CAMBRIDGE IELTS 9 - TEST 1 - READING

READING PASSAGE 1

Question 1-7:

1. FALSE (para 2, line 3-4: “chemistry. His talent and devotion to the subject were perceived by his teacher, Thomas Hall”)

2. NOT GIVEN

3. FALSE (para 3, line 4-7: “Wilhelm Hofmann. Perkin’s scientific gifts soon caught Hofmann’s attention and, within two years, he became Hofmann’s youngest assistant”)

4. TRUE (para 3, last 4 lines: “Hofmann’s youngest assistant. Not long after that, Perkin made the scientific breakthrough that would bring him both fame and fortune.”)

5. NOT GIVEN

6. TRUE (para 5, line 3-6: “top floor of his family’s house. He was attempting to manufacture quinine from aniline, an inexpensive and readily available coal tar waste product. Despite”)

7. NOT GIVEN

Question 8-13:

8. (the/only) rich (para 7, line 6-9: “expensive. Indeed, the purple colour extracted from a snail was once so costly that in society at the time only the rich could afford it”)

9. commercial (possibilities) (para 8, last 5 lines: “in patenting it. But perhaps the most fascinating of all Perkin’s reactions to his find was his nearly instant recognition that the new dye had commercial possibilities.”)

10. mauve (para 9, first 4 lines: “Perkin originally named his dye Tyrian Purple, but it later became commonly known as mauve (from the French for the plant used to make the colour violet”)

11. (Robert ) Pullar (para 9, line 5-13: “He asked advice of Scottish dye works owner Robert Pullar, who assured him that manufacturing the dye would be well worth it if the colour remained fast (i.e. would not fade) and the cost objections of his mentor Hofmann, he left college to give birth to the modern chemical industry.”)
12. France (para 10, line 8-13: “in 1857. The company received a commercial boost from the Empress Eugénie of France, when she decided the new colour flattered her. Very soon, mauve was the necessary shade for all the fashionable ladies in that country”)

13. Malaria (para 11, last 4 lines: “play a crucial role today. And, in what would have been particularly pleasing to Perkin, their current use is in the search for a vaccine against malaria. “)

READING PASSAGE 2

Question 14-17:

14. iv (para B, line 5-8: “emerges in the future]. Second, we make a very conservative assumption that we are looking for a life form that is pretty well like us, since if it differs radically from us we may well not recognise it as a life form, quite apart from whether we are able to communicate with it. In other words, the life form we are looking for may well have two green heads”)

15. vii (para C, first 3 lines: “Even when we make these assumptions, our understanding of other life forms is still severely limited. We do not even know, for example, how many stars have planets, and we certainly do not know how likely it is that life will arise naturally, given the right conditions”)

16. i (para D, line 3-6: “while traversing the vast distances across the galaxy. It turns out that, for a given amount of transmitted power, radio waves in the frequency range 1000 to 3000 MHZ travel the greatest distance, and so all searches to date have concentrated on looking for radio waves in this frequency range. So far there have been a number of searches by various groups”)

17. ii (para E, first 2 lines: “There is considerable debate over how we should react if we detect a signal from an alien civilisation. Everybody agrees that we should not reply immediately. Quite apart from the”)

2
Question 18-20:

18. several billion years (para A, line 11-12: “tenuous. Will we last another two thousand years or will we wipe ourselves out? Since the lifetime of a planet like ours is several billion years, we can expect that, if other civilisations”)

19. radio (waves/signals) para A, line 5-6: “we see around us on the planet. The simple detection of a radio signal will be sufficient to answer this most basic of all questions. In this sense, SETI is another cog in the machinery”)

20. 1000 (stars) (para D, line 15-16: “in France. This part of the project is searching the nearest 1000 likely stars with high sensitivity for signals in the frequency range 1000 to 3000 MHz. The other part of the”)

Question 21-26:

21. YES (para A, last 5 lines: “other civilisation that we hear from is likely to be far older, on average, than ourselves. The mere existence of such a civilisation will tell us that long-term survival is possible, and gives us some cause for optimism. It is even possible that the older civilisation may pass on the benefits of their experience in dealing with threats to survival such as nuclear war and global pollution, and other threats that we haven’t yet discovered”)

22. YES (para B, last 4 lines: “with it. In other words, the life form we are looking for may well have two green heads and seven fingers, but it will nevertheless resemble us in that it should communicate with its fellows, be interested in the Universe, live on a planet orbiting a star like our Sun, and perhaps most restrictively, have a chemistry, like us, based on carbon and water”)

23. NOT GIVEN
24. NO (para D, line 8-9: “South Wales. Until now there have not been any detections from the few hundred stars which have been searched. The scale of the searches has been increased dramatically since”)

25. NOT GIVEN
26. NO (para E, first 2 lines: “There is considerable debate over how we should react if we detect a signal from an alien civilisation. Everybody agrees that we should not reply immediately. Quite apart from the”)

3
READING PASSAGE 3

Question 27-30:

27. Plants (para 1, last 4 lines: “spiders and various worms. And we mustn’t forget the plants, without Whose prior invasion of the land none of the other migrations could have happened”)

28. breathing & reproduction (para 2, first 3 lines: “Moving from water to land involved a major redesign of every aspect of life, including breathing and reproduction”)

29. gills (para 2, line 19-21: “still breathe air, having never developed anything equivalent to the gills of their earlier marine incarnation. Turtles went”)

30. dolphins (para 3, line 13-17: “it’s obvious. Ichthyosaurs were reptilian contemporaries of the dinosaurs, with fins and streamlined bodies. The fossils look like dolphins and they surely lived like dolphins, in the water. With turtles it is a little”)

Question 31-33:

31. NOT GIVEN

32. FALSE (para 3, line 9-13: “turtles and tortoises. You might wonder how we can tell whether fossil animals lived on land or in water, especially if only fragments are found. Sometimes it’s obvious. Ichthyosaurs were reptilian”)

33. TRUE (para 3, line 13-17: “it’s obvious. Ichthyosaurs were reptilian contemporaries of the dinosaurs, with fins and streamlined bodies. The fossils look like dolphins and they surely lived like dolphins, in the water. With turtles it is a little”)

Question 34-39:

34. Three measurements

35. (triangle) graph

36. Cluster

(para 4, line 4-8: “of 71 species of living turtles and tortoises. They used a kind of triangular graph paper to plot the three measurements against one another. All the land tortoise species formed a tight cluster of points in the upper”)

37. Amphibious
38. Half way
   (para 4, line 11-15: “graph. There was no overlap, except when they added some species that spend time both in water and on land. Sure enough, these amphibious species show up on the triangular graph approximately half way”)

39. Dry-land tortoise (para 4, line 19-23: “fell. The bones of P. quenstedti and P. talampayensis leave us in no doubt. Their points on the graph are right in the thick of the dry cluster. Both these fossils were dry-land tortoises. They come from the era”)

Question 40: D (para 6, first 2 lines: “Tortoises therefore represent a remarkable double return. In common”)