**GTR001 – GENERAL READING**

# **READING PASSAGE 1**

Read the text below and answer ***questions 01-13.***

**Mission to Mars**

**2011 Mars One Founded**

In 2011 Bas Lansdorp and Arno Wielders lay the foundation of the Mars One mission plan. Discussion meetings are held with potential suppliers of aerospace components in the USA, Canada, Italy and United Kingdom. Mission architecture, budgets and timelines are solidified from the feedback of supplier engineers and business developers. A baseline design for a mission of permanent human settlement on Mars achievable with existing technology is the result.

**2013 Start Crew Selection**

In April 2013, the Astronaut Selection Program is launched at press conferences in New York and Shanghai. Round One is an online application open to all nationalities. The selection program proceeds with three additional rounds over the course of two years. At the end of it around six teams of four individuals are selected for training. A new batch of the Astronaut Selection Program begins every year to replenish the training pool regularly. An analogue of the Mars habitat is constructed on Earth for technology testing and training purposes.

**2015 Start of Crew Training**

Selected candidates from the first batch of applicants enter full-time training groups. This training continues until the launch in 2024. The group's ability to deal with prolonged periods of time in a remote location is the most important part of their training. They learn to repair components of the habitat and rover, learn to grow their own food, and train in medical procedures. The first outpost simulation, a Mars-like terrain that is relatively easy to reach is chosen. A second training outpost is located at a more remote environment like the Arctic desert.

**2018 Demo and Comsat Mission**

A Demonstration Mission is launched to Mars in May 2018; it provides proof of concept for some of the technologies that are important for a human mission. A communication satellite is also launched that is placed into a Mars stationary orbit. It enables 24/7 communication between the two planets. It can relay images, videos and other data from the Mars surface.

**2020 Rover Mission Launched**

One intelligent rover and one trailer are launched. The rover can use the trailer to transport the landers to the outpost location. On Mars, the rover drives around the chosen region to find the best location for the settlement. An ideal location for the settlement is far enough north for the soil to contain enough water, equatorial enough for maximum solar power and flat enough to facilitate construction of the settlement. When the settlement location is determined, the rover prepares the surface for arrival of the cargo missions. It also clears large areas where solar panels will lie. A second communications satellite is launched into orbit around the Sun.

**2022 Cargo Missions Launched**

Six cargo missions are launched and two living units, two life support systems, and two supply units are sent to Mars in July 2022. In February 2023 all units land on Mars using a rover signal as a beacon.

**2023 Outpost Operational**

The six cargo units land on Mars, up to 10 km away from the outpost. The rover picks up the first life support unit using the trailer, takes it to the right place, and deploys the thin film solar panel of the life support unit. The rover can now connect to the life support unit to recharge its batteries much faster than using only its own panels, allowing it to do much more work. The rover picks up all the other cargo units and then deploys the thin film solar panel of the second life support unit and the inflatable sections of the living units. The life support unit is connected to the living units by a hose that can transport water, air and electricity.

The life support system is now activated. The rover feeds Martian soil into the life support system. Water is extracted from the Martian soil by evaporating the subsurface ice particles in an oven. The evaporated water is condensed back to its liquid state and stored. Part of the water is used for producing oxygen. Nitrogen and argon, filtered from the Martian atmosphere make up the other components of the breathable air inside the habitat.

**2024 Departure Crew One**

In April 2024, the components of the Mars transit vehicle are launched to Earth orbit on receiving the green light on the status of the systems on Mars. First, a transit habitat and a Mars lander with an assembly crew on-board are launched into an orbit around the Earth. The assembly crew docks the Mars lander to the transit habitat. Two propellant stages are launched a month later and are also connected. The first Mars crew, now fully trained, is launched into the same Earth orbit. In orbit the Mars One crew switches places with the assembly crew, who descend back to Earth. Engines of the propellant stages are fired and the transit vehicle is launched on a Mars transit trajectory. This is the point of no return; the crew is now bound to a 210-day flight to Mars.

#### **Questions 01-04**

Choose the correct letter, ***A, B, C or D.***

Write the correct letter in boxes ***01-04*** on your answer sheet.

01. What is the plan to have a permanent human settlement on Mars based on?

A new technology

B new and old technology

C existing technology

D recent technology

02. How is the ideal site for the settlement found?

A GPS

B rover

C the settlers

D some luck

03. After the outpost is operational how does the rover recharge its batteries?

A from the living units

B from the life support unit

C from its own solar panels

D from the cargo units

04. Where does oxygen come from ?

A Nitrogen and argon

B water

C Martian atmosphere

D Life support system

#### **Questions 5-11**

Complete the summary below.

Choose ***NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR NUMBER*** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes ***5-11*** on your answer sheet.

|  |
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| To begin the process of selecting suitable astronauts two are held in two cities around the world. The first application is and available to every nationality. This is followed by a further  rounds and results in the selection of teams that then start training. During training they learn how to cope with life in an isolated , cultivate , and perform . |

#### **Questions 12-13**

Answer the questions below.

Choose ***NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS*** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes ***12-13*** on your answer sheet.

How will it be possible for people on Mars to contact people on Earth?



What point is reached when the crew start their journey to Mars?



# **READING PASSAGE 2**

Read the text below and answer ***questions 14-26***

## The London Pass

***Read the text below and answer Questions 14 – 20.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Established in 1999, The London Pass is a sightseeing city card that helps visitors make the most of their trip to London, saving them both time and money.  **The London Pass Saves You Money**  London can be an expensive city, and its tourist attractions are no exception. However, go sightseeing with a London Pass and you could make some great savings – not to mention saving the hassle of queuing to buy entry tickets and carrying around change.  **The London Pass Saves You Time**  London is a popular destination; therefore, attractions and sights do get very busy. Waiting in line can sometimes take hours from your sightseeing experience - that’s why London Pass holders get to skip the queue at key attractions such as the Tower of London, Windsor Castle and the London Bridge Experience. Get VIP treatment and go straight to the front with your London Pass.  **The London Pass Saves You Stress**  Carrying lots of cash around and having to figure out how much an attraction will cost can take the fun out of your sightseeing adventures. Your London Pass is the ticket into every attraction – so you don’t need to worry about buying separate admissions or working out how much it costs, it’s all done for you in one simple pass.  With every London Pass you get the following:   * Free entry to over 60 attractions, tours, sights and museums * Fast Track Entry - ability to skip the lines at various selected attractions to save time * Optional Travelcard to cover all of your transport needs * A useful 160+ page guidebook (one per Adult London Pass) about the attractions plus helpful tips about the city * Over 20 exclusive special offers * Money Back Guarantee option available  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **London Pass Attraction** | **Normal Adult Entry Price** | | Tower of London | £19.50 | | Thames River Cruise | £17.00 | | London Bridge Experience | £24.00 | | Windsor Castle | £17.75 | | London Zoo | £22.80 | |

***Read the text below and answer Questions 21– 26.***

|  |
| --- |
| **The Body Shop** |
| **The Body Shop International PLC**, known as **The Body Shop**, has a range consisting of 1,200 products, including cosmetics and make-up in its 2,500 franchised stores in 611 countries.  The company, which has its international headquarters in Littlehampton,West Sussex, England, was founded in 1976 by Anita Roddick and is now part owned by parent company L'Oréal corporate group.  In 1970 Anita visited “The Body Shop” in California. It was part of a car repair shop and they sold naturally-scented soaps and lotions. In 1976, Anita opened a similar shop in the UK, using the same business name.  From its first launch in the UK in 1976, The Body Shop experienced rapid growth, expanding at a rate of 50 percent annually.  The opening of Roddick's first modest shop received early attention when the Brighton newspaper, The Evening Argus, carried an article about an undertaker with a nearby store who complained about the use of the name "The Body Shop."  In March 2006, The Body Shop agreed to a £652.3 million takeover by L'Oréal. It was reported that Anita and Gordon Roddick, who set up The Body Shop 30 years previously, made £130 million from the sale.  The Body Shop turned increasingly toward social and environmental campaigns to promote its business in the late 1980s. In 1997, Roddick launched a global campaign to raise self-esteem in women and against the media stereotyping of women. It focused on unreasonably skinny models in the context of rising numbers suffering from bulimia and anorexia.  Following her death in 2007, Prime Minister Gordon Brown paid tribute to Dame Anita, calling her "one of the country's true pioneers" and an "inspiration" to businesswomen. He said: "She campaigned for green issues for many years before it became fashionable to do so and inspired millions to the cause by bringing sustainable products to a mass market. She will be remembered not only as a great campaigner but also as a great entrepreneur."  In October 2009, The Body Shop was awarded a 'Lifetime Achievement Award' by the RSPCA in Britain, in recognition of its uncompromised policy which ensures ingredients are not tested on animals by its suppliers. |

#### **Questions 14-20**

Complete the sentences below.

Choose ***NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER*** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes ***14-20*** on your answer sheet.

The London Pass is the best way to save time and money when 

You save time because there is no longer a need to 

You won’t have to calculate how much money you have left because the London Pass is 

If you are planning to see as much of London as possible you could consider a 

If you are not happy with the various attractions and special offers we provide you can take advantage of our 

If a leisurely few hours on a boat sounds good then try our 

You save exactly when you visit the London Bridge Experience.

#### **Questions 21-26**

Choose the correct letter, ***A, B, C or D.***

Write the correct letter in boxes ***22-27*** on your answer sheet.

21. Who owns the company now?

A Anita Roddick and her parents.

B Body Shop and L’Oréal.

C L’Oréal.

22. How did Anita Roddick decide on the name “The Body Shop”?

A The name came to her in a dream.

B She copied the name from an undertaker.

C She took the name from a store in America.

23. What happened three decades after launching “The Body Shop”?

A They retired.

B They bought L’Oréal.

C They accepted a takeover bid by L’Oréal.

24. How did “The Body Shop” promote itself?

A by stereotyping women

B socially

C through environmental and social issues

25. What did Anita do about very skinny models?

A She gave them some food.

B She tried to empower women around the world.

C They started to work for her.

26. What did Gordon Brown say about Anita Roddick?

A She was a pioneer for environmental issues.

B She was very fashionable.

C She made the mass market sustainable.

# **READING PASSAGE 3**

Read the text below and answer ***questions 27-40***

## How to effectively problem-solve

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| Read the text below and answer Questions 27-33 |
| **A \_**In life we can sometimes be overwhelmed by problems. The reason behind this is that we wait for problems to find us. We would do far better to take a proactive approach, actively seeking out potential problems and deciding on which are worth tackling in the first place and taking appropriate action.  **B \_**Next, one has to resist the temptation of going straight into problem analysis and solution. As with the first step, this stage is one of the secrets of effective problem-solving. Having already decided upon what problems are worthwhile solving, at this stage, you need to establish what exactly you are trying to solve.  **C \_**Now you are ready to get down to work on actually tackling the problem you have identified. You need to break down the complexity of the problem, stripping away the superficial and getting to the causes/issues. Whilst this may take some time and thought, in the long run you will reap the benefits of spending time in this more contemplative stage of the process.  **D \_**There are always more than one ways to solve a problem, so take time to create and work upon plenty of creative possibilities to the problem. Think of it as a personal brainstorming session. However ludicrous a solution may seem initially, write it down nevertheless. You never know how effective a solution will be anyway until it is put into practice.  **E \_**Next you need to make choices. You need to weigh up the relative merits and risks of the different options you generated in the previous step and decide which to go for. This is more of a filtering stage where you weed out the solutions that are less likely to work from the more plausible options.  **F \_**Deciding on which course of action to take is only half the story, though. You need to carry the action through in an effective way if you are to deliver the outcomes essential to solving the problem you originally defined.  **G \_**Hopefully once you have reached this stage your problem is now a thing of the past. Before you give yourself a well-deserved pat on the back though, it is worth taking time out to reflect on what you have achieved so far and whether you in fact arrived at the anticipated outcome you had hoped for. Any perceived failings on your part in implementing the steps can then be addressed, allowing you to take more effective action in problem-solving situations in the future. |

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| Read the text below and answer Questions 34-40 |
| The function and definition of play Play can be defined by three basic criteria: an expression of freedom of choice, personal enjoyment and an activity that is an end in itself. Its persistence through the ages and across diverse cultures demonstrates its functional role in human survival and development. In a nutshell, play serves to develop social and cognitive abilities as well as acting as a form of self-expression.  Within the activity of play itself there are several clearly defined types. These types range from simple physical play with objects such as baby rattles, to more complex cognitive play in games with many rules, such as cards or chess played by older children.  At the most basic end of the play continuum is passive play. Children exhibiting passive play behaviours are not involved physically in any play activity themselves. When play behaviour is exhibited by other children in their presence, they may be virtually oblivious to it, or they may observe but not participate, exhibiting 'onlooker behaviour'.  At a more engaged level, children will exhibit involved play behaviours. To what extent this is a social activity varies greatly, depending on where the child is on the socio-developmental spectrum. At one end of the spectrum a child may be actively involved in play but alone or in parallel to other players. In both cases the child does not interact with other children in play activity. As the child learns to engage more with other children socially, involved play behaviour will show acknowledgement but not complete interaction with other children in associative play and more complete engagement with other children in cooperative play which requires negotiation skills and turn talking.  As a child develops language and vocabulary skills, pretend play will evolve. This type of play serves to increase memory abilities and enhances reasoning and problem-solving abilities. Children at this stage use imagination to overcome what adults would term 'problem-solving'.  As cognitive abilities develop in a child, they will begin to engage in cognitive play. Here, at a more complex level of this stage, the child will play games with set rules, such as chess or jacks, as well as engaging in dramatic play that involves a degree of role play.  At three to five years of age, when cognitive and social abilities are significantly more developed, a child will demonstrate socio-dramatic play. Role play is used and the child interacts with other children to narrate and act in stories with fluid storylines that they then act out together. |

#### **Questions 27-33**

The text on the next page has seven sections, ***A-G.***

Choose the correct heading for each section from the list of headings below.

Write the correct number, ***i-x***, in boxes ***27-33*** on your answer sheet.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| List of Headings | | |
| **i.** | Defining the problem |  |
| **ii.** | Explore different routes |  |
| **iii.** | Some problems are easier to solve |  |
| **iv.** | Implement your decision |  |
| **v.** | Evaluate and learn |  |
| **vi.** | Problems may appear bigger than they are |  |
| **vii.** | Analyse the problem |  |
| **viii.** | Find the right problem to solve |  |
| **ix.** | Select the best solution |  |
| **x.** | Never over-analyse |  |

**27.**

Section A

**28.**

Section B

**29.**

Section C

**30.**

Section D

**31.**

Section E

**32.**

Section F

**33.**

Section G

#### **Questions 34-35**

Complete the sentences below.

Choose ***NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS*** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes ***34-35*** on your answer sheet.

Whilst play may seem a purely fun activity, it plays a in maturation.

As a child matures, they will engage in , using a set of rules to play games.

#### **Questions 36-40**

Look at the following descriptions and the list of terms in the box below.

Match each description with the correct term, ***A-E.***

Write the appropriate letter, ***A-E***, in boxes ***36-40*** on your answer sheet.

### **List of Descriptions**

**36.**

The child engages in active play but may fail to acknowledge other children.

**37.**

No attempt is made by the child to engage in active play.

**38.**

Abstract rules are used in game playing that exercises cognitive functioning.

**39.**

Interaction with other children is vital for play to evolve using rules devised during play.

**40.**

Play foreshadows more complex adult behaviour used in daily survival.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| List of Terms | | |
| **A.** | Passive play |  |
| **B.** | Involved play |  |
| **C.** | Pretend play |  |
| **D.** | Cognitive play |  |
| **E.** | Socio-dramatic play |  |

ANSWERS

1. C
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. press conferences
6. online
7. 3/three
8. 6/six
9. location
10. food
11. medical procedures
12. communication satellite
13. no return
14. sightseeing
15. queue
16. one pass/one simple pass
17. Travelcard
18. money back guarantee
19. Thames River Cruise
20. £24.00
21. B
22. C
23. C
24. C
25. B
26. A
27. viii
28. i
29. vii
30. ii
31. ix
32. iv
33. v
34. functional role
35. complex cognitive play
36. B
37. A
38. D
39. E
40. C