

READING

HOW TO ANSWER CONTENT BASED - QUESTIONS

- (a) Read the passage quickly to identify the subject - matter i.e., to get a general idea of what the passage is about.
- (b) Give the passage another reading to understand it more thoroughly.
- (c) Now read the questions given at the end of the passage.
- (d) Read the passage again keeping the questions in mind. While doing so, keep underlining the key sentences/words related to the questions. This will help you in writing the correct answers.
- (e) Now write the answers, as far as possible, in your own words, but you needn't be fussy about it. All that the examiner wants is to know your proficiency in reading. So your main objective should be to give the exact information asked for in the question.
- (f) Inferential or evaluative type of questions demand a greater understanding of what the text implies. You may have to read the passage a third time to answer such questions.
- (g) You must be clear, brief and to the point in your answer.
- (h) It is always advisable to use simple language and frame short sentences of your own instead of lifting up lengthy sentences or phrases from the given passage.
- (i) The answers must be written in the corresponding tense form of the question.

HOW TO ANSWER QUESTIONS BASED ON WORDS, EXPRESSIONS, PHRASES

While reading the given passage, you are most likely to come across a number of words, phrases and expressions you are not familiar with. There are a number of ways by which you can guess the meaning of those unfamiliar phrases and expressions.

- (a) Read the complete sentence. Try to deduce the meaning from the context, looking for clues. Sometimes the contextual meaning is more relevant than the dictionary meaning.
- (b) If the author repeats the same word elsewhere in a different context to get his point across, the second context might help you.
- (c) If the author repeats the same thought, the repetition might help you to understand the meaning of the unfamiliar word.
- (d) Sometimes, if you break up the word in parts, it would give you a better understanding: e.g., un/pardon/able.
- (e) Reread the passage selectively,
- (f) Concentrate on each question individually to find out the areas comprising the answers.