

CAMBRIDGE IELTS 8 - TEST 3 – READING

READING PASSAGE 1

Question 1-3:

1. D
2. A (elimination method)
3. A (para 3, line 6-8: “University of Florida, with support from the Electrical Power Research Institute [EPRI], based in California. EPRI, which is funded by power companies, is looking at ways to protect the United States”
para 5, line 3-4: “of the University of New Mexico. Diels is leading a project, which is backed by EPRI, to try to use lasers to discharge lightning safely”)

Question 4-6:

4. power companies (para 3, line 7-8: “Institute [EPRI], based in California. EPRI, which is funded by **power companies**, is looking at ways to protect the United States]
5. safely (para 5, line 4-5: “backed by EPRI, to try to use lasers to discharge lightning **safely** and safety is a basic requirement since no one wants to put themselves”)
6. size (para 7, line 2-3: “portable: it’s a monster that takes up a whole room. Diels is trying to cut down the **size** and says that a laser around the size of a small table is in the offing”)

Question 7-10:

7. B – atoms
8. C – storms clouds
(para 6, line 2-4: “revealing their ability to extract electrons out of atoms and create ions. If a laser could generate a line of ionisation in the air all the way up to a storm cloud, this conducting path could be used to guide”)
9. G – rockets (para 5, first 3 lines: “And anyway, who would want to fire streams of rockets in a populated area? ‘What goes up must come down,’ points out Jean-Claude Diels of the University of New Mexico.”)

10. D – mirrors (para 6, line 8-9: “Instead it would be directed at a mirror, and from there into the sky. The mirror would be protected by placing lightning conductors close by.”)

Question 11-13:

11. NO (para 8, line 2-3: “the power companies. But they have not yet come up with the \$5 million that EPRI says will be needed to develop a commercial system”)
12. YES (para 8, line 5-6: “money yet, but I’m working on it,’ says Bernstein. He reckons that the forthcoming field tests will be the turning point — and he’s hoping for good news”)
13. NOT GIVEN

READING PASSAGE 2

Question 14-18:

14. B (para 2, line 5-6: “in another, that intellectuals are impractical, that prodigies burn too brightly too soon and burn out”)
15. C (para 2, line 12-13: “unrewarded, that adversity makes men wise or that people with gift have responsibility to use them”)
16. F (para 2, line 8: “and madness, that genius runs in family...”)
17. H (para 2, line 11-12: “mathematical than others, that genius goes unrecognized and unrewarded”)
18. J (para 2, line 8-9: “and madness, that genius runs in family, that gifted are so clever they don’t need special help”)

Question 19-26:

19. TRUE (para 3, line 12-15: “call norm-referenced. In other words, then, for instance, information is collated about early illnesses, methods of upbringing, schooling, etc. we must also take into account information from the other historical sources about how common or exceptional these were at the time.”)

20. TRUE (para 3, last 3 lines: of paediatrics and psychology in the twentieth century that studies could be carried out on a more objective, if still not always very scientific, basis.”)
21. FALSE (para 4, line 9-10: “Dr Samuel Johnson’s observation, ‘The true genius is a mind of large general powers, accidentally determined to some particular direction”)
22. TRUE (para 5, first 3 lines: What we appreciate, enjoy or marvel at in the works of genius or the achievements of prodigies are the manifestations of skills or abilities which are similar to, but so much superior to, our own”)
23. TRUE (para 5, line 5-9: “the fact that the hard-won discoveries of scientists like Kepler or Einstein **become the commonplace knowledge of schoolchildren** ... soon appear on the fabrics we wear. **This does not minimize the supremacy of their achievements**”)
24. NOT GIVEN
25. TRUE (para 6, line 8-12: “unpalatable. We may envy their achievements and fame, but we should also recognise the price they may have paid in terms of perseverance, single-mindedness, dedication, restrictions on their personal lives”)
26. NOT GIVEN

READING PASSAGE 3

Question 27-32:

27. ix (para B, line 2-7: “‘older’. Ageing in this case must occur according to the laws of physical chemistry and of thermodynamics. Although the same law holds for a living organism, the result of this law is not inexorable in the same way. At least as long as a biological system has the ability to renew itself it could actually become older without ageing”)
28. ii (para C, line 4-7: “system to age and die. Nevertheless, a restricted life span, ageing, and then death are basic characteristics of life. The reason for this is easy to recognise: in nature, the existent organisms either adapt or are regularly replaced by new types”)

29. vii (para D, line 4-8: “constant. For example, the average duration of human life has hardly changed in thousands of years. Although more and more people attain an advanced age as a result of developments in medical care and better nutrition, the characteristic upper limit for most remains 80 years”)
30. i (para E, first 3 lines: “If a life span is a genetically determined biological characteristic, it is logically necessary to propose the existence of an internal clock, which in some way measures”)
31. viii (para F, line 5-10: “captivity. Animals which save energy by hibernation or lethargy (e.g. bats or hedgehogs) live much longer than those which are always active. The metabolic rate of mice can be reduced by a very low consumption of food (hunger diet). They then may live twice as long as their well fed comrades. Women become distinctly (about 10 per cent) older than men”)
32. iv (para G, first 2 lines: “It follows from the above that sparing use of energy reserves should tend to extend life. Extreme high performance sports”)

Question 33-36:

33. physical chemistry
34. thermodynamics
(para B, line 4-5: “Ageing in this case must occur according to the laws of **physical chemistry** and of **thermodynamics**. Although the”)
35. adapt (para C, line 9-10: “characteristics and in the course of their individual lives they are tested for optimal or **better adaptation** to the environmental conditions”)
36. Immortality (para C, last 3 lines: “conditions. Immortality would disturb this system — it needs room for new and better life. This is the basic problem of evolution”)

Question 37-40:

37. NO (para D, last 4 lines: “the simple wear and tear theory is the observation that the time within which organisms age lies between a few days (even a few hours for unicellular organisms) and several thousand years, as with mammoth trees.”)
38. YES (para B, line 7-9: “is not inexorable in the same way. At least as long as a biological system has the ability to renew itself it could actually become older without ageing”)
39. NOT GIVEN

40. YES (para G, first 2 lines: “It follows from the above that sparing use of energy reserves should tend to extend life. Extreme high performance sports”)