



Practice Test #10

FOR THE TOEFL®
READING SECTION



Practice Test #10
For the TOEFL®
Reading Section



The TOEFL Reading Section: *Directions*

In this section, you will be able to demonstrate your ability to understand academic passages in English.

There are two passages in this section. You have 36 minutes to complete the entire section. You may read the passages and answer the questions in any order you choose but plan to spend about 18 minutes on each passage and the accompanying questions.

Most questions are worth one point, but the last question for each passage is worth more than one point. The directions for the last question indicate how many points you may receive.

At the end of this practice test, you will find an answer key, information to help determine your score and explanations of the answers.

Turn the page to begin the reading section.



Why Do We Sleep?

We spend approximately one-third of our lives sleeping. Given the average life expectancy for U.S. citizens falls between 73 and 79 years old, we can expect to spend approximately 25 years of our lives sleeping. Some animals never sleep (e.g., some fish and amphibian species); other animals can go extended periods of time without sleep and without apparent negative consequences (e.g., dolphins); yet some animals (e.g., rats) die after two weeks of sleep deprivation. Given the central role that sleep plays in our lives and the number of adverse consequences that have been associated with sleep deprivation, one would think that we would have a clear understanding of why it is that we sleep. Unfortunately, this is not the case; however, several hypotheses have been proposed to explain the function of sleep.

One popular hypothesis of sleep incorporates the perspective of evolutionary psychology. Evolutionary psychology is a discipline that studies how universal patterns of behavior and cognitive processes have evolved over time as a result of natural selection. Variations and adaptations in cognition and behavior make individuals more or less successful in reproducing and passing their genes to their offspring. One hypothesis from this perspective might argue that sleep is essential to restore resources that are expended during the day. Just as bears hibernate in the winter when resources are scarce, perhaps people sleep at night to reduce their energy expenditures. While this is an intuitive explanation of sleep, there is little research that supports this explanation. In fact, it has been suggested that there is no reason to think that energetic demands could not be addressed with periods of rest and inactivity, and some research has actually found a negative correlation between energetic demands and the amount of time spent sleeping.

Another evolutionary hypothesis of sleep holds that our sleep patterns evolved as an adaptive response to predatory risks, which increase in darkness. Thus we sleep in safe areas to reduce the chance of harm. Again, this is an intuitive and appealing explanation for why we sleep. Perhaps our ancestors spent extended periods of time asleep to reduce attention to themselves from potential predators. Comparative research indicates, however, that the relationship that exists between predatory risk and sleep is very complex and equivocal. Some research suggests that species that face higher predatory risks sleep fewer hours than other species, while other researchers suggest there is no relationship between the amount of time a given species spends in deep sleep and its predation risk.

Another theory regarding why we sleep involves sleep's importance for cognitive function and memory formation. Indeed, we know sleep deprivation results in disruptions in cognition and memory deficits, leading to impairments in our abilities to maintain attention, make decisions, and recall long-term memories. Moreover, these impairments become more severe as the amount of sleep deprivation increases. Furthermore, slow-wave sleep after learning a new task can improve resultant performance on that task and seems essential for effective memory formation. Understanding the impact of sleep on cognitive function should help you understand that cramming all night for a test may not be effective and can even prove counterproductive.

It is quite possible that sleep serves no single universally adaptive function, and different species have evolved different patterns of sleep in response to their unique evolutionary pressures. While we have



discussed the negative outcomes associated with sleep deprivation, it should be pointed out that there are many benefits that are associated with adequate amounts of sleep. A few such benefits listed by the National Sleep Foundation include maintaining a healthy weight, lowering stress levels, improving mood, and increasing motor coordination, as well as a number of benefits related to cognition and memory formation. Sleep has also been associated with other cognitive benefits. Research indicates that included among these possible benefits are increased capacities for creative thinking, language learning, and inferential judgments. It is possible that even the processing of emotional information is influenced by certain aspects of sleep.

Source: OpenStax. 2019. Sleep and why we sleep.

Reading Paragraph 1

We spend approximately one-third of our lives sleeping. Given the average life expectancy for U.S. citizens falls between 73 and 79 years old, we can expect to spend approximately 25 years of our lives sleeping. Some animals never sleep (e.g., some fish and amphibian species); other animals can go extended periods of time without sleep and without apparent negative consequences (e.g., dolphins); yet some animals (e.g., rats) die after two weeks of sleep deprivation. Given the central role that sleep plays in our lives and the number of **adverse** consequences that have been associated with sleep deprivation, one would think that we would have a clear understanding of why it is that we sleep. Unfortunately, this is not the case; however, several hypotheses have been proposed to explain the function of sleep.

1. The word **adverse in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to**

- a. Visible
- b. Negative
- c. Apparent
- d. Measurable

2. According to the paragraph, all of the following are true EXCEPT

- a. All animals require at least some amount of sleep to survive
- b. Dolphins can stay awake for great lengths of time without any noticeable negative effects
- c. There are some animals that will die if they go for two weeks with no sleep
- d. People do not have a thorough understanding of why living things need sleep



Reading Paragraph 2

One popular hypothesis of sleep incorporates the perspective of evolutionary psychology. Evolutionary psychology is a discipline that studies how universal patterns of behavior and cognitive processes have evolved over time as a result of natural selection. Variations and adaptations in cognition and behavior make individuals more or less successful in reproducing and passing their genes to their offspring. One hypothesis from this perspective might argue that sleep is essential to restore resources that are expended during the day. Just as bears hibernate in the winter when resources are scarce, perhaps people sleep at night to reduce their energy expenditures. While this is an intuitive explanation of sleep, there is little research that supports this explanation. In fact, it has been suggested that there is no reason to think that energetic demands could not be addressed with periods of rest and inactivity, and some research has actually found a negative correlation between energetic demands and the amount of time spent sleeping.

3. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is true?

- a. Evolutionary psychology can explain the human need for sleep
- b. The most popular theory of sleep is related to evolutionary psychology
- c. Humans require sleep because it helps to replenish the energy we use each day
- d. It is possible that humans sleep to lower their energy output

4. According to paragraph 2, what does some research show about sleep?

- a. Just like bears hibernate to conserve resources, humans need to sleep at night to save energy
- b. Humans have to sleep at night to restore energy levels, which are drained throughout the day
- c. There is not a lot of evidence to support the claim that humans sleep to restore energy
- d. Humans require sleep because they are more advanced beings than other animals



Reading Paragraph 3

Another evolutionary hypothesis of sleep holds that our sleep patterns evolved as an adaptive response to predatory risks, which increase in darkness. Thus we sleep in safe areas to reduce the chance of harm. Again, this is an intuitive and appealing explanation for why we sleep. Perhaps our ancestors spent extended periods of time asleep to reduce attention to themselves from potential predators. Comparative research indicates, however, that the relationship that exists between predatory risk and sleep is very complex and equivocal. Some research suggests that species that face higher predatory risks sleep fewer hours than other species, while other researchers suggest there is no relationship between the amount of time a given species spends in deep sleep and its predation risk.

5. Why does the author say, "which increase in darkness"?

- a. To explain that most predators are more active at night in the dark
- b. To suggest why humans sleep at night as opposed to during the day
- c. To elaborate on the fact that night is the best time for humans to sleep
- d. To demonstrate the activity and habits of most predators

6. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 3? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- a. The research indicates that animals with a lot of predators sleep less than those that do not
- b. There is only a slight connection between the sleep time of a species and its predatory risks
- c. Experiments have provided mixed results as to how predatory risk affects prey's sleep time
- d. There is research that shows that species with more predatory risk sleep less and that sleep time and predatory risk are unrelated



Reading Paragraph 4

Another theory regarding why we sleep involves sleep's importance for cognitive function and memory formation. Indeed, we know sleep deprivation results in disruptions in cognition and memory deficits, leading to impairments in our abilities to maintain attention, make decisions, and recall long-term memories. Moreover, these impairments become more severe as the amount of sleep deprivation increases. Furthermore, slow-wave sleep after learning a new task can improve resultant performance on that task and seems essential for effective memory formation. Understanding the impact of sleep on cognitive function should help you understand that cramming all night for a test may not be effective and can even prove counterproductive.

7. According to paragraph 4, which of the following is true?

- a. Being sleep deprived could prevent an individual from having trouble with their cognitive functions
- b. The more sleep deprived we are, the more our cognitive abilities are affected
- c. The most valid theory as to why we sleep has to do with how it affects our cognition
- d. Sleep deprivation has strong effects on some people and almost no effect on others

Reading Paragraph 5

It is quite possible that sleep serves no single universally adaptive function, and different species have evolved different patterns of sleep in response to their unique evolutionary pressures. While we have discussed the negative outcomes associated with sleep deprivation, it should be pointed out that there are many benefits that are associated with adequate amounts of sleep. A few such benefits listed by the National Sleep Foundation include maintaining a healthy weight, lowering stress levels, improving mood, and increasing motor coordination, as well as a number of benefits related to cognition and memory formation. Sleep has also been associated with other cognitive benefits. Research indicates that included among these possible benefits are increased capacities for creative thinking, language learning, and inferential judgments. It is possible that even the processing of emotional information is influenced by certain aspects of sleep.

8. What can be inferred from the information in paragraph five?

- a. It is important for people to reduce sleep in order to optimize cognition
- b. Important decisions should be made after getting an adequate amount of sleep
- c. Motor functions are affected by the amount of sleep we get
- d. The function of sleep is different for everyone, and the amount required varies



9. Look at the four squares (A, B, C, D) that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

Sleep is an important part of life for most species, especially us humans who devote a significant portion of our time alive sleeping.

Where would the sentence best fit?

A We spend approximately one-third of our lives sleeping. B Given the average life expectancy for U.S. citizens falls between 73 and 79 years old. We can expect to spend approximately 25 years of our lives sleeping. C Some animals never sleep (e.g., some fish and amphibian species); other animals can go extended periods of time without sleep and without apparent negative consequences (e.g., dolphins); yet some animals (e.g., rats) die after two weeks of sleep deprivation. D Given the central role that sleep plays in our lives and the number of adverse consequences that have been associated with sleep deprivation, one would think that we would have a clear understanding of why it is that we sleep.

10. DIRECTIONS: An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided below. Complete the summary by selecting the THREE answer choices that express the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not belong in the summary because they express ideas that are not presented in the passage or are minor ideas in the passage. **This question is worth 2 points.**

Sleep is known to affect the cognitive functions of humans, but the exact reason why we require sleep is not well-understood.

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- a. There are several theories that aim to explain the function of sleep in humans
- b. Some species of fish do not require sleep, while other animals can die from sleep deprivation
- c. Some researchers argue that species with more predators sleep less
- d. It is possible that species developed different sleep patterns in response to evolutionary forces
- e. Predators are more active in the dark, which might be the reason why humans sleep at night
- f. Humans gain heightened cognitive abilities when well-rested, along with other benefits from adequate sleep



Life in Feudal Europe

During the Middle Ages, between the 5th to 15th centuries, society consisted of different classes of people. Most of the population were peasants who worked the land, noblemen who owned the land, knights who fought to protect the land, and clergy who ran the church and other religious aspects of life. Almost all Europeans at this time lived in small villages that consisted of a large house or castle for the lord, a church for the clergy, and simple homes for the peasants or serfs, who made up over 70 percent of Western Europe's population. Hundreds of these castles and walled cities remain all over Europe today.

Europe's feudal society was a mutually supportive system. The lords owned the land; knights gave military service to a lord and carried out his justice; serfs worked the land in return for the protection offered by the lord's castle or the walls of his city, into which they fled in times of danger from invaders. Much land was communally farmed at first, but as lords became more powerful, they extended their ownership and rented land to their subjects. Thus, although they were technically free, serfs were effectively bound to the land they worked, which supported them and their families as well as the lord and all who depended on him. The Catholic Church, the only church in Europe at the time, also owned vast tracts of land and became very wealthy by collecting not only tithes (taxes consisting of 10 percent of annual earnings) but also rents on its lands.

A serf's life was difficult. Women often died in childbirth, and perhaps one-third of children died before the age of five. Without sanitation or medicine, many people perished from diseases we consider inconsequential today; few lived to be older than forty-five. Entire families, usually including grandparents, lived in one or two-room hovels that were cold, dark, and dirty. A fire was kept lit and was always a danger to the thatched roofs, which could easily catch on fire and burn the inhabitants alive. The constant smoke also affected the inhabitants' health and eyesight. Most individuals owned no more than two sets of clothing, consisting of a woolen jacket or tunic and linen undergarments, and bathed only when the waters melted in spring.

In an agrarian society that relies on the land, the seasons dictate the rhythm of life. Everyone in Europe's feudal society had a job to do and worked hard. The father was the unquestioned head of the family. Women were forced to be subordinate to men and had almost no legal rights at the time. Idleness meant hunger. When the land began to thaw in early spring, peasants started tilling the soil with primitive wooden plows and crude rakes and hoes. Then they planted crops of wheat, rye, barley, and oats, reaping small yields that barely sustained the population. Bad weather, crop disease, or insect infestation could cause an entire village to starve or force the survivors to move to another location.

Early summer saw the first harvesting of hay, which was stored until needed to feed the animals in winter. Men and boys sheared the sheep, now heavy with wool from the cold weather, while women and children washed the wool and spun it into yarn. The coming of fall meant crops needed to be harvested and prepared for winter. Livestock was butchered, and the meat was smoked or salted to preserve it. With the harvest in and the provisions stored, fall was also the time for celebrating and giving thanks to God. Winter brought the people indoors to weave yarn into fabric, sew clothing, separate grain, and keep the fires



going. Everyone celebrated the birth of Christ in conjunction with the winter solstice. As has been the case in many pre-modern societies, winter was the most brutal season where many suffered and died from cold or starvation.

Reading Paragraph 1

During the Middle Ages, between the 5th to 15th centuries, society consisted of different classes of people. Most of the population were peasants who worked the land, noblemen who owned the land, knights who fought to protect the land, and clergy who ran the church and other religious aspects of life. Almost all Europeans at this time lived in small villages that consisted of a large house or castle for the lord, a church for the clergy, and simple homes for the peasants or serfs, who made up over 70 percent of Western Europe's population. Hundreds of these castles and walled cities remain all over Europe today.

1. Which of the following is true about the Middle Ages?

- a. It was the period from the 500s to 1500s when people were organized into different classes
- b. Clergymen consisted of more than two-thirds of Western Europe's population
- c. Few of the castles and walls of the cities from the Middle Ages remain in Europe today
- d. Serfs worked on the lands owned by nobles and protected by knights

2. What does the author say about the way people lived during the Middle Ages?

- a. Few Europeans lived in small villages in the countryside
- b. Clergymen, peasants, and serfs lived in simple homes
- c. The majority of people in Europe resided in villages with a church
- d. Every village contained a large house and castle for the lord



Reading Paragraph 2

Europe's feudal society was a mutually supportive system. The lords owned the land; knights gave military service to a lord and carried out his justice; serfs worked the land in return for the protection offered by the lord's castle or the walls of his city, into which they fled in times of danger from invaders. Much land was communally farmed at first, but as lords became more powerful, they extended their ownership and rented land to their subjects. Thus, although they were technically free, serfs were effectively bound to the land they worked, which supported them and their families as well as the lord and all who depended on him. The Catholic Church, the only church in Europe at the time, also owned vast tracts of land and became very wealthy by collecting not only tithes (taxes consisting of 10 percent of annual earnings) but also rents on its lands.

3. All of the following are true EXCEPT

- a. Each level of the feudal system in Europe supported the other levels in some way
- b. Landowners were referred to as lords during Europe's feudal society
- c. The lower classes of society worked the land in return for protection from the lords
- d. The land of the lords was farmed communally

4. The phrase **bound to in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to**

- a. Restricted to
- b. Knotted to
- c. Supported by
- d. Judged by



Reading Paragraph 3

A serf's life was difficult. Women often died in childbirth, and perhaps one-third of children died before the age of five. Without sanitation or medicine, many people perished from diseases we consider inconsequential today; few lived to be older than forty-five. Entire families, usually including grandparents, lived in one or two-room hovels that were cold, dark, and dirty. A fire was kept lit and was always a danger to the thatched roofs, which could easily catch on fire and burn the inhabitants alive. The constant smoke also affected the inhabitants' health and eyesight. Most individuals owned no more than two sets of clothing, consisting of a woolen jacket or tunic and linen undergarments, and bathed only when the waters melted in spring.

5. Why does the author say, "*Without sanitation or medicine*"?

- a. To provide the main reason why the serfs had a difficult life
- b. To suggest that this period in Europe was unsanitary and without medical treatment
- c. To allude to the level of sophistication of European society
- d. To explain why the mortality rate was so high and life expectancy so low

Reading Paragraph 4

In an agrarian society that relies on the land, the seasons dictate the rhythm of life. Everyone in Europe's feudal society had a job to do and worked hard. The father was the unquestioned head of the family. Women were forced to be subordinate to men and had almost no legal rights at the time. Idleness meant hunger. When the land began to thaw in early spring, peasants started tilling the soil with primitive wooden plows and crude rakes and hoes. Then they planted crops of wheat, rye, barley, and oats, reaping small yields that barely sustained the population. Bad weather, crop disease, or insect infestation could cause an entire village to starve or force the survivors to move to another location.

6. The word **agrarian** in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to

- a. Small
- b. Communal
- c. Agricultural
- d. Cooperative



Reading Paragraph 5

Early summer saw the first harvesting of hay, which was stored until needed to feed the animals in winter. Men and boys sheared the sheep, now heavy with wool from the cold weather, while women and children washed the wool and spun it into yarn. The coming of fall meant crops needed to be harvested and prepared for winter. Livestock was butchered, and the meat was smoked or salted to preserve it. With the harvest in and the provisions stored, fall was also the time for celebrating and giving thanks to God. Winter brought the people indoors to weave yarn into fabric, sew clothing, separate grain, and keep the fires going. Everyone celebrated the birth of Christ in conjunction with the winter solstice. As has been the case in many pre-modern societies, winter was the most brutal season where many suffered and died from cold or starvation.

7. All of the following are true EXCEPT

- a. Hay was harvested at the beginning of summer
- b. Women and girls made yarn from wool that was sheared from sheep
- c. The end of fall was the time when crops and livestock were prepared for winter
- d. People celebrated once the crops were harvested and the provisions were stored

8. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 5? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- a. Winter was the hardest season for people living in Europe
- b. Numerous people died of cold or hunger in winter
- c. Winters are not so fatal for modern societies
- d. More people died in the winter than in any other season



9. Look at the four squares (A, B, C, D) that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

A hierarchy existed not only within society but within the household as well.

Where would this sentence best fit?

A Everyone in Europe's feudal society had a job to do and worked hard. B The father was the unquestioned head of the family. C Women were forced to be subordinate to men and had almost no legal rights at the time. D Idleness meant hunger. When the land began to thaw in early spring, peasants started tilling the soil with primitive wooden plows and crude rakes and hoes.

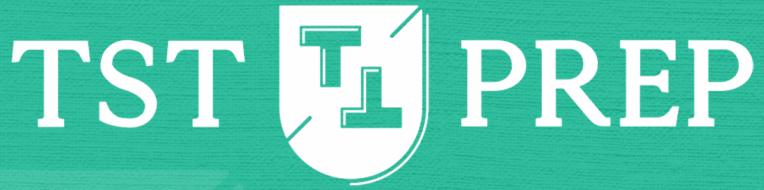
10. DIRECTIONS: An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided below. Complete the summary by selecting the THREE answer choices that express the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not belong in the summary because they express ideas that are not presented in the passage or are minor ideas in the passage. **This question is worth 2 points.**

Life in feudal Europe was hard work, particularly for the peasants who were the subordinates of their lords.

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- a. The Middle Ages is considered to be between the 5th to 15th centuries
- b. Europe's feudal society was a reciprocal system in which knights and serfs served their lords in return for resources, protection, and land
- c. Those at the bottom of the social ladder worked the land but often barely sustained themselves
- d. Most Europeans in the Middle Ages were Christian and celebrated the birth of Christ along with the winter solstice
- e. Men and boys sheared the sheep, and women and girls spun wool to make yarn in the winter
- f. Serfs were free but really had no other choice than to work for their lords to support their families





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Practice Test #10
For the TOEFL® Reading Section
Answer Key



The Grading Rubric

Use the chart below to determine your score in the reading section. Most questions are worth one point, but the last question for each passage is worth more than one point.

There are only 20 questions in this reading section, but the raw score is either 22 or 23. The last question of each passage is either a Summary or an Organization question. There is always at least one Summary question, and sometimes two.

Summary questions are worth two points. If all three choices are correct, award yourself two points. If two choices are correct and one is incorrect, award yourself one point. If two or more choices are incorrect, you earn zero points for the given question.

Organization questions are worth three points. If all five choices are correct, award yourself three points. If four choices are correct and one is incorrect, award yourself two points. If three choices are correct and two are incorrect, award yourself one point. If three or more choices are incorrect, you earn zero points for the given question.

Raw Points	Score Estimate	Raw Points	Score Estimate
22	30	11	15
21	29	10	14
20	27	9	12
19	26	8	11
18	24	7	9
17	23	6	8
16	22	5	7
15	20	4	5
14	19	3	4
13	18	2	3
12	16	1	1



Why Do We Sleep?: Answer Key

Source: OpenStax. 2019. Sleep and why we sleep

1. B (vocabulary)

B is correct because “adverse” is closest in meaning to “negative” in this situation. Option **A** (“visible”) and option **C** (“apparent”) are similar in meaning and can be eliminated. **D** can also be eliminated because nothing in the paragraph speaks to “measuring” the “consequences” of sleep deprivation. The paragraph discusses the effects of sleep deprivation on various species, and in this sentence, it is made clear that sleep has an essential role in human life. Therefore, it only makes sense that the correct choice would be “negative”.

2. A (negative factual information)

A is correct because it is untrue. Not “all” animals require sleep. In fact, the paragraph tells us that “*Some animals never sleep (e.g., several fish and amphibian species); other animals can go extended periods of time without sleep and without apparent negative consequences*”. Options **B** to **D** are incorrect choices because they are true statements from the paragraph. **B** and **C** are true because the paragraph states, “*other animals can go extended periods of time without sleep and without apparent negative consequences (e.g., dolphins); yet some animals (e.g., rats) die after two weeks of sleep deprivation*”. **D** is also true because the last two sentences say, “*one would think that we would have a clear understanding of why it is that we sleep. Unfortunately, this is not the case...*”.

3. D (factual information)

D is correct because it is true and stated in paragraph two: “*Just as bears hibernate in the winter when resources are scarce, perhaps people sleep at night to reduce their energy expenditures*”. Options **A** to **C** are incorrect choices because they are untrue. **A** is wrong because evolutionary psychology does not “explain the human need for sleep;” the original sentence says, “*One popular hypothesis of sleep incorporates the perspective of evolutionary psychology*”. Option **B** is incorrect because the original statement says, “*One popular hypothesis,*” not the “*most*” popular. The modifier here significantly changes the meaning. Option **C** is incorrect because the original statement is: “*One hypothesis from this perspective might argue that sleep is essential to restore resources that are expended during the day,*” whereas **C** states it as a fact.

4. C (factual information)

C is correct because the final sentence in paragraph 2 tells us that “*...research has actually found a negative correlation between energetic demands and the amount of time spent sleeping*”. Options **A** and **B** are incorrect because they are only theories, but the choice presents them as if they are facts. Option **D** is incorrect because it is not mentioned at all in the paragraph.



5. B (rhetorical purpose)

B is correct because the first part of the sentence introduces the theory that humans sleep “*as an adaptive response to predatory risk*”, and the fact that these risks “*increase in darkness*” explains why humans typically sleep at night when it is dark. Option A is incorrect because this phrase does not explain why predators are more active at night; it just states that predatory *risks* increase at night, which implies predators are more active but does not give the reason for it. Option C is wrong because this phrase is not proof of anything. Option D can be eliminated because this phrase does not actually show or demonstrate the behavior of predators.

6. D (sentence simplification)

D is correct because it properly paraphrases the main point of the sentence in paragraph three. Option A is incorrect because there is conflicting research. In addition to research that shows species with more predatory risk sleep less, there is also research that shows no relationship between species’ sleep time and predatory risk. Option B is wrong because the modifier “*slight*” alters the meaning significantly. Option C is incorrect because the sentence does not talk about “*experiments*” or “*results*”, just research.

7. B (factual information)

B is correct because the paragraph says that sleep deprivation causes “*disruptions in cognition and memory deficits, leading to impairments in our abilities to maintain attention, make decisions, and recall long-term memories*” and that “*these impairments become more severe as the amount of sleep deprivation increases*”. Option A is incorrect because it says that sleep deprivation could prevent these effects when the original statement says, “*we know sleep deprivation results in...*”. Option C is wrong because the paragraph does not state that this theory is the most valid. Option D is incorrect because it is not mentioned in the paragraph.

8. B (inference)

B is correct because the information in the paragraph makes it clear that humans process emotional information and function better overall when they get an adequate amount of sleep. Thus, it is reasonable to infer that if our cognitive functions are better when we are rested and worse when tired, we should make important decisions after getting adequate sleep. There is no information to suggest that option A is correct, though the opposite is stated specifically. Option C is incorrect because this is specifically stated in the paragraph and thus, is not an inference. Option D can be eliminated because nothing about this is stated or discussed, or suggested in the paragraph.



9. A (insert text)

A is correct because the sentence is an introductory one that introduces the topic: sleep. It is a general sentence that is the main indicator that it comes first and introduces the topic. The second half of the sentence is more specific and introduces the following sentences. The second half of the sentence mentions that humans spend a lot of time sleeping; thus, it makes sense that the sentence that elaborates more on this topic follows it.

10. A, D, F (prose summary)

A, D, and F are correct. These choices are related to the summary sentence in that they explain our current understanding of sleep, and they are all points that are discussed in detail throughout the passage. Options **B, C, and E** are incorrect because they are details that add to the discussion but are not critical to it, nor are they related to the given statement. Option **B** has nothing to do with the sleep of humans, and option **E** does not contribute to the discussion of why humans require sleep (only why they sleep at night).

Life in Feudal Europe: Answer Key

1. D (factual information)

D is the correct answer because the paragraph states, "*peasants who worked the land, noblemen who owned the land, knights who fought to protect the land,*" and later, it states that "serfs" is another word for "peasants". **A** is incorrect because the first sentence says, "*During the Middle Ages, between the 5th and 15th century...*" which is the 400s to the 1400s. **B** is not correct because the paragraph states that 70 percent of the population was peasants or serfs, not clergymen. **C** is not correct because the passage says that "*hundreds of these castles and walled cities remain...*" so it is incorrect to say "few".

2. C (factual information)

C is correct because the paragraph says that "*Almost all Europeans lived in small villages that consisted of...a church for the clergy*". Option **A** is incorrect because the original statement says "Almost all," not "few". Option **B** is incorrect because the paragraph says there were "*simple homes for the peasants or serfs*" but does not mention whether or not clergymen lived in simple homes. Option **D** is wrong because the paragraph says that villages "*consisted of a large house or castle for the lord,*" not that "*every*" village contained both.



3. D (negative factual information)

D is correct because it's not true. The paragraph states that "*Much land was communally farmed at first, but as lords became more powerful, they extended their ownership and rented land to their subjects,*" so the land was not always farmed communally. Options **A** to **C** are incorrect because they are true statements from the paragraph.

4. A (vocabulary)

A is correct because "*bound to*" means tied, constrained, or restricted to. **B** is incorrect because "*knot*" is more connected to physically tying something, while "*bound to*" is more figurative in the relationship between serfs and the land. There is a context clue in the first clause, "... *although they were technically free*," which is contrasted by "*bound to the land*", so the correct answer must be the opposite of "free".

5. D (rhetorical purpose)

D is correct because the phrase "*Without sanitation or medicine*" sets up the rest of the sentence, which says, "*many people perished from diseases we consider inconsequential today; few lived to be older than forty-five*". The lack of sanitation and medicine explains why so many died and why people did not live long lives. Therefore, **A** is not correct because this does not explain why a serf's life was difficult. **B** and **C** are not correct because, while true, neither statement explains the author's purpose for using this phrase.

6. C (vocabulary)

C is correct because "*agrarian*" means "*farming or agricultural*", so it is closest in meaning to "*agricultural*". The phrase, "...*that relies on the land, the seasons dictate...*", provides some contextual clues, and **D** ("cooperative") does not make sense here. **A** and **B** are also incorrect because, while these societies may be "small" or "communal", these words are not synonymous with "*agrarian*".

7. C (negative factual information)

C is correct because it is untrue, according to the paragraph. The original statements are, "*the coming of fall meant crops needed to be harvested and prepared for winter. Livestock was butchered....*" Option **C** says "*the end of fall*," whereas the original sentence says "*the coming of fall*", which is before or at the beginning of fall. **A** is incorrect because it is stated in the first sentence. **B** is true because the passage states that "*Men and boys sheared the sheep, now heavy with wool from the cold weather, while women and children washed the wool and spun it into yarn*". **D** is also true because it says, "*With the harvest in and the provisions stored, fall was also the time for celebrating...*".



8. B (sentence simplification)

B is correct because the main point of the sentence is reiterated: cold and hunger led to the death of many people in the winter. Option **A** is incorrect because the sentence says that winter was the most difficult season in many pre-modern societies, not only in Europe. Option **C** is incorrect because this does not paraphrase the sentence; it is an inference. Option **D** is incorrect because the sentence does not make a comparison that "more" people died in the winter, as this option suggests.

9. B (insert text)

B is the correct answer because the sentence refers to a hierarchy within society and within the household. The sentence prior mentions the society and the one following mentions the hierarchy of the household: "*The father was the unquestioned head of the family*". Therefore, the sentence does not make sense anywhere else in the paragraph.

10. B, C, F (prose summary)

B, **C**, and **F** are correct because these points directly relate to the summary sentence and the main discussion of the passage. They are discussed and supported by examples and details throughout the passage. Options **A**, **D**, and **E** are incorrect because they are minor details and are, overall, not relevant to the summary sentence or the main topic of the passage.

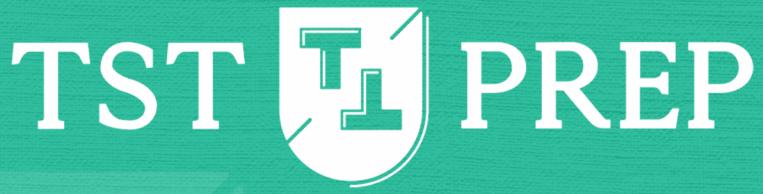


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