

Reading Sample Paper 1

Question 1: Reading & Writing – Fill in the Blanks

Item 1

Passage:

I'm someone who enjoys both driving and cycling. I wear my helmet when riding and always buckle up in the car, believing these choices lower my chance of injury. I've encouraged others to follow suit, even quoting doctors who call those not wearing helmets "rolling donors." However, after reading a study on risk assessment by Professor Neil Adams, I started questioning my long-held _____. Adams has clearly _____ my confidence in these seemingly practical choices. His research, especially regarding seatbelts, suggests that the data proving their effectiveness is surprisingly _____. This is true _____ popular claims that seatbelt laws save countless lives annually. Interestingly, in countries where seatbelt laws were made _____ between 1970 and 1980, fatal accidents actually rose slightly.

Options:

1. opinions, convictions, behaviors, choices
2. boosted, undermined, shifted, repaired
3. unreliable, consistent, supportive, measurable
4. despite, because, due to, within
5. compulsory, regulated, frequent, expected

Item 2

Passage:

A massive "mud volcano" erupted after a gas well operation on Java Island, Indonesia, causing major destruction. The incident _____ in the loss of lives and forced thousands to evacuate. A research team reported that the eruption began when an _____ drill pierced deep rock layers, _____ intense underground pressure to release. This hot water brought thick mud to the surface, where it _____ across multiple villages. In just months, the mud covered nearly four square miles in _____.

Options:

1. resulted, exploded, impacted, invested
2. experimental, explosive, observatory, exploratory

3. allowing, forcing, prohibiting, ignoring
4. leaked, flowed, spread, transmitted
5. area, volume, height, diameter

Item 3

Passage:

In autumn, as daylight decreases across the Northern Hemisphere, plants sense that colder weather is near. Before shedding leaves, broadleaf trees like birch and maple begin retrieving valuable nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus. Since they don't have the waxy protection found in evergreens, these trees must eventually _____ their leaves. Evergreens, however, keep their foliage safe with special _____ coatings and internal compounds that act as natural antifreeze. As leaves die, trees aim to _____ whatever resources they can. This annual cycle is crucial for plant survival and _____ efficiency during the harsh winter. Without this adaptive response, trees would _____ more energy and suffer damage in low temperatures.

Options:

1. shed, dry, break, save
2. sticky, thin, waxy, watery
3. preserve, bury, remove, salvage
4. nutrient, root, water, light
5. consume, reserve, reflect, lose

Item 4

Passage:

It's common for language learners to feel confused even after years of study. In Spanish, this doesn't _____ mean that someone has failed. In fact, with more than 20 countries speaking Spanish, the language has dozens of dialects. While many learn Latin American Spanish in U.S. schools, regional accents and vocabulary still differ widely. The "Highland" variant, spoken in mountainous areas like Peru and Colombia, is known for its clear _____ and strong 'r' sounds. In contrast, Castilian Spanish, spoken in parts of Spain, includes features that _____ appear in Latin America, like pronouncing "c" and "z" as "th." Another major difference is the use of "vosotros" instead of "ustedes." These variations are natural in global languages, and similar to how British English and American English have their own _____. Students should recognize that the diversity of accents is not a barrier, but a _____ of how vibrant the Spanish-speaking world is.

Options:

1. necessarily, casually, definitely, preferably
2. pronunciation, grammar, volume, clarity
3. rarely, never, always, frequently
4. styles, alphabets, versions, trends
5. reflection, proof, mistake, risk

Item 5

Passage:

Today, the role of non-standard language continues to stir debate. We are at a _____ moment, between a time when strict grammar rules shaped our understanding of “correct” English, and a future where alternative varieties gain more respect. Previously, regional dialects were considered inferior and _____ from serious literature. Now, new attitudes are _____ in which informal usage and cultural diversity are welcomed. Still, we haven’t arrived fully at that stage _____. The deep influence of traditional rules over the past two centuries left lasting _____, especially among those who felt ashamed of how they spoke.

Options:

1. transitional, traditional, extended, fluent
2. excluded, valued, evolved, accepted
3. emerging, erasing, approving, fixing
4. already, yet, early, never
5. consequences, impressions, questions, expectations

Question 2: Multiple Choice Multiple Answers:

The popularity of podcasts has surged in recent years, revolutionizing the way people consume audio content. Unlike traditional radio, which follows fixed schedules, podcasts are available on-demand, allowing listeners to choose what they want to hear and when. They are particularly favored by busy individuals who often listen while commuting, exercising, or doing household chores—making them ideal for multitasking. Podcasts now span a wide range of subjects, from education and politics to entertainment and mental health. In academic settings, educators are increasingly integrating podcasts into teaching strategies to foster student engagement. Additionally, businesses and marketers recognize the value of podcasts as powerful tools for brand promotion and targeted advertising, given

their growing and loyal listener base.

Question:

Which of the following are true about podcasts?

- A. They are only available during specific times.
- B. They are replacing traditional education entirely.
- C. They can be used for advertising.
- D. They are convenient for multitasking.
- E. They are on-demand and diverse in content.

Question 3: Re-Order Paragraphs

Instructions: Arrange the sentences in the correct logical sequence.

Item 1

- A. History shows that humans have always held spiritual beliefs.
- B. These beliefs emerged as soon as early societies formed, alongside tools and art.
- C. Such practices were not merely to appease the divine, but to connect with something beyond.
- D. In fact, it could be said that humanity is defined just as much by its religious instincts as its rationality.

Item 2

- A. Music, unlike language, cannot be easily explained using words.
- B. That all changed with the invention of written musical notation in the 11th century.
- C. Before that, sharing songs across generations was difficult.
- D. This system allowed composers to document melodies clearly and pass them on.

Item 3

- A. Choosing the right college should involve visiting the location.
- B. This gives insight into the environment and surrounding facilities.
- C. There are many colleges in the region, so narrowing down can be difficult.
- D. Visiting also helps ensure it aligns with your lifestyle and academic goals.
- E. After all, you might be living there for years.

Question 4: Reading – Fill in the Blanks

Item 1

Passage:

This article critically explores modern “corporate culture” thinking. Its main purpose is to highlight how its appeal differs when _____ with traditional management models. It builds upon older approaches that promoted internal motivation, but takes things further by suggesting that true freedom is _____ on aligning with company values. The author draws _____ with Orwell’s dystopian control systems, suggesting that under the surface, this culture creates _____ pressures. While appearing supportive, it often _____ people from engaging with diverse values or perspectives.

Word Box:

parallels, compared, prevents, dependent, hidden, promote, audit

Item 2

Passage:

Civics education equips learners to actively _____ in society. It explores how public decisions are made, the _____ that govern citizens, and the systems that support communities. Through this, students build the _____ to engage meaningfully in democratic life and contribute to the _____ of society as a whole.

Word Box:

participate , values, processes, skills, launch, provoke

Item 3

Passage:

Why does radiation cause fear? Largely, it's because it is invisible. _____, it's important to note that scientists can measure safe exposure limits. People can be _____ to low levels of radiation without risk, and those levels are far below natural background levels. This makes the public concern seem exaggerated in _____ to the actual _____ involved.

Word Box:

exposed, about, nevertheless, sudden, magnitude, comparison

Item 4

Passage:

Once a business creates its product, it must carefully _____ the price. Pricing takes into account various _____ such as production costs, market trends, and perceived value. In the end, what matters most is what customers are willing to _____. The buyer's mindset determines what they _____ is fair and worth paying.

Word Box:

pay, pretend factors, decide, set, avoid

Question 5: Multiple Choice Single Answer

Passage:

Over the last century, antibiotics have saved countless lives and transformed modern medicine. However, their overuse has led to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. These "superbugs" pose a major threat to global health, as they can render existing treatments ineffective. Experts warn that if resistance continues to grow, we could return to a time when minor infections become deadly.

Question:

What is the main concern expressed in the passage?

- A. Modern medicine has not advanced in recent years.
- B. Antibiotics are no longer being produced.
- C. Overuse of antibiotics could lead to dangerous bacteria.
- D. People do not trust antibiotics anymore.