

CAMBRIDGE IELTS 5 - TEST 2 - READING

READING PASSAGE 1

Question 1-3:

1. 'candlewax' (para 2, line 4-5: "constituents of coal or oil. Some are 'thermoplastic', which means that, like candlewax, they melt when heated and can then be reshaped. Others are 'thermosetting': like eggs, they")
2. 'synthetic' (para 2, last 2 lines: "cannot revert to their original viscous state, and their shape is thus fixed for ever. Bakelite had the distinction of being the first totally synthetic thermosetting plastic.")
3. 'chemistry' (para 3, line 2-4: "thermoplastic materials in the mid-nineteenth century. The impetus behind the development of these early plastics was generated by a number of factors - immense technological progress in the domain of chemistry, coupled with wider cultural changes, and the pragmatic")

Question 4-8:

4. 'Novalak' (para 5, line 2-3: "(from wood or coal) were initially combined under vacuum inside a large egg-shaped kettle. The result was a resin known as Novalak, which became soluble and malleable when heated")
5. 'fillers' (para 5, line 5-6: "ground into powder. Other substances were then introduced: including fillers, such as woodflour, asbestos or cotton, which increase strength and moisture resistance, catalysts")
6. 'hexa' (para 5, line 7-8: "substances to speed up the reaction between two chemicals without joining to either) and hexa, a compound of ammonia and formaldehyde which supplied the additional")
7. 'raw' (para 5, line 9-10: "formaldehyde necessary to form a thermosetting resin. This resin was then left to cool and harden, and ground up a second time. The resulting granular powder was raw Bakelite, ready")
8. 'pressure' (para 5, last 2 lines: "was poured into a hollow mould of the required shape and subjected to extreme heat and pressure, thereby 'setting' its form for life")

Question 9-10:

9. B (para 6, line 2-4: “large extent by the technical requirements of the moulding process. The object could not be designed so that it was locked into the mould and therefore difficult to extract. A common general rule was that objects should taper towards the deepest part of the mould, and if”)
10. C (para 6, line 5-6: “necessary the product was moulded in separate pieces. Moulds had to be carefully designed so that the molten Bakelite would flow evenly and completely into the mould. Sharp corners”)

Question 11-13:

11. TRUE (para 4, last 3 lines: “making possible its preparation on a commercial basis. On 13 July 1907, Baekeland took out his famous patent describing this preparation, the essential features of which are still in use today”)
12. FALSE (para 7, first 2 lines: “Baekeland’s invention, although treated with disdain in its early years, went on to enjoy an unparalleled popularity which lasted throughout the first half of the twentieth century. It”)
13. FALSE (para 7, line 5-8: “promoted as being germ-free and sterilisable. Electrical manufacturers seized on its insulating properties, and consumers everywhere relished its dazzling array of shades, delighted that they were now, at last, no longer restricted to the wood tones and drab browns of the pre- plastic era. It then fell from favour again during the 1950s, and was despised and destroyed”)

READING PASSAGE 2

Question 14-20:

14. FALSE (para 1, last 3 lines: “punchline is silly yet fitting, tempting e smile, even a laugh. Laughter has always struck people as deeply mysterious, perhaps pointless. The writer Arthur Koestler dubbed it the luxury reflex: ‘unique in that it serves no apparent biological purpose’)
15. NOT GIVEN
16. TRUE (para 2, line 2-4: “simply a delighted feeling of superiority over others. Kant and Freud felt that joke-telling relies on building up a psychic tension which is safely

punctured by the ludicrousness of the punchline. But most modern humour theorists have settled on some version of”)

17. FALSE (para 2, line 4-5: “the punchline. But most modern humour theorists have settled on some version of Aristotle's belief that jokes are based on a reaction to or resolution of incongruity, when the”)
18. TRUE (para 4: “So even if a punchline sounds silly, the listener can see there is a clever semantic fit and that sudden mental ‘Aha!’ is the buzz that makes us laugh. Viewed from this angle, humour is just a form of creative insight, a sudden leap to a new perspective.”)
19. NOT GIVEN
20. TRUE (para 5, line 4-5: “Chimpanzees have a ‘play-face’- a gaping expression accompanied by a panting ‘ah, ah’ noise. In humans, these signals have mutated into smiles and laughs. Researchers believe”)

Question 21-23:

21. ‘problem solving’
22. ‘temporal lobes’
23. ‘evaluating information’

(para 8, line 3-8: “scans showed that at the beginning of a joke the listener's prefrontal cortex lit up. particularly the right prefrontal believed to be critical for problem solving. But there was also activity in the temporal lobes at the side of the head (consistent with attempts to rouse stored knowledge) and in many other brain areas. Then when the punchline arrived, a new area sprang to life — the orbital prefrontal cortex. This patch of brain tucked behind the orbits of the eyes is associated with evaluating information.”)

Question 24-27:

24. C (para 9, first 2 lines: “Making a rapid emotional assessment of the events of the moment is an extremely demanding job for the brain, animal or human. Energy and arousal levels may need to be”)
25. A (para 10, line 2-4: “external events, but humans, who have developed e much more complicated internal life as a result of language, respond emotionally not only to their surroundings, but to their own thoughts. Whenever a sought-for answer snaps into place, there is a shudder of”)
26. F (para 10, the last line: “can be so fine. Whether a joke gives pleasure or pain depends on a person's outlook.”)

27. D (para 11, last 4 lines: “Peter Derks, a psychologist at William and Mary College in Virginia, says: ‘I like to think of humour as the distorted mirror of the mind. It’s creative, perceptual, analytical and lingual. If we can figure out how the mind processes humour, then we’ll have a pretty good handle on how it works in general.’”)

READING PASSAGE 3

Question 28-34:

28. ‘Latin’ (para 1, last 5 lines: “surprising that no one really knew how to write science in English before the 17th century. Before that, Latin was regarded as the lingua franca for European intellectuals.”)
29. ‘doctors’ (para 5, line 13-28: “science and commercial exploitation. There was something of a social distinction between ‘scholars and gentlemen’ who understood Latin, and men of trade who lacked a classical education. And in the mid-17th century it was common practice for mathematicians to keep their discoveries and proofs secret, by writing them in cipher, in obscure languages, or in private messages deposited in a sealed box with the Royal Society. Some scientists might have felt more comfortable with Latin precisely because its audience, though international, was socially restricted. Doctors clung the most keenly to Latin as an ‘insider language’.”)
30. ‘technical vocabulary’
31. ‘grammatical resources’
(para 7, line 5-8: “English was not well equipped to deal with scientific argument. First, it lacked the necessary technical vocabulary. Second, it lacked the grammatical resources required”)
32. ‘Royal Society’ (para 3, line 5-8: “interests in language — John Wallis and John Wilkins — helped found the Royal Society in 1660 in order to promote empirical scientific research.”)
33. ‘German’ (para 10, line 3-6: “English. In the following century much of this momentum was lost as German established itself as the leading European language of science. It is estimated that by”)

34. 'industrial revolution' (para 10, last 7 lines: "England. However, in the 19th century scientific English again enjoyed substantial lexical growth as the industrial revolution created the need for new technical vocabulary, and new, specialised, professional societies were instituted to promote and publish in the new disciplines.")

Question 35-37:

35. NOT GIVEN

36. FALSE (para 2, line 12-16: "to India, was supported by scientific developments such as the discovery at magnetism (and hence the invention of the compass), improvements in cartography and — perhaps the most important scientific")

37. TRUE (para 8, line 4-10: "projects. Although a proposal in 1664 to establish a committee for improving the English language came to little, the society's members did a great deal to foster the publication of science in English and to encourage the development of a suitable writing style. Many members of")

Question 38-40:

38. 'popular' (para 4, line 3-9: "traditions of science. In the initial stages of the scientific revolution, most publications in the national languages were popular works, encyclopaedias, educational textbooks and translations. Original science was not done in English until the second half of the 17th century. For example")

39. 'Principia'/'the Principia'/'Newton's Principia'/'mathematical treatise' (para 4, last 5 lines: "half of the 17th century. For example, Newton published his mathematical treatise, known as the Principia, in Latin, but published his later work on the properties of light - Opticks - in English.")

40. 'local'/'more local'/'local audience' (para 5, last 5 lines: "Latin was suitable for an international audience at scholars, whereas English reached a socially wider, but more local, audience. Hence, popular science was written in English")