

BOOKLET 7Reading ComprehensionDirections

This is a test to see how well you understand what you read. The test is made up of four stories with a number of questions on each. Read the first story and then answer the questions on it. Then go on to the second story and so on until you come to the end of Section C.

Each test item starts with a statement or question and then gives you four endings or answers. Pick the best ending or answer and blacken the space corresponding to the answer you have chosen on your answer card.

You may read the stories over again as much as you need to. Try each question in turn. If you don't know the answer, you may leave it and go on to the next. Come back to it later if you have time.

You should answer even if you aren't sure; however, do not guess blindly.

When you finish one story go ahead to the next. Keep on working until you reach the end of Section C. If there is any time left, go back and try to do any questions that you skipped the first time through.

Ernenek slipped out of his sleeping bag. On top of his clothes made of small auk's skins, with the feathers inside, he put on other clothes made of bear skin, with the fur on the outside, and pushed the trouser legs into his sealskin boots.

He came out of the narrow tunnel of the igloo on all-fours, pulling the half-asleep dog, who was the leader of the team, by its leash, while the other dogs followed yawning and shaking the rime off their thick fur. They clamoured for food by barking and showing their teeth which had been filed with stones so that they could not gnaw their bridles; they looked more like wolves than dogs with their pointed muzzles and their yellow, glowing eyes.

Ernenek iced the sledge runners, then he harnessed the dogs, unfastened the sledge anchor and climbed onto the sledge. Under the whip, the dogs formed out behind the leading dog, pulling on the traces, which attached them separately to the sledge and yelping behind the white clouds of vapour coming out of their mouths.

It was hot; the temperature must have been about 17 degrees below zero and Ernenek did not have to run behind the sledge to warm himself; he could remain sitting and enjoy the drive.

The icy ocean on which he travelled, frozen to a depth which exceeded a man's height and superficially covered with snow, bore the clear trace of the sledge of his friend who had started before him.

Ernenek did not turn to look at the solitary igloo he was leaving behind, a minute cute hump of ice at the top of the world.

1. Ernenek's dogs resembled wolves because they had
 - A. a very sharp sense of smell.
 - B. filed teeth and a small muzzle.
 - C. great strength to pull the sledge.
 - D. pointed muzzles and glowing eyes.

2. We can tell from the passage that auks are
 - A. animals like bears.
 - B. related to seals.
 - C. dogs that pull sledges.
 - D. birds.

3. The dogs' teeth had been filed with stones to make them
 - A. sharp.
 - B. clean.
 - C. smooth.
 - D. blunt.

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4. Why did Ernenek ice the runners of his sledge?
- A. to cool them off.
 - B. to make them slippery.
 - C. so he could harness the dogs.
 - D. to remove the dirt.
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5. In describing the dogs, the writer tries to make them seem
- A. brave.
 - B. strong.
 - C. well-trained.
 - D. savage.
6. In saying that Ernenek's igloo was "at the top of the world", the writer means that it was
- A. on the icy ocean.
 - B. near the North Pole.
 - C. far from any other home.
 - D. very small and unimportant.
7. We can tell from the fourth paragraph that
- A. it was a really hot day.
 - B. Ernenek hated to run.
 - C. Ernenek got cold easily.
 - D. Ernenek was used to very cold weather.

Paracutin was born in Mexico in February, 1943. At the end of one week, Paracutin was 500 feet high and it is now over 9,000 feet high. Today Paracutin is asleep.

What is Paracutin? It is the only volcano in the world which has been seen from its birth right up to the present day. On February 20, 1943, a peasant and his wife set out to work in their maize fields from the Mexican village of Paracutin. They were surprised to find the earth warm under their feet. Suddenly they heard noises deep in the earth and a small hollow appeared in their field. In the afternoon there was a sudden loud noise and stones were flung high in the air. The peasants ran from the field and turned to watch. They saw the birth of a volcano.

There were great bursts of stone and lava and a little hill began to form. By evening this hill was 100 feet high and hot ashes were falling on the village. At night the glare of the hot lava lit up the countryside. The trees near the village were killed and the villagers had to leave their houses. When the village was abandoned, its name was given to the volcano. The news quickly spread to Mexico City, far to the east. Many sightseers and scientists flocked to the scene. The volcano grew and grew for ten years and hundreds of square miles of forest were destroyed. Then Paracutin went to sleep. In spite of all the explosions, not one person was killed.

8. Paracutin was once the name of
 - A. a peasant.
 - B. a village.
 - C. an old mountain.
 - D. a Mexican.

9. What was destroyed in the eruption?
 - A. only a village.
 - B. the villagers living close by.
 - C. the forests and fields round Paracutin.
 - D. two peasants.

10. When the writer says that Paracutin "went to sleep", he means that it
 - A. flattened out.
 - B. stopped sending out ashes and lava.
 - C. will never be a volcano again.
 - D. got covered with grass and trees.

11. In this passage the author is trying to
 - A. describe an interesting happening.
 - B. explain a scientific theory.
 - C. make us believe something.
 - D. build up suspense.

12. Paracutin is now
- A. erupting.
 - B. temporarily inactive.
 - C. permanently dead.
 - D. flattened.
13. From the story, where does it appear that Paracutin is located?
- A. In eastern Mexico.
 - B. In western Mexico.
 - C. In northern Mexico.
 - D. In southern Mexico.
14. What can we learn about volcanoes from this passage?
- A. New volcanoes may appear in unexpected places.
 - B. There have always been volcanoes on the earth.
 - C. Volcanoes are active from time to time.
 - D. Volcanoes are active for only a few months.

During the present century, scientific study of man's surroundings and experience is commonly accepted as the desirable way to determine the truth or falsity of statements, opinions, or beliefs.

This was not always so. During past centuries there was much reliance on authority. The opinions expressed by persons in positions of authority and the written statements in approved documents were frequently accepted and taught as oracles of truth. Those questioning the accuracy or validity of these opinions were in grave danger. Many persons, later recognized as leading contributors to the progress of mankind, suffered torture, imprisonment, and even death because they dared to question beliefs or opinions which we now see to have been demonstrably false.

The scientific method emphasized the inductive rather than the deductive approach to the solution of problems. The inductive method is characterized by observations, measurement, definition, enumeration, classification, and the formulation of conclusions on the basis of objective evidence. On the other hand, authoritarianism utilized the deductive method, namely, reasoning from the major premise to a conclusion, without necessarily making explicit all the elements involved in the final statement or opinion.

In one sense authority and scientific method may be harmonized. It is conceivable that the major premises of an authority may be based on scientific studies which have produced demonstrable truths. Deductions made with these truths as major premises and with strict adherence to the principles of logic should be valid.

15. Scientific method has been encouraged
 - A. for many centuries.
 - B. continuously.
 - C. recently.
 - D. by authoritarians.

16. "Authority" as used in line 6 of the above article, means
 - A. traditional wisdom.
 - B. scientific analysis.
 - C. inductively determined fact.
 - D. superstition.

17. Deductive reasoning assumes the accuracy of
 - A. conclusions.
 - B. major premises.
 - C. facts.
 - D. a logical synthesis.

18. A central idea of the preceding article is that
- A. deductive methods are hard to apply.
 - B. science and logic are opposed.
 - C. facts and opinions are about the same thing.
 - D. scientific and authoritarian methods may complement each other.
19. Which of the four paragraphs is primarily concerned with comparison?
- A. 1st
 - B. 2nd
 - C. 3rd
 - D. 4th
20. Which of the four paragraphs is primarily concerned with synthesis?
- A. 1st
 - B. 2nd
 - C. 3rd
 - D. 4th

If you were to begin to enumerate the various uses of paper, you would find the list almost without end. Yet, there was a time when this familiar item was a precious rarity, when the sheet of paper you now toss into the wastebasket without thinking would have been purchased at a great price and carefully preserved. Indeed, for long centuries in man's history, paper was unknown. People wrote on specially prepared sheepskins or goatskins called parchment.

About twenty-two hundred years ago, the Chinese people discovered how to manufacture paper from wood pulp. Later the secret reached Europe. But for many years, the whole operation was done by hand. Imagine making paper by hand, sheet by sheet! It was a reasonably simple process, but it is easy to see why paper was used only by the wealthy.

The first machine for making paper was invented by a Frenchman named Louis Robert. It was a crude machine by today's standards. Many European and American inventors have since contributed to the development of the more efficient papermaking machines now in use. In our time, paper is used throughout the world.

21. A long time ago people used parchment to write on because
 - A. parchment lasted a long time.
 - B. paper was unknown.
 - C. paper tore too easily.
 - D. parchment could be prepared easily.
22. The process of making paper was first discovered by
 - A. an American.
 - B. the French.
 - C. the Chinese.
 - D. Louis Robert.
23. Why was the process of making paper by hand unsatisfactory?
 - A. It was too complicated.
 - B. The paper was of poor quality.
 - C. It was too slow.
 - D. It was a secret.
24. We may conclude that, after Robert's invention, paper became
 - A. cheaper.
 - B. more valuable.
 - C. stronger.
 - D. rarer.
25. The main point that is being brought out by the first paragraph of this story is that
 - A. it is only recently that paper has been widely available.
 - B. for some uses parchment is better than paper.
 - C. one can invent many different uses for paper.
 - D. one should not throw paper in the waste basket.
26. The person who wrote this story was trying to
 - A. amuse us.
 - B. help us to learn something new.
 - C. change how we feel about something.
 - D. write something very pretty.

END OF SECTION D

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

IEA/7 D

SECTION D

Deep silence reigned over the camp; only the guards were awake. Wrapping his warm cloak closely about him, a sentry on the furthest outpost stamped restlessly. His attention was caught by furtive shadows moving between him and the first grey light and he sensed approaching danger. The alarm was still ringing clear from his bugle as the company of the Legion seized their rifles and fell into battle order. There was no confusion, only an almost incredible neatness and speed. The square was formed about the well with the camels haltered in the middle and the guns placed at the corners. A few signal shots were fired and the sentries fell back on the main body of the troop. All night the enemy had been gathering silently behind the encircling dune and now, with lance and sword, they charged from the surrounding crests. Three sides of the square stood firm; the fourth wavered and broke. The enemy poured into the square, stampeding the camels and stabbing the men in the back.

1. The attack took place in a
 - A. forest.
 - B. desert.
 - C. small town.
 - D. mountain pass.
2. The attack took place just at
 - A. daybreak.
 - B. midnight.
 - C. nightfall.
 - D. the rise of the moon.
3. We can tell that the night was
 - A. hot.
 - B. cold.
 - C. stormy.
 - D. moonlit.
4. The camels were mostly
 - A. killed.
 - B. seized.
 - C. ridden away.
 - D. driven off.
5. The camping place was located
 - A. on a hillside.
 - B. on high ground.
 - C. in a hollow.
 - D. away from the water.
6. After the alarm was sounded, the sentries
 - A. came in to the rest of the troop.
 - B. ran away in fright.
 - C. kept firing at the enemy.
 - D. blew their bugles.

In their first experiments the researchers let the camel have no water in eight days. It lost about 22% of its weight, about 100 kilos. When it finally was given water to drink it emptied one bucket after another, got rounder and rounder and soon returned to its normal condition. A camel can lose anything up to 25% of its weight through evaporation without any danger of losing its life. However, a loss of weight of 12% causes a man to die in a desert. The researchers, who were fond of animals, did not dare to find out how long a camel can stay alive without water. The camel that went longest without water drank 135 liters of it in 10 minutes after 17 days without a drink.

A camel can manage with a small amount of water better than a man can. And furthermore, it can regulate its perspiration much better than we can. If we are compelled to stay in a temperature higher than our normal body temperature, we start to perspire in order to prevent the temperature of our organs from becoming dangerously high. A camel's temperature regulation is different. When the sunshine becomes hotter and hotter the body temperature of the camel follows the temperature of the environment. Only when the body temperature has risen to 40 degrees does a camel begin to perspire. When the cold night of the desert arrives a camel's temperature sinks to 34 degrees. This variation of 6 degrees means that it takes quite a long time in the daytime before a camel starts perspiring.

7. The purpose of this passage is chiefly to explain why a camel
 - A. can lose so much weight.
 - B. can drink so much water.
 - C. does not perspire so much.
 - D. is so well suited to the desert.

8. In saying that camels "can regulate perspiration much better than we can", the author means that the camel
 - A. can turn his perspiration off and on as he wishes.
 - B. has more sweat glands than we have.
 - C. responds to smaller changes in temperature.
 - D. does not start to perspire as soon as we do.

9. The function of perspiration in man is to
 - A. prevent a drop in body temperature.
 - B. regulate the body temperature.
 - C. let fluid from the body.
 - D. remove salt from the body.

10. When the temperature of the air rises above 34°C a camel starts
 - A. perspiring heavily.
 - B. saving energy.
 - C. showing a higher body temperature.
 - D. regulating its drinking of water.

11. The relation between the first and second paragraphs of this article is that the second paragraph
- A. helps explain the results reported in the first.
 - B. gives further detail about the results reported in the first.
 - C. is more specific than the first in the information it provides.
 - D. presents a different point of view from the first.
12. Judging from the passage, about how much does a camel weigh?
- A. 100 kilograms.
 - B. 500 kilograms.
 - C. 2200 kilograms.
 - D. There is no way of telling.

Please continue

All day long we had been motoring towards Fez, and as we drew nearer to it, but at a distance still of some thirty or forty miles, we began to feel the emanation of a great and ancient city, in the same way that you have the identical experience when approaching the environs of Rome or Paris or London or Peking, some essence, indefinable but not to be confounded with any other, asserting itself in the atmosphere. Unlike a European city, Fez has no outer suburbs, and is enclosed by its own walls; but even the brown-faced, brown-legged, shaven-headed peasants, who in their dazzling white clothes worked in the sepia-colored fields - hardly so much fields as wide territories - seemed to carry some unidentifiable echo of tradition, perhaps of Pharaoh's Egypt. It was not until darkness had enveloped them that we arrived before the majestic crenellated walls of the city, and outside the gates the strings of camels, the story-tellers and snake-charmers and lank ebony minstrels, hung with cowrie-shells, from the dark interior of the continent, and the jostling, wondering crowds that surround them by daylight had taken their departure.

13. How were the boundaries of a field in which a peasant was working marked off?
- The boundaries were marked by palm trees.
 - The boundaries were marked by thick hedges.
 - There was a fence around each field.
 - There were no clear boundaries.
14. What was it that first informed the travellers that they were approaching Fez?
- The city walls.
 - The sepia-colored fields.
 - An indefinable feeling.
 - The tradition of Pharaoh's Egypt.
15. When the travellers were confronted by the city walls they appeared to be
- intimidated.
 - impressed.
 - disinterested.
 - astounded.
16. The travellers arrived at the city walls when the jostling crowds
- were starting to gather.
 - were at their peak.
 - were getting ready to leave.
 - had gone.
17. The author's primary purpose in this passage is to
- provide a vivid and interesting description.
 - inform the reader about important facts.
 - change the reader's attitudes.
 - build up a feeling of suspense.

18. In the paragraph that follows this one it is likely that the author will
- A. tell about the construction of the city's walls.
 - B. describe their entrance into the city itself.
 - C. tell about the early history of the city.
 - D. describe the home life of the peasants.
19. The author's style is best described as
- A. simple and direct.
 - B. forceful.
 - C. dull and prosaic.
 - D. flowery and elaborate.

Please continue

Traditional leather men laugh at the claims made for plastic. They say that plastic shoes are hot in summer and cold in winter. It is not so good as leather, and plastic of high quality is not cheap enough to make it profitable for shoemakers to change from leather.

This may be true for men, who buy strong, comfortable and well-made shoes. Women, however, want fashionable shoes, and do not care too much what they are made of as long as they look smart. The high quality of leather needed to made smart and attractive women's shoes is very expensive and these shoes are so well made that they outlast the rapid changes of fashion. Only a few women can afford to buy a new pair of leather shoes each time the fashion changes.

Perhaps there will be two kinds of shoemakers in the future, those making shoes for men and the luxury market for women, whose material will be leather, and those aiming at the popular market for women. Does this mean that men will only be able to buy strong, lasting, leather shoes, and women only able to afford cheap, fashionable, plastic shoes made to last only for a few months?

- 20. Which of the three paragraphs represents primarily a guess about the future?
 - A. Only the second.
 - B. Only the third.
 - C. The first and the second.
 - D. The second and third.

- 21. Women seem more likely to use plastic shoes than are men because women
 - A. are more interested in style.
 - B. don't want shoes that wear well.
 - C. can't afford to pay as much for shoes.
 - D. are not as hard on their shoes.

- 22. Which women does the writer think will continue to wear leather shoes? Women who
 - A. are interested in fashion.
 - B. want new shoes frequently.
 - C. are difficult to fit.
 - D. are wealthy.

- 23. The author's purpose in this passage is primarily to have us
 - A. know more about modern techniques in shoe-making.
 - B. enjoy an interesting story about shoes.
 - C. become aware of differences between men and women.
 - D. think about future changes in shoes.

24. Which sentence best conveys the main idea of this passage?
- A. First sentence of the first paragraph.
 - B. Last sentence of the first paragraph.
 - C. Last sentence of second paragraph.
 - D. First sentence of third paragraph.
25. What is the writer's attitude about making shoes of plastic?
- A. He favors them for both men and women.
 - B. He favors them for women but not for men.
 - C. He is against them for both men and women.
 - D. He does not express his own attitude.
26. How is the third paragraph related to the first two? It is a
- A. speculation based on facts given in the first two.
 - B. summary of points made in the first two.
 - C. contradiction of the first two.
 - D. explanation of the first two.

END OF SECTION D

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

SECTION E

IEA/7 E

National Centers

The Student Reading Comprehension Questionnaire is to be inserted in this booklet at this point.

This is IEA/7 E and is to be found in the Questionnaire Bulletin. It is three sides long, not including the cover sheet.

SECTION P

National Centers

The Reading Speed Practice Test is the same as that given to Population I. Please therefore insert IEA/3 P from Booklet 3 here. It is five pages long, not including the instruction sheet.

At the end of the test please write :

END OF SECTION P

END OF BOOKLET 7

SECTION P

National Centers

The Reading Speed Practice Test is the same as that given to Population I. Please therefore insert IEA/3 P from Booklet 3 here. It is five pages long, not including the instruction sheet.

At the end of the test please write :

END OF SECTION P

END OF BOOKLET 7

SECTION P

National Centers

The Reading Speed Practice Test is the same as that given to Population I. Please therefore insert IEA/3 P from Booklet 3 here. It is five pages long, not including the instruction sheet.

At the end of the test please write :

END OF SECTION P

END OF BOOKLET 7