ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Short Advanced Reading Comprehension Test 8 With MCQs and Answers

English Reading Passages Tests · 24 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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Explanations

1. **The Iditarod dog sled race is known as the world's _____ race.**
   ✓ **B) longest**
   The first paragraph says the huskies go on **what may be the world's longest race**. The passage does not say the race is the worst or the fastest, or that it has the biggest prize.

2. **The people in Anchorage _____.**
   ✓ **C) make a big event out of the race**
   The race starts in downtown Anchorage, and the announcer's voice 'booms over the streets'. This shows the city turns the start into a **big event**. Nothing in the passage says people dislike the race or want it moved.

3. **If each sled has a two-minute starting slot, how many minutes will it take for all 56 sleds to start the race?**
   ✓ **B) 112 minutes.**
   Each of the 56 sleds has its own two-minute slot, so the total time is 56 × 2 = **112 minutes**. Not 110, because that would leave out the slot of one sled.

4. **The job of the 17th man is _____.**
   ✓ **C) to ride along as a novice guest**
   The passage says the 16 crew members sail the boat and **the 17th person on the boat is a novice**. A contest decided **who could ride along**. So the 17th man does not sail or steer the boat. He just rides along as a guest with the expert crew.

5. **George Ellison will be _____.**
   ✓ **D) the 17th man on America True**
   The passage says **Ellison won a seat on America True**, and that seat is the **17th-man position**. He is not one of the 16 crew members, and he did not win the race.

6. **To get the 17th man spot on America One, you have to _____.**
   ✓ **A) enter a contest**
   The passage says **A contest was held to see who could ride along on the boats**, so the 17th man is chosen through a contest. Not 'be an expert sailor', because the 17th person is a **novice**.

7. **The letters MIS stood for _____.**
   ✓ **B) Military Intelligence Service**
   The passage says some young men 'joined the US **Military Intelligence Service** or MIS'. The other options change one of the words.

8. **The writer hopes that a new movie won't _____.**
   ✓ **D) plant seeds of racism**
   The last sentence hopes the films 'will not cause people to **hate** Japanese Americans or any other race'. In other words, the writer hopes they won't **plant seeds of racism**. Not 'cause anger toward Americans', because the worry is about hatred of Japanese Americans.

9. **The MIS finally received recognition _____.**
   ✓ **D) in the year 2000**
   The passage says 'The MIS never got awards for their efforts until **the year 2000**'. Not 'fifty years later', because the text says it took **almost sixty years**.

10. **A tax break for the donor and a home for the needy add up to _____.**
    ✓ **D) a good deal for everyone**
    The passage says donors **receive tax breaks** and **a needy family gets a cheap home**. Both sides gain, so it is **a good deal for everyone** (a win-win situation). Not 'a big dilemma', because the only problem mentioned is deciding how to give the houses away.

11. **Some builders are willing to donate houses in _____.**
    ✓ **C) perfect condition**
    The passage says 'Luiz knows other builders who will give away houses in **perfect condition**'.

12. **For a few decades, East Palo Alto has been _____.**
    ✓ **D) an island of difficulty in a world of affluence**
    The passage says East Palo Alto **is close to rich cities** but **has had problems with poverty and drugs**. It is a poor, troubled place surrounded by wealth: **an island of difficulty in a world of affluence**. Not 'robbery capital', because the passage calls it the **murder capital**.

13. **When did Michael Schwabe say goodbye to the gas pump?**
    ✓ **C) Two years ago.**
    The first sentence says Schwabe 'said goodbye to the gas pump **two years ago**'.

14. **Approximately how many electric cars are now on California roads?**
    ✓ **B) 2,000**
    The passage says 'On California roads, there are about **two thousand** electric cars'.

15. What do automakers blame for there being few electric cars now on the road?
✓ **D) The batteries.**
The passage says 'Automakers blame it on the **batteries**': power runs out after about 70 miles, and batteries are expensive. Not 'the mandate', because automakers criticise the mandate as too early but blame the batteries for the problem.

16. Why were rival prison gangs forced into a common exercise yard?
✓ **D) The guards wanted to watch them fight.**
The first sentence says the guards put rival gangs 'into the same exercise yard **to watch them fight**'.

17. Why is the California Department of Corrections spending one million dollars to defend the eight guards?
✓ **B) As a sign of support for other guards.**
The passage says the Department 'will spend one million dollars to **defend** the guards'. Paying for the guards' defence shows the Department stands behind its staff, so it is **a sign of support**. Not 'to pay for the investigation', because the investigation was done by the FBI, and the money is for the guards' defence.

18. Many people believe prisoner abuse is _____.
✓ **C) a form of torture and inhuman treatment**
Shooting inmates and making them fight for the guards' entertainment is seen by many people as **torture and inhuman treatment**. The guards were even charged with civil rights abuses. Not 'allowed by the law', because the charges show it is illegal.

19. The Napster site had been offering _____.
✓ **C) free music-swapping**
Napster **lets users copy music**, and millions **have enjoyed copyrighted music without paying a fee**. So it offered **free music-swapping**. Not 'free albums', because users copied songs from each other and did not receive albums.

20. The latest court ruling was from the _____.
✓ **B) Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals**
After the lower court's decision, 'the case was taken to the **Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals**', a higher court. That is the latest ruling. The Supreme Court is only a possible next step.

21. Napster may decide to _____.
✓ **D) petition the U.S. Supreme Court**
The passage says 'Fanning may **appeal** to the U.S. Supreme Court'. To appeal means to **petition** a higher court to change a decision. Not 'go out of business': an injunction might shut Napster down, but that would be the court's decision, not Napster's.

22. As we understand from the passage, the Amazon River _____.
✓ **A) is the second-longest river on the Earth**
The passage says **next to the Nile, it is the longest river in the world**, so the Amazon is the **second-longest** river. Not 'has a surface full of animals', because the snakes, eels and piranhas are **under the surface**.

23. The passage most likely appeared in _____.
✓ **B) a travel guidebook**
The passage gives simple, interesting facts about a river, its wildlife and how local people live, as a **travel guidebook** would. It is not about marine (sea) species, and it is not literature or advice.

24. In this passage, the purpose of the author is _____.
✓ **C) to inform the reader about the Amazon River and its surrounding ecosystem**
The writer gives facts about the river (its size, length and route) and the life in and around it (jungle, fish, alligators, villages on rafts). The aim is to **inform** the reader about the Amazon River and its **ecosystem**. Not 'to compare the rivers in the world', because other rivers are mentioned only once.

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