CAMBRIDGE IELTS 5 - TEST 3 - READING

READING PASSAGE 1

Question 1-4:
1. D (part D, para 1, last 7 lines: “The Four-year pilot study included 380 Families who were about to have their First child and who represented a cross-section of socio-economic status, age and Family configurations. They included single-parent and two-parent Families, Families in which both parents worked, and families with either the mother or father at home.”)

2. B (part B, para 1, line 2-6: “at Harvard University has shown that, by the age at three, most children have the potential to understand about 1000 words — most of the language they will use in ordinary conversation for the rest of their lives.”)
   Para 2, line 2-8: “every child is born with a natural curiosity, it can be suppressed dramatically during the second and third years of life. Researchers claim that the human personality is formed during the first two years of life, and during the first three years children learn the basic skills they will use in all their later learning both at home and at school”)

3. C (part C, para 2, line 2-9: “disappointing. It is thought that there are two explanations for this. First, the programme began too late. Many children who entered it at the age of three were already behind their peers in language and measurable intelligence. Second, the parents were not involved. At the end of each day, ‘Headstart’ children returned to their some disadvantaged home environment”)

4. E (part E, para 1, last 5 lines: “further along in social development. In fact, the average child on the programme was performing at the level of the top 15 to 20 percent of their peers in such things as auditory comprehension, verbal ability and language ability”) 

Question 5-10:
5. B (part D, para 1, line 12-14: “The Four-year pilot study included 380 Families who were about to have their First child and who represented a cross-section of socio-economic status, age and Family configurations. They”)

6. D

7. A (part C, para 2, first 2 lines: “Despite substantial funding, results have been disappointing. It is thought that there are two”)
8. B (part D, para 2, first 3 lines: “The programme involved trained parent-educators visiting the parents’ home and working with the parent, or parents, and the child.)

Part D, para 3, first 4 lines: “Parent-educators made personal visits to homes and monthly group meetings were held with other new parents to share experience and discuss topics of interest. Parent resource centres”)

9. D

10. C (part C, para 1, last 4 lines: “money was poured into it. It took children into pro-school institutions at the age of three and was supposed to help the children of poorer families succeed in school.”)

Question 11-13:

11. TRUE (part E, para 1, line 6-12: ‘random sample at children that age. The results were phenomenal. By the age of three, the children in the programme were significantly more advanced in language development than their Peers, had made greater strides in problem solving and other intellectual skills, and were further along in social development. In fact, the”)

12. FALSE (part E, para 2, first 5 lines: “Most important at all, tie traditional measures at ‘risk’, such as parents’ age and education, or whether they were a single parent, bore little or no relationship to the measures at achievement and language development. Children in the”)

13. NOT GIVEN

READING PASSAGE 2

Question 14-17:

14. iv (part B, first 4 lines: “B Up to now, people have blamed this loss of delta land on the two large dams at Aswan in the south of Egypt, which hold back virtually all of the sediment that used to flow down the river”)

15. i (part D, first 7 lines: “Once north of Cairo, most of the Nile water is diverted into more than 10,000 kilometres of irrigation canals and only a small proportion reaches the sea directly through the rivers in the delta. The water in the irrigation canals is still or very slow-moving and thus cannot carry sediment, Stanley explains. The sediment sinks to”)

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16. v (part E, para 2, last 7 lines: “dramatically. These poisons can easily enter the load chain, affecting the productivity of fishing and farming. Another problem is that agricultural wastes include fertilizers which stimulate increases in plant growth in the lagoons and upset the ecology of the area, with serious effects on the fishing industry”)

17. viii (part F, first 7 lines: “According to Siegel, international environmental organisations are beginning to pay closer attention to the region, partly because of the problems of erosion and pollution of the Nile delta, but principally because they fear the impact this situation could have on the whole Mediterranean coastal ecosystem. But there”)

Question 18-23:
18. YES (part A: “The fertile land of the Nile delta is being eroded along Egypt's Mediterranean coast at an astounding rate, in some parts estimated at 100 metres per year. In the past, land scoured away from the coastline by the currents of the Mediterranean Sea used to be replaced by sediment brought dawn to the delta by the River Nile, but this is no longer happening.”)

19. NOT GIVEN
20. NO (part B, last 9 lines: “area But when the Aswan dams were constructed in the 20th century to provide electricity and irrigation, and to protect the huge population centre of Cairo and its surrounding areas from annual flooding and drought, most of the sediment with its natural fertilizer accumulated up above the dam in the southern, upstream half of Lake Nasser, instead of passing down to the delta.”)

21. YES (part C, line 6-11: “of the Smithsonian Institute noticed that water samples taken in Cairo, just before the river enters the delta, indicated that the river sometimes carries more than 850 grams of sediment per cubic metre of water - almost half of what it carried before the dams were built.”)

22. NOT GIVEN
23. YES (part D, line 7-10: “sediment, Stanley explains. The sediment sinks to the bottom of the canals and then is added to fields by farmers or pumped with the water into the tour large freshwater lagoons that are”)

Question 24-26:
24. F- ‘pollutants’ (part E, para 1, line 3-8: “Egypt's Food supply. But by the time the sediment has come to rest in the fields and lagoons it is laden with municipal, industrial and agricultural waste from the Cairo region, which is home to more than 40 million people. ‘Pollutants are building up faster and luster,’ says Stanley.”)
25. A – artificial flood (part F, line 8-10: “are no easy solutions. In the immediate future, Stanley believes that one solution would be to make artificial Hoods to flush out the delta”)

26. B – desalination (part F, line 13-15: “however, that in the long term an alternative process such as desalination may have to be used to increase the amount of water available”)

READING PASSAGE 3

Question 27-31:

27. E (para E, line 3-5: “powerful and promising approach ever discovered. HNC claim that their system, based on a cluster of 30 processors, could be used to spot camouflaged vehicles on a battlefield or extract a voice signal from a noisy background — tasks humans can do well, but computers cannot.”)

28. B (para B, line 3-5: “Newell, all of whom went on to become leading figures in the field. The expression provided an attractive but informative name for a research programme that encompassed such previously disparate fields as operations research, cybernetics, logic and computer science”)

29. A (para A, line 4-8: “release of AI, a movie about robot boy. This has ignited public debate about AI, but the term is also being used once more within computer industry. Researchers, executives and marketing people are now using the expression without irony or inverted commas. And it is not always hype. The term is being applied, with”)

30. F (para F, line 3-6: “differentiate themselves. In particular, the problem of information overload, exacerbated by the growth of e-mail and the explosion in the number of web pages, means there are plenty of opportunities for new technologies to help filter and categorise information — classic AI problems. That may mean that more artificial intelligence companies will start to emerge to”)

31. B (para B, first 3 lines: “The field was launched, and the term ‘artificial intelligence’ coined, at a conference in 1956 by a group of researchers that included Marvin Minsky, john McCarthy. Herbert Simon and Alan Newell, all of whom went on to become leading figures in the field. The expression provided an”)

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Question 32-37:

32. NOT GIVEN
33. FALSE (para A, line 2-3: “seems poised to make a comeback Al was big in the 198Os but vanished in the 1990s. It re-entered public consciousness with the”)

34. NOT GIVEN
35. TRUE (para C, first 2 lines: “Most researchers agree that Al peaked around 1985. A public reared on science-fiction movies and excited by the growing power of computers had high expectations. For years,”)

36. FALSE (para C, line 3-5: “Al researchers had implied that a breakthrough was just around the corner. Marvin Minsky said in 1967 that within a generation the problem of creating ‘artificial intelligence’ would be substantially solved. Prototypes of medical-diagnosis programs and speech recognition software”)

37. TRUE (para G, first 4 lines: “The 1969 film 2001: A Space Odyssey, featured an intelligent computer called HAL 9000. As well as understanding and speaking English, HAL could play chess and even learned to lipread. HAL thus encapsulated the optimism of the 1960s that intelligent computers would be widespread by 2001. But 2001 has been and gone, and there is still no sign of a HAL-like”)

Question 38-40:

38. B (para C, last 3 lines: “these were hard problems, there was retrenchment. By the late 1980s, the term Al was being avoided by many researchers, who opted instead to align themselves with specific sub-disciplines such as neural networks, agent technology case-based reasoning, and so on”)

39. A (para D, last 4 lines: “Researchers joked that AI stood for ‘almost implemented’. Meanwhile, the technologies that made it onto the market, such as speech recognition, language translation and decision-support software, were no longer regarded as AI. Yet all three once fell well within the umbrella of AI research.”)

40. D (para F, first 3 lines: “F Another factor that may boost the prospects for AI in the near future is that investors are now looking for firms using clever technology, rather than just a clever business model, to differentiate themselves. In particular, the problem of information overload, exacerbated by the”)

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