

# READING COMPREHENSION

## PASSAGE

The single most important and fundamental difference between Chinese and Occidental peoples is undoubtedly the role played by the individual in the society. In the West, we place a strong emphasis on personal achievement, creativity, and initiative. We glory in our individual differences, nurture them, and value them as the essential features that make us unique. Indeed, uniqueness is a goal unto itself in the West; it's vitally important to us that we not be exactly like other people.

Who in the West hasn't been admonished to be your own person, or to look out for yourself because no one else can be counted on to look out for you? Who has never been praised for standing up for what you personally believe in, especially when the tide of opinion is flowing in the opposite direction? Among Western peoples, the premium is not on conformity; it is on individual expression and rugged independence.

In China, on the other hand—and no matter which side of the Taiwan strait—children are given an entirely different set of messages. Don't question the world around you or try to change it; accept it. Submit willingly and unquestioningly to authority. Your importance as an individual is not nearly as great as that of the role you play in a larger group.

That "larger group" may have appeared different in ancient China from what it looks like today. In Imperial China, it would have been one's extended family—grandparents, father, mother, siblings, uncles, aunts, and cousins of all descriptions, all of whom might well have lived together in the same compound. In modern day China, the group might be one's nuclear family, one's class at school, one's military unit, fellow members of a delegation. ...The situation varies; the dynamics, however, are much the same no matter what the group is.

Group process in China is not merely based on the authority of the leaders; there is a real premium on consensus. Matters are often debated at great length until agreement is reached on a course of action. And once a decision has been made, individual group members are expected to embrace it and act on it. This is one reason you will seldom hear a Chinese make an irreverent comment, or openly express a view at odds with that of his or her unit. Toeing the mark is important, and it is enforced.

In essence, Chinese enter into a sort of compact with their groups; in exchange for obedience and loyalty, they can expect protection and support and be confident that their well being will be a matter of concern to the group as a whole. Group membership requires that they subordinate their own wills to that of the whole and make decisions based on the best interests of the larger group, not personal selfishness. Chinese people must listen to those in authority and do as they say. And their actions, for good or ill, reflect not only on themselves but also on all of their compatriots. ...

Telephone etiquette provides still another illustration of the pre-eminence of the group in Chinese society. You generally do not identify yourself personally when answering the telephone; what is deemed important is your work unit. The fact that common practice is to answer "I am the Ministry of Foreign Trade" rather than "I am Mr. Wang" speaks volumes about the relative importance of the individual and the group. So does the fact that it is units, and not individuals, that invite foreign guests, arrange activities for them, and sign contracts with them. ...

Although Chinese people must be ever vigilant in fulfilling obligations to fellow group members, it's important to note that as a rule they feel no comparable responsibility toward outsiders. Courtesy and hospitality are frequently not forthcoming when Chinese deal with people with whom they have no connections. Indeed, they are capable of treating one another with indifference that can border on cruelty. The "us-them" dichotomy often surfaces in the work of the government in the form of intractable bureaucratic rivalries that impede progress and innovation. It has sometimes been pointed out that one of the Chinese culture's major failings is that its people just don't know how to treat outsiders. Ironically but luckily, foreigners are generally exempt from this kind of treatment, their very foreignness earning them favourable treatment as honoured guests.

1. All of the following are in conformity with the author's views in the passage, except that :
  - A. Groups are given prime importance rather than individuals in a Chinese society.
  - B. Individuality matters most rather than a group in the Western society.
  - C. Hospitality is the governing aspect of Chinese etiquette.
  - D. In a Chinese set up, the decision arrived at by the group are binding on the individuals.
2. Which of the following is not a characteristic feature of the Chinese way of life, as the passage makes it ?
  - A. Emphasis on obedience and loyalty.
  - B. Individual importance is submerged with that of the group.
  - C. Units, not individuals, are responsible for Chinese exchange of trade, contracts and know-how.
  - D. An individual is distinguished by the unique achievements irrespective of the achievements of the group.
3. As per the passage, the Chinese :
  - A. emphasise on toeing the mark.
  - B. do not encourage an open disagreement of an established view.
  - C. arrive at a decision on a matter on consensus, often preceded by a debate and not as per the leader's authority.
  - D. All of the above.

4. According to the passage, the "group" referred to, is :

- A. an all encompassing term and covers all of the family, organisation, association or an assembly.
- B. the state, the formulator and administrator of policies.
- C. regarding the members of the family that founded the Chinese ideology.
- D. None of the above.

5. All of the following are false in relation to the passage, except that :

- A. Chinese society is undemocratic and deprives the individual of freedom.
- B. A member of the group is assured of protection and support by the group, in exchange for obedience and loyalty.
- C. Chinese are not a progressive lot.
- D. China has emerged as a strong nation with the enforcement of this way of life.

6. Which of the following would be a major failing of the Chinese culture ?

- A. People live in subdued condition, in a state of perpetual fear and anxiety.
- B. Business has not geared and picked up to the extent desirable.
- C. People have not widened their outlook or expanded their horizons.
- D. Outsiders are given a raw treatment.

7. The Chinese way of living can best be synthesised by which of the following ?

- A. Many hands make light work.
- B. The culture and tradition of a nation is the sum total of the culture and tradition of the individual constituents that go to make it.
- C. One for all and all for one.
- D. Problems are best surmounted collectively.

8. A suitable title for the passage could be:

- A. Varying Cultures In The World.
- B. Occident Vs The Chinese Culture.
- C. Living In A Group - The Chinese Way.
- D. Loyalty And Obedience Pays.

9. The passage is handled in a manner which is:

- (A) informative (B) monotonous (C) vague (D) ideological

10. Which of the following, as per the passage, is indicative of the fundamental difference between the culture of the Occident and the Chinese ?

- A. Importance is given to the spiritual way of life rather than the temporal one, in the Chinese tradition, which is absent in the Occident one.

- B. Stress is on the individual rather than on society, in the Occident way of life, which absent in the Chinese pattern of living.
- C. Absence of bureaucracy in both Chinese as well as the Occident setup.
- D. Business ethics more well defined in Chinese society than in the Occident one.

11. From the passage it can be concluded that Chinese believe in:

- A. the united manner of living, each member of a unit working for its well being.
- B. the single pattern of living with individuals going about their own way.
- C. promoting the skills and talents of the individual.
- D. learning from other cultures and traditions.

1.(C) 2.(D) 3.(D) 4.(A) 5.(B) 6.(D) 7.(C) 8.(C) 9.(A) 10.(B) 11.(A)

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

12. \_\_\_\_\_ days she remained \_\_\_\_\_ a deep coma.

A) On / at B) Since / in C) For / in D) For / -

13. There is a growing awareness \_\_\_\_\_ the link \_\_\_\_\_ emotions and backaches.

A) in / among B) for / in C) of / between D) of / from

14. Many studies have shown less heart disease \_\_\_\_\_ groups \_\_\_\_\_ low blood cholesterol.

A) between / of B) among / with C) in / of D) within / at

15. As long as the bans remained \_\_\_\_\_ force, Turkey could not claim to be fully democratic.

A) with B) at C) on D) in

16. The cost of living index rose \_\_\_\_\_ 70 percent last year.

A) in B) by C) to D) up

## ANSWERS

12-C 13-C 14-B 15-D 16-B

17. To play fast and loose.

- A. To beguile others
- B. To be winning sometimes and losing at other times

- C. To play with someone's feeling
- D. To play tricks

Ans: D

18. To pull one's socks up.

- A. To depart
- B. To try hard
- C. To get ready
- D. To prepare

Ans: B

19. Dog in the manger.

- A. An undersized bull almost the shape of a dog
- B. A dog that has no kennel of its own
- C. A person who puts himself in difficulties on account of other people
- D. A person who prevents others from enjoying something useless to himself

Ans: D

### CHOOSE THE CORRECT SENTENCE

**Directions :** Each set of the following sentences comprises four alternatives labelled as 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D'. Candidate is required to select the most suitable alternative which conveys the exact meaning in accordance with the correct grammatical rules.

- 20. A. A summon has been served on him.  
B. A summons have been served on him.  
C. A summons has been served on him.  
D. A summon have been served to him.
- 21. A. You are not allowed to enter into the house.  
B. You are not allowed to enter the house.  
C. You are not allowed to enter in the house.  
D. You are not allowed to enter on the house.
- 22. A. Little care was needed to avert the accident.  
B. The little care was needed to avert the accident.  
C. A little care was needed to avert the accident.  
D. Less care was needed to avert the accident.
- 23. A. Could you please help me with any money?  
B. Could you please help me with some money?  
C. Would you please help me with any money?  
D. Can you please help me with some money?
- 24. A. Leena is a most intelligent student in the class.  
B. Leena is the most intelligent student,  
C. Leena is a most intelligent student.  
D. Leena is most intelligent student in the class.

25. A. She is more intelligent than any other boy in the class.  
 B. She is more intelligent than any girl in the class.,  
 C. She is more intelligent than any other girl in the class.  
 D. She is the most intelligent than any other girl in the class.
26. A. The teaching staff must take their lectures regularly when are asked by the Principal.  
 B. The teaching staff would have taken lectures regularly had they known that the Principal would know about it.  
 C. The teaching staff had taken the lectures regularly had they known that the Principal would come to know about it.  
 D. Many irregularities were found in their lectures by the Principal and he could not be disregarded them.
27. A. Anita was sitting with her husband on the steps of the temple with her lap full of newspapers when Bunty and Bitto came up.  
 B. Anita with her lap full of newspapers was sitting with her husband on the steps of the temple when Bunty and Bitto came up.  
 C. With her lap full of newspapers Anita was sitting with her husband on the steps of the temple when Bunty and Bitto came up.  
 D. Anita was sitting with her husband on the steps of the temple when Bunty and Bittu came up with her lap full of newspapers.

20	C
21	B
22	C
23	B
24	C
25	C
26	B
27	B

## SENTENCE IMPROVEMENT

28. Like ants, termites have an elaborate social structure in which a few individuals reproduce and the rest are serving the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or they battle intruders.

- (A) are serving the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or they battle  
 (B) are serving the colony in that they tend juveniles, gather food, build the nest, or battle  
 (C) serve the colony, tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or by battling  
 (D) serve the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, by building the nest, or by battling  
 (E) serve the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or battling

The correct answer is E.

29. Some 200 world-famous physicists recently attended a conference whose purpose not only was to consider the prospects for the next 50 years of research in physics but also assessing the accuracy of the predictions made at the last meeting of this type, which took place 50 years earlier.

- (A) not only was to consider the prospects for the next 50 years of research in physics but also assessing the accuracy of the predictions made at the last meeting of this type,

(B) not only was considering the prospects for the next 50 years of research in physics but also assessing the accuracy of the predictions which were made at the last meeting of this type and

(C) was not only considering the prospects for the next 50 years of research in physics but also to assess the accuracy of the predictions made at the last meeting of this type and

(D) was not only to consider the prospects for the next 50 years of research in physics but also to assess the accuracy of the predictions made at the last meeting of this type,

(E) was to consider not only the prospects for the next 50 years of research in physics but also assessing the accuracy of the predictions made at the last meeting of this type,

The correct answer is D.

30. Global warming is said to be responsible for extreme weather changes, which, like the heavy rains that caused more than \$2 billion in damages and led to flooding throughout the state of California, and the heat wave in the northeastern and midwestern United States, which was also the cause of a great amount of damage and destruction.

(A) which, like the heavy rains that caused more than \$2 billion in damages and led to flooding throughout the state of California,

(B) which, like the heavy rains that throughout the state of California caused more than \$2 billion in damages and led to flooding,

(C) like the heavy flooding that, because of rains throughout the state of California, caused more than \$2 billion in damages,

(D) such as the heavy flooding that led to rains throughout the state of California causing more than \$2 billion in damages,

(E) such as the heavy rains that led to flooding throughout the state of California, causing more than \$2 billion in damages,

The correct answer is E.

31. Some bat caves, like honeybee hives, have residents that take on different duties such as defending the entrance, acting as sentinels and to sound a warning at the approach of danger, and scouting outside the cave for new food and roosting sites.

(A) acting as sentinels and to sound

(B) acting as sentinels and sounding

(C) to act as sentinels and sound

(D) to act as sentinels and to sound

(E) to act as a sentinel sounding

The correct answer is B.

32. The voluminous personal papers of Thomas Alva Edison reveal that his inventions typically sprang to life not in a flash of inspiration but evolved slowly from previous works.

(A) sprang to life not in a flash of inspiration but evolved slowly

(B) sprang to life not in a flash of inspiration but were slowly evolved

(C) did not spring to life in a flash of inspiration but evolved slowly

- (D) did not spring to life in a flash of inspiration but had slowly evolved  
(E) did not spring to life in a flash of inspiration but they were slowly evolved

The correct answer is C.

33. Hundreds of species of fish generate and discharge electric currents, in bursts or as steady electric fields around their bodies, using their power either to find and attack prey, to defend themselves, or also for communicating and navigating.

- (A) either to find and attack prey, to defend themselves, or also for communicating and navigating  
(B) either for finding and attacking prey, defend themselves, or for communication and navigation  
(C) to find and attack prey, for defense, or communication and navigation  
(D) for finding and attacking prey, to defend themselves, or also for communication and navigation  
(E) to find and attack prey, to defend themselves, or to communicate and navigate

The correct answer is E.

34. Native to South America, when peanuts were introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century they were quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because of being so similar to the Bambarra groundnut, a popular indigenous plant.

- (A) when peanuts were introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century they were quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because of being  
(B) peanuts having been introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because of being  
(C) peanuts were introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and were quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because they were  
(D) peanuts, introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because they were  
(E) peanuts, introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and having been quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because they were

The correct answer is C.

35. It stood twelve feet tall, weighed nine thousand pounds, and wielded seven-inch claws, and Megatherium americanum, a giant ground sloth, may have been the largest hunting mammal ever to walk the Earth.

- (A) It stood twelve feet tall, weighed nine thousand pounds, and wielded seven-inch claws, and Megatherium americanum, a giant ground sloth,  
(B) It stood twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, and wielding seven-inch claws, Megatherium americanum was a giant ground sloth and



- (C) The giant ground sloth *Megatherium americanum*, having stood twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, and wielding seven-inch claws, it
- (D) Standing twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, and wielding seven-inch claws, *Megatherium americanum*, a giant ground sloth,
- (E) Standing twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, it wielded seven-inch claws, and the giant ground sloth *Megatherium americanum*

The correct answer is D.

## CRITICAL REASONING

36. Which of the following best completes the passage below? In a survey of job applicants, two-fifths admitted to being at least a little dishonest. However, the survey may underestimate the proportion of job applicants who are dishonest, because\_\_\_\_\_.

- A. some dishonest people taking the survey might have claimed on the survey to be honest
- B. some generally honest people taking the survey might have claimed on the survey to be dishonest
- C. some people who claimed on the survey to be at least a little dishonest may be very dishonest
- D. some people who claimed on the survey to be dishonest may have been answering honestly
- E. some people who are not job applicants are probably at least a little dishonest

37. The average life expectancy for the United States population as a whole is 73.9 years, but children born in Hawaii will live an average of 77 years, and those born in Louisiana, 71.7 years. If a newlywed couple from Louisiana were to begin their family in Hawaii, therefore, their children would be expected to live longer than would be the case if the family remained in Louisiana. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the conclusion drawn in the passage?

- A. Insurance company statisticians do not believe that moving to Hawaii will significantly lengthen the average Louisianan's life.
- B. The governor of Louisiana has falsely alleged that statistics for his state are inaccurate.
- C. The longevity ascribed to Hawaii's current population is attributable

mostly to genetically determined factors.

- D. Thirty percent of all Louisianans can expect to live longer than 77 years.
- E. Most of the Hawaiian Islands have levels of air pollution well below the national average for the United States.

38. The average life expectancy for the United States population as a whole is 73.9 years, but children born in Hawaii will live an average of 77 years, and those born in Louisiana, 71.7 years. If a newlywed couple from Louisiana were to begin their family in Hawaii, therefore, their children would be expected to live longer than would be the case if the family remained in Louisiana. Which of the following statements, if true, would most significantly strengthen the conclusion drawn in the passage?

- A. As population density increases in Hawaii, life expectancy figures for that state are likely to be revised downward.
- B. Environmental factors tending to favor longevity are abundant in Hawaii and less numerous in Louisiana.
- C. Twenty-five percent of all Louisianans who move to Hawaii live longer than 77 years.
- D. Over the last decade, average life expectancy has risen at a higher rate for Louisianans than for Hawaiians.
- E. Studies show that the average life expectancy for Hawaiians who move permanently to Louisiana is roughly equal to that of Hawaiians who remain in Hawaii.

39. Insurance Company X is considering issuing a new policy to cover services required by elderly people who suffer from diseases that afflict the elderly. Premiums for the policy must be low enough to attract customers. Therefore, Company X is concerned that the income from the policies would not be sufficient to pay for the claims that would be made. Which of the following strategies would be most likely to minimize Company X's losses on the policies?

- A. Attracting middle-aged customers unlikely to submit claims for benefits for many years.
- B. Insuring only those individuals who did not suffer any serious diseases as children
- C. Including a greater number of services in the policy than are included in other policies of lower cost

D. Insuring only those individuals who were rejected by other companies for similar policies

E. Insuring only those individuals who are wealthy enough to pay for the medical services

40. A program instituted in a particular state allows parents to prepay their children's future college tuition at current rates. The program then pays the tuition annually for the child at any of the state's public colleges in which the child enrolls. Parents should participate in the program as a means of decreasing the cost for their children's college education. Which of the following, if true, is the most appropriate reason for parents NOT to participate in the program?

A. the parents are unsure about which public college in the state the child will attend.

B. The amount of money accumulated by putting the prepayment funds in an interest-bearing account today will be greater than the total cost of tuition for any of the public colleges when the child enrolls.

C. The annual cost of tuition at the state's public colleges is expected to increase at a faster rate than the annual increase in the cost of living.

D. Some of the state's public colleges are contemplating large increases in tuition next year.

E. The prepayment plan would not cover the cost of room and board at any of the state's public colleges.

ANSWERS

36. A 37.C 38. B 39.A 40. B