

Reading Comprehension Multiple Choice Questions Exercise 1

1. In an interview yesterday, Mr Wilson was questioned about the harmful effects of horror movies on teenagers. He argued that such effects were often exaggerated and claimed that other types of films were far more dangerous for young people. When asked to prove this, he pointed out that horror films were often set in unreal situations and were clearly not to be taken seriously. In contrast, he claimed that films showing violent crime were often set in everyday life, and were, therefore, more damaging.

In Mr Wilson's opinion, horror films ____.

- A) cost more than other kinds of films
 - B) are more popular among the elderly than among the young
 - C) should be banned altogether
 - D) are less damaging to young people than films of violent crime
 - E) have recently ceased to appeal to the young
2. In an interview yesterday, Mr Wilson was questioned about the harmful effects of horror movies on teenagers. He argued that such effects were often exaggerated and claimed that other types of films were far more dangerous for young people. When asked to prove this, he pointed out that horror films were often set in unreal situations and were clearly not to be taken seriously. In contrast, he claimed that films showing violent crime were often set in everyday life, and were, therefore, more damaging.

For Mr Wilson, the main difference between a horror film and one showing violent crime is that the former ____.

- A) is mainly concerned with everyday situations
- B) is liked by the young, and the latter by the old
- C) is unrelated to real life, whereas the latter is
- D) is less expensive to produce than the latter
- E) rarely receives any attention from the young

3. In an interview yesterday, Mr Wilson was questioned about the harmful effects of horror movies on teenagers. He argued that such effects were often exaggerated and claimed that other types of films were far more dangerous for young people. When asked to prove this, he pointed out that horror films were often set in unreal situations and were clearly not to be taken seriously. In contrast, he claimed that films showing violent crime were often set in everyday life, and were, therefore, more damaging.

The interviewer wanted to find out whether ____.

- A) young people were being harmed by horror films
 - B) Mr Wilson had himself been affected by horror films
 - C) Mr Wilson preferred horror films to films of violence
 - D) people were seriously objecting to horror films
 - E) the effects of crime films were being exaggerated
4. The famous Tower of London was built as a fortress by William the Conqueror. Early in the Middle Ages, the kings used it as a palace; later on, it was turned into a prison, but only distinguished prisoners, including statesmen and princes, were held there. Today the Tower is a national museum where, among other things, the jewellery of the English kings and queens is on display.

It is obvious from the passage that the functions of the Tower of London ____.

- A) were all established by William the Conqueror
- B) have always been controlled by the kings
- C) have varied greatly over the centuries
- D) are all of a military nature
- E) have not changed at all since the Middle Ages



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5. The famous Tower of London was built as a fortress by William the Conqueror. Early in the Middle Ages, the kings used it as a palace; later on, it was turned into a prison, but only distinguished prisoners, including statesmen and princes, were held there. Today the Tower is a national museum where, among other things, the jewellery of the English kings and queens is on display.

We learn from the passage that the Tower ____.

- A)** was not originally intended to be a fortress
 - B)** was never a prison for ordinary people
 - C)** is still a unique example of mediaeval architecture
 - D)** was never a residence of English kings
 - E)** functions today only as a jewellery museum
6. The famous Tower of London was built as a fortress by William the Conqueror. Early in the Middle Ages, the kings used it as a palace; later on, it was turned into a prison, but only distinguished prisoners, including statesmen and princes, were held there. Today the Tower is a national museum where, among other things, the jewellery of the English kings and queens is on display.

William the Conqueror's original purpose in building the Tower of London ____.

- A)** was one of defence
- B)** was to exhibit his valuable jewellery
- C)** was strongly criticized later in the Middle Ages
- D)** remains unknown even now
- E)** is still being debated among historians

7. Never before in history have people been so aware of what is going on in the world. Television, newspapers and radio keep us continually informed and stimulate our interest. The sociologist's interest in the world around him is intense, for society is his field of study. Indeed, he needs to know what is happening in society: he wants to know what makes the social world what it is, how it is organised, why it changes in the ways that it does. Such knowledge is valuable not only for those who make great decisions but also for you since this is the world in which you live and make your way.

The passage emphasizes that whatever goes on in the world today ____.

- A)** is quickly forgotten by the majority
 - B)** only concerns the sociologist
 - C)** first makes the headlines in the press
 - D)** is of great interest to everyone
 - E)** can easily be ignored by people in power
8. Never before in history have people been so aware of what is going on in the world. Television, newspapers and radio keep us continually informed and stimulate our interest. The sociologist's interest in the world around him is intense, for society is his field of study. Indeed, he needs to know what is happening in society: he wants to know what makes the social world what it is, how it is organised, why it changes in the ways that it does. Such knowledge is valuable not only for those who make great decisions but also for you since this is the world in which you live and make your way.

It is pointed out in the passage that, among other things, sociologists are very much interested in ____.

- A)** our reaction to their studies
- B)** the effect of television on education
- C)** the reasons for social change
- D)** how people make a living in the world
- E)** environmental problems



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9. Never before in history have people been so aware of what is going on in the world. Television, newspapers and radio keep us continually informed and stimulate our interest. The sociologist's interest in the world around him is intense, for society is his field of study. Indeed, he needs to know what is happening in society: he wants to know what makes the social world what it is, how it is organised, why it changes in the ways that it does. Such knowledge is valuable not only for those who make great decisions but also for you since this is the world in which you live and make your way.

One may conclude from the passage that the studies made by sociologists ____.

- A)** are extremely useful both to decision-makers and to ordinary people
 - B)** are of little general interest
 - C)** receive a lot of attention from the media
 - D)** are primarily intended for students of sociology
 - E)** do not adequately reflect real conditions in the world
10. Every summer many people, girls and women as well as boys and men try to swim from England to France or from France to England. The distance at the nearest points is only about twenty miles, but because of the strong currents, the distance that must be swum is usually twice as far. The first man to succeed in swimming across the Channel was Captain Webb, an Englishman. This was in August 1875. He landed in France 21 hours 45 minutes after entering the water at Dover. Since then, there have been many successful swims and the time has been shortened. One French swimmer crossed in 11 hours and 5 minutes.

Swimming the Channel is not as easy as it might seem ____.

- A)** as the distance between the two countries is far too much
- B)** and it always takes more or less 20 hours
- C)** and only two people have managed to do it so far
- D)** so few people even try to swim it
- E)** for there are very strong currents

11. Every summer many people, girls and women as well as boys and men try to swim from England to France or from France to England. The distance at the nearest points is only about twenty miles, but because of the strong currents, the distance that must be swum is usually twice as far. The first man to succeed in swimming across the Channel was Captain Webb, an Englishman. This was in August 1875. He landed in France 21 hours 45 minutes after entering the water at Dover. Since then, there have been many successful swims and the time has been shortened. One French swimmer crossed in 11 hours and 5 minutes.

The first time anyone swam across the Channel ____.

- A)** was in the 19th century
 - B)** was when England and France organised a swimming competition
 - C)** no one really believed him
 - D)** he was helped by favourable currents
 - E)** he reached Dover just before 10 in the evening
12. Every summer many people, girls and women as well as boys and men try to swim from England to France or from France to England. The distance at the nearest points is only about twenty miles, but because of the strong currents, the distance that must be swum is usually twice as far. The first man to succeed in swimming across the Channel was Captain Webb, an Englishman. This was in August 1875. He landed in France 21 hours 45 minutes after entering the water at Dover. Since then, there have been many successful swims and the time has been shortened. One French swimmer crossed in 11 hours and 5 minutes.

The time Captain Webb needed to swim across the Channel ____.

- A)** was unbelievably short
- B)** has since been nearly reduced to half
- C)** still remains a record
- D)** was thought to be far too long
- E)** hasn't been equalled by any French swimmer



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13. A new discovery of a dinosaur fossil in Antarctica has confirmed the idea that dinosaurs lived not only in the Northern Hemisphere but in the Southern Hemisphere as well. Up until this discovery, scientists had found dinosaur remains on every continent except Antarctica. This new discovery now confirms the idea that dinosaurs were distributed worldwide. If the dinosaur fossil is shown to be related to other dinosaurs of the same period in South America, it will also support the idea that South America and Antarctica were once linked together.

It is only recently that ____.

- A)** important scientific studies about the Southern Hemisphere have been carried out
- B)** scientists have been seriously interested in fossils
- C)** a dinosaur fossil has been discovered in Antarctica
- D)** some new facts about the Northern Hemisphere have come to light
- E)** Antarctica has been discovered

14. A new discovery of a dinosaur fossil in Antarctica has confirmed the idea that dinosaurs lived not only in the Northern Hemisphere but in the Southern Hemisphere as well. Up until this discovery, scientists had found dinosaur remains on every continent except Antarctica. This new discovery now confirms the idea that dinosaurs were distributed worldwide. If the dinosaur fossil is shown to be related to other dinosaurs of the same period in South America, it will also support the idea that South America and Antarctica were once linked together.

One can understand from the passage that ____.

- A)** dinosaurs at one time in the past lived in both hemispheres
- B)** dinosaurs were, in fact, more commonly found in the Southern Hemisphere
- C)** scientists had long since realised that dinosaurs had actually lived in Antarctica
- D)** the dinosaur fossil discovered in Antarctica was significantly different from those found in other continents
- E)** the discovery of the dinosaur fossil in Antarctica was actually of little importance to scientists

15. A new discovery of a dinosaur fossil in Antarctica has confirmed the idea that dinosaurs lived not only in the Northern Hemisphere but in the Southern Hemisphere as well. Up until this discovery, scientists had found dinosaur remains on every continent except Antarctica. This new discovery now confirms the idea that dinosaurs were distributed worldwide. If the dinosaur fossil is shown to be related to other dinosaurs of the same period in South America, it will also support the idea that South America and Antarctica were once linked together.

It is hoped that the discovery of the dinosaur fossil in Antarctica ____.

- A)** would contribute significantly to our knowledge of the Northern Hemisphere
- B)** will throw further light on the existence of dinosaurs in the past
- C)** would lead to further similar discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere
- D)** could answer the question of whether South America and Antarctica were originally connected
- E)** will attract more scientists to this type of work

16. A popular method of treating frozen fingers and toes in very cold, even freezing weather is to slowly rewarm them or rub them with snow. The best treatment, however, is not slow rewarming but rapid rewarming. Putting the frozen fingers or toes in a warm bath or using a hot water bottle are both good ways to treat them. Hot drinks to warm the body from within are also helpful. One must be careful about burning the skin, however. The temperature of any heat applied should not be greater than 43° C.

The main concern of the passage is ____.

- A)** why frozen fingers and toes should be slowly rewarmed
- B)** how to keep adequately warm in the winter
- C)** how to treat fingers and toes that have been frozen
- D)** the dangers of freezing weather for the body
- E)** why one should have plenty of hot drinks in winter



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17. A popular method of treating frozen fingers and toes in very cold, even freezing weather is to slowly rewarm them or rub them with snow. The best treatment, however, is not slow rewarming but rapid rewarming. Putting the frozen fingers or toes in a warm bath or using a hot water bottle are both good ways to treat them. Hot drinks to warm the body from within are also helpful. One must be careful about burning the skin, however. The temperature of any heat applied should not be greater than 43° C.

It is pointed out in the passage that ____.

- A)** the use of hot water bottles to rewarm the body is not advisable
- B)** one should try to rewarm frozen fingers and toes fairly rapidly
- C)** in rewarming the body, the higher the temperature is, the better the result is
- D)** people should be warned not to go out in freezing cold weather
- E)** one should take a bath as often as possible in winter

18. A popular method of treating frozen fingers and toes in very cold, even freezing weather is to slowly rewarm them or rub them with snow. The best treatment, however, is not slow rewarming but rapid rewarming. Putting the frozen fingers or toes in a warm bath or using a hot water bottle are both good ways to treat them. Hot drinks to warm the body from within are also helpful. One must be careful about burning the skin, however. The temperature of any heat applied should not be greater than 43° C.

The author warns that ____.

- A)** the minimum temperature required is 43°C
- B)** in rewarming the body, care must be taken not to burn the skin
- C)** one should never rub frozen fingers and toes with snow
- D)** hot drinks must not be taken in immediately
- E)** recovery cannot be as rapid as one would expect

19. Bicycling in America has been growing at an amazing rate. Bicycles used to be sold to parents for their children. Now those same parents are buying them for themselves, as well as for their children. And grandparents are cycling, too. Moreover, people don't simply cycle for fun and for exercise. Many young executives ride bikes to work as an alternative to adding to the pollution of cities, and to fighting traffic jams, while college and high school students find bikes an economical alternative to cars or buses.

In the passage, it is emphasized that, in America, ____.

- A)** more and more people of all ages are now using bicycles
- B)** few college students can afford to run a car
- C)** no executive feels he can cycle to work
- D)** most parents feel it is dangerous for children to cycle to school
- E)** a great many traffic jams are being caused by cyclists

20. Bicycling in America has been growing at an amazing rate. Bicycles used to be sold to parents for their children. Now those same parents are buying them for themselves, as well as for their children. And grandparents are cycling, too. Moreover, people don't simply cycle for fun and for exercise. Many young executives ride bikes to work as an alternative to adding to the pollution of cities, and to fighting traffic jams, while college and high school students find bikes an economical alternative to cars or buses.

Cycling is also a hobby that ____.

- A)** attracts fewer and fewer people
- B)** is getting increasingly more expensive
- C)** only appeals to the young
- D)** has a high-accident rate
- E)** the whole family can enjoy



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21. Bicycling in America has been growing at an amazing rate. Bicycles used to be sold to parents for their children. Now those same parents are buying them for themselves, as well as for their children. And grandparents are cycling, too. Moreover, people don't simply cycle for fun and for exercise. Many young executives ride bikes to work as an alternative to adding to the pollution of cities, and to fighting traffic jams, while college and high school students find bikes an economical alternative to cars or buses.

From the passage, we can infer that ____.

- A)** different people have different reasons for preferring bicycles to a car
- B)** most Americans can no longer afford to run a car
- C)** young children should not be allowed to cycle on main roads
- D)** a lot of parents are borrowing their children's bicycles
- E)** cycling is fun in the country but not in a city

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Answer Key:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1: D | 12: B |
| 2: C | 13: C |
| 3: A | 14: A |
| 4: C | 15: D |
| 5: B | 16: C |
| 6: A | 17: B |
| 7: C | 18: B |
| 8: C | 19: A |
| 9: A | 20: E |
| 10: E | 21: A |
| 11: A | |

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