minister to Louis XVIII** and **an ambassador in London for Louis Philippe**. So he served at least three rulers in different roles. Not 'harshly criticized by cartoonists': the passage only says he was **a natural subject** for them. Not 'getting up early': he **rose late**.

9. As is stated in the passage, Talleyrand _____.
✓ D) had a handicap in his feet
The passage opens with **Lame from birth**. 'Lame' means unable to walk normally because of a problem with the leg or foot, so he had a physical handicap. Not 'worked as a minister in London for Napoleon': in London he was an **ambassador** for **Louis Philippe**.

10. It's understood from the passage that news magazines like "Life", "Look" and "Time" _____.
✓ C) are respected as models for foreign magazines
European publishers produce magazines **resembling** Life and Look, and almost every industrialized country has an **imitator** of Time. These American magazines therefore serve as models for foreign ones. Not 'sell very well throughout the world': the passage talks about imitation, not sales figures.

11. According to the passage _____.
✓ E) nearly all the heavily industrialized countries have a magazine resembling "Time"
The passage states that **almost no heavily industrialized country is without its imitator of "Time"**, which means nearly all of them have one. Not the Der Spiegel option: it is given as a German **imitator** of Time, not an American magazine.

12. As concluded in the passage, magazines _____.
✓ D) shouldn't accept untruthful advertising
The magazines' social responsibilities include **the obligation to provide the people with ... truthful advertising**. So they should not accept untruthful advertising. The other options (television, subsidies, profit) are never mentioned.

13. The latter team aforementioned has declared that _____.
✓ B) they had found evidence of the dark ages of the universe
The latter means the second of two things mentioned. The second team in the passage is the Sloan Sky Survey team, which **had announced finding evidence of the cosmic "dark ages"**. Not the option about the cosmic renaissance ending the dark ages: this is the author's background explanation linked to the first (Djorgovski) team's discovery, not the Sloan team's announcement.

14. What do the two teams have in common?
✓ D) The devices used by the teams for gaining information on quasars were powerful telescopes.
The passage says **the teams used data collected with powerful telescopes to observe the light emissions of quasars**, so both used the same kind of instrument. Not 'announced their findings on the same day': the Sloan team announced its results **just days earlier**.

15. We can infer from the passage that quasars _____.
✓ A) emit light that reaches us from a very distant time
Quasars are **the most distant known objects** and **can essentially offer snapshots of the universe from hundreds of millions of years ago**. From this we infer that their light has travelled for an extremely long time, so it shows us the distant past. Not 'inside our own galaxy': they are the farthest objects known.

16. One point emphasized in the passage is that _____.
✓ C) the wristwatch may be regarded as a symbol of social status and luxury by most people today
The passage opens by saying the wrist is where **social standing can still be displayed**, and the rest develops the idea of the watch as a luxury status symbol. Not the signet-ring option: the passage says people **without** a family crest or signet ring can still show their status with a watch.

17. The author relates the success of Rolex _____.
✓ B) to its smart marketing system, which identifies and targets the right customers
The author says **the reason for Rolex's stunning success is the firm's genius at marketing** to people who want, and can afford, symbols of status. To **relate A to B** means to say that B causes A. Not 'to its being so expensive': the passage says the price is balanced, **just expensive enough** but also **just affordable enough**.

18. One conclusion we can draw from the passage is that _____.
✓ E) Rolex has managed to make a product that is attainable for many despite its price
The last sentence says Rolex's product is **just expensive enough so not everyone will own one, but just affordable enough for it to be within the reach of many**. So it is attainable for many despite its high price. Not the 'standard buyer' option: the passage says buyers want what their neighbours **either have or wish they had**, not 'always' what they already have.

19. The author implies that control to any extent over the "frailties" that constrain our behaviour is thought to presuppose _____.
✓ D) a full understanding of why those frailties evolved and of how they function now
The last two sentences say we would need to **comprehend thoroughly their adaptive origins** in order to **understand how badly they guide us now**, and only **then** might we resist them. Control therefore presupposes understanding both why the frailties evolved and how they function today. Not 'recognized as currently beneficial': the author calls some of them **presently maladaptive**, the opposite of beneficial.

20. It can be inferred that in his discussion of maladaptive frailties, the author assumes that _____.
✓ E) changes in the total human environment can outpace evolutionary change
The author says some frailties had **adaptive origins** but are **presently maladaptive**. A trait that once helped survival can only become harmful if the environment has changed faster than evolution could respond. So the author assumes that environmental change can **outpace** evolutionary change. The other options make claims about evolutionary theory that the passage neither states nor needs.

21. Which of the following most probably provides an appropriate analogy from human morphology for the "details" versus "constraints" distinction made in the passage in relation to human behaviour?

✓ E) The greater lung capacity of mountain peoples that helps them live in oxygen-poor air as against people's inability to fly without special apparatus.

In the passage, **details** are variable features shaped by circumstances, while **constraints** are limits shared by all humans. The greater lung capacity of mountain peoples is a local adaptation (a detail). The inability of all people to fly unaided is a universal biological limit (a constraint). The other pairs either deal with behaviour or psychology rather than morphology, or contrast two abilities that are not universal limits.

22. We may infer from the passage that scale would not pose a major design problem at airports if _____.

✓ D) aircraft did not need so much space to manoeuvre on the ground

The passage defines the problem of scale as **how to allow adequate space on the ground for manoeuvring widebody jets** while moving passengers quickly. If aircraft needed less space to manoeuvre, this conflict would largely disappear. Not 'airports were larger': bigger airports would make passenger movement slower and less convenient, which is part of the problem.

23. According to the passage, the linear plan would probably be best at _____.

✓ D) an airport with only a few arrivals or departures

The linear plan **works well for small airports that need to provide boarding areas for only a few aircraft at a time**. It suits an airport with few arrivals and departures. Not 'an airport used by many small aircraft': the key point is the small number of planes, not their size.

24. It's implied in the passage that the term “satellite plan” is used because _____.

✓ E) small terminals encircle the main terminal like satellites around a planet

In this plan, passengers board from **small terminals that are separated from the main terminals**. The small terminals stand around the main building like satellites around a planet, which explains the name. The options about space and weather satellites take the word too literally.

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