

# GIẢI THÍCH SIÊU CHI TIẾT CAMBRIDGE IELTS 15

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(Phân tích chi tiết từng câu hỏi, giải thích căn cứ phương pháp, các bẫy, từ paraphrase trong bài IELTS Reading trong bộ Cam)

### TEST 1

#### Test 1 – Passage 1 – Cambridge 15

##### Nutmeg - a valuable spice

The nutmeg tree, *Myristica fragrans*, is a large evergreen tree native to Southeast Asia. Until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, it only grew in one place in the world: a small group of islands in the Banda Sea, part of the Moluccas -or Spice Islands -in northeastern Indonesia. The tree is thickly branched with dense foliage of tough, dark green oval leaves, and produces small, yellow, bell-shaped flowers and pale yellow pear-shaped fruits. The fruit is encased in a fleshy husk. When the fruit is ripe, this husk splits into two halves along a ridge running the length of the fruit. Inside is a purple-brown shiny seed, 2-3cm long by about 2cm across, surrounded by a lacy red or crimson covering called an 'aril'. These are the sources of the two spices nutmeg and mace, the former being produced from the dried seed and the latter from the aril.

Nutmeg was a highly prized and costly ingredient in European cuisine in the Middle Ages, and was used as a flavouring, medicinal, and preservative agent. Throughout this period, the Arabs were the exclusive importers of the spice to Europe. They sold nutmeg for high prices to merchants based in Venice, but they never revealed the exact location of the source of this extremely valuable commodity. The Arab-Venetian dominance of the trade finally ended in 1512, when the Portuguese reached the Banda Islands and began exploiting its precious resources.

Always in danger of competition from neighbouring Spain, the Portuguese began subcontracting their spice distribution to Dutch traders. Profits began to flow into the Netherlands, and the Dutch commercial fleet swiftly grew into one of the largest in the world. The Dutch quietly gained control of most of the shipping and trading of spices in Northern Europe. Then, in 1580, Portugal fell under Spanish rule, and by the end of the 16th century the Dutch found themselves locked out of the market. As prices for pepper, nutmeg, and other spices soared across Europe, they decided to fight back.

In 1602, Dutch merchants founded the VOC, a trading corporation better known as the Dutch East India Company. By 1617, the VOC was the richest commercial operation in the world. The company had 50,000 employees worldwide, with a private army of 30,000

men and a fleet of 200 ships. At the same time, thousands of people across Europe were dying of the plague, a highly contagious and deadly disease. Doctors were desperate for a way to stop the spread of this disease, and they decided nutmeg held the cure. Everybody wanted nutmeg, and many were willing to spare no expense to have it. Nutmeg bought for a few pennies in Indonesia could be sold for 68,000 times its original cost on the streets of London. The only problem was the short supply. And that's where the Dutch found their opportunity.

The Banda Islands were ruled by local sultans who insisted on maintaining a neutral trading policy towards foreign powers. This allowed them to avoid the presence of Portuguese or Spanish troops on their soil, but it also left them unprotected from other invaders. In 1621, the Dutch arrived and took over. Once securely in control of the Bandas, the Dutch went to work protecting their new investment. They concentrated all nutmeg production into a few easily guarded areas, uprooting and destroying any trees outside the plantation zones. Anyone caught growing a nutmeg seedling or carrying seeds without the proper authority was severely punished. In addition, all exported nutmeg was covered with lime to make sure there was no chance a fertile seed which could be grown elsewhere would leave the islands. There was only one obstacle to Dutch domination. One of the Banda Islands, a sliver of land called Run, only 3km long by less than 1km wide, was under the control of the British. After decades of fighting for control of this tiny island, the Dutch and British arrived at a compromise settlement, the Treaty of Breda, in 1667. Intent on securing their hold over every nutmeg-producing island, the Dutch offered a trade: if the British would give them the island of Run, they would in turn give Britain a distant and much less valuable island in North America. The British agreed. That other island was Manhattan, which is how New Amsterdam became New York. The Dutch now had a monopoly over the nutmeg trade which would last for another century.

Then, in 1770, a Frenchman named Pierre Poivre successfully smuggled nutmeg plants to safety in Mauritius, an island off the coast of Africa. Some of these were later exported to the Caribbean where they thrived, especially on the island of Grenada. Next, in 1778, a volcanic eruption in the Banda region caused a tsunami that wiped out half the nutmeg groves. Finally, in 1809, the British returned to Indonesia and seized the Banda Islands by force. They returned the islands to the Dutch in 1817, but not before transplanting hundreds of nutmeg seedlings to plantations in several locations across southern Asia. The Dutch nutmeg monopoly was over.

Today, nutmeg is grown in Indonesia, the Caribbean, India, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka, and world nutmeg production is estimated to average between 10,000 and 12,000 tonnes per year.

Paragraph 1: The nutmeg tree...  
 Paragraph 2: Nutmeg was a highly prized...  
 Paragraph 3: Always in danger...  
 Paragraph 4: In 1602....  
 Paragraph 5: The Banda Islands...  
 Paragraph 6: Then, in 1770...  
 Paragraph 7: Today, nutmeg is grown...

### Questions 1 – 4

Complete the notes below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers on boxes 1 – 4 on your answer sheet.

#### The nutmeg tree and fruit

- the leaves of the tree are 1 .....in shape
- the 2 .....surrounds the fruit and breaks open when the fruit is ripe
- the 3 .....is used to produce the spice nutmeg
- the covering known as the arilis used to produce 4 .....
- the tree has yellow flowers and fruit

1. the leaves of the tree are \_\_\_\_\_ in shape

**Key words: leaves, shape**

Using the scanning skill, we can see that the first paragraph describes the characteristics of the tree in detail, including the leaves, so we would pay attention to this paragraph. It can be seen in the 2nd sentence: “The tree is thickly branched with [...], dark green oval leaves, [...]” referring first to the colour, and then to the shape of the leaves, stating that the leaves are oval. Therefore, “oval” is the answer.

→ **Answer: oval**

2. the \_\_\_\_\_ surrounds the fruit and breaks open when the fruit is ripe

**Key words: surrounds, fruit, open, ripe**

Similarly, fruit is another feature of the tree, so we would still look in paragraph 1. There are two sentences mentioning fruit: “The fruit is encased in a fleshy husk. When the fruit is ripe, this husk splits into two halves along a ridge running the length of the fruit.” To be “encased” in something” is to be covered completely by something, so it can be understood that a “fleshy husk” surrounds the fruit. Moreover, “splitting into two halves” is a simple image of “breaking open”, so it is once again confirmed that “husk” is the answer.

⑩ to surround = to encase

⑩ to break = to split

→ **Answer: husk**

### 3. the \_\_\_\_ is used to produce the spice nutmeg

**Key words: produce, spice nutmeg**

Although nutmeg is mentioned in both paragraph 1 and 2, paragraph 2 is focused on the historical application of the nutmeg, not the different parts of the plant, so we would once again pay attention to paragraph 1. The spice nutmeg is brought up in the last sentence: “These are the sources of the two spices nutmeg and mace, the former being produced from the dried seed and the latter from the *aril*.” As “the former” refers to the subject that was mentioned first, which, in this case, is the “spice nutmeg”, it can be inferred that the spice nutmeg is produced from the dried seed, revealing the answer to be the “seed”.

→ **Answer: seed**

### 4. the covering known as the *aril* is used to produce \_\_\_\_\_

**Key words: covering, *aril*, produce**

We find the answer to this question in the same final sentence of paragraph 1 in which we found the answer to question 3. “The latter” refers to the spice that is mentioned after nutmeg, which is “mace”. The previous sentence explains the meaning of the word ‘*aril*’, which is the red covering surrounding the seed. Note that the key word ‘covering’ is mentioned here. Therefore, it can be understood that mace is produced from the *aril*, confirming that our answer is “mace”.

→ **Answer: mace**

### Questions 5 – 7

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage 1?

In boxes 5 – 7 on your answer sheet, write

**TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information

**FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information

**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this.

### 5. In the Middle Ages, most Europeans knew where nutmeg was grown.

**Key words: Middle Ages, Europeans, knew, grown**

Through scanning, we can see that the Middle Ages period is mentioned in paragraph 2, so we would look in this one. “Arabs were the exclusive importers of the spice to Europe”, so it can be understood that they were the only people having access to the source of the nutmeg. Moreover, “they never revealed the exact location of the source”,

which means that no Europeans knew the source of the nutmeg, which is where it was grown. Therefore, this statement is false.

→ **Answer: FALSE**

#### **6. The VOC was the world's first major trading company.**

**Key words: VOC, first, major trading**

As the VOC is mentioned only in paragraph 4, this paragraph would be investigated. In this statement, the word “first” refers to the idea that there was no major trading company before the VOC. However, there is no sentence mentioning this; the only sentence describing the VOC is that it was the “richest commercial operation in the world”. We do not know if it was the first trading company, only that it was rich. Therefore, we have no information to confirm if the statement is true or false.

Ⓢ trading company = commercial operation

→ **Answer: NOT GIVEN**

#### **7. Following the Treaty of Breda, the Dutch had control of all the islands where nutmeg grew.**

**Key words: following, Treaty of Breda, Dutch, control, all, nutmeg grew**

By using the scanning technique, we can see that the Treaty of Breda is referred to in paragraph 5, which mentions how the Dutch and British arrived at the settlement and what happened afterwards. The paragraph shows that the Dutch managed to be “securely in control of the Bandas”, where all nutmeg production was concentrated into easily guarded areas, and “there was no chance a fertile seed which could be grown elsewhere would leave the islands”. This means that the Banda Islands were the sole islands where nutmeg grew, and the Dutch were fully in control of those, except for only the island of Run. However, through the Treaty of Breda, the ownership of this island of Run was also transferred to the Dutch. Therefore, after the Treaty of Breda, it is true that all the islands where nutmeg grew were under the control of the Dutch.

→ **Answer: TRUE**

#### **Questions 8 – 13**

Complete the table below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Middle Ages	Nutmeg was brought to Europe by the <b>8</b> .....
16th century	European nations took control of the nutmeg trade

17th century	<p>Demand for nutmeg grew, as it was believed to be effective against the disease known as the <b>9</b> .....</p> <p>The Dutch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- took control of the Banda Islands</li> <li>- restricted nutmeg production to a few areas</li> <li>- put <b>10</b> ..... on nutmeg to avoid it being cultivated outside the islands</li> <li>- finally obtained the island of <b>11</b> .....from the British</li> </ul>
Late 18th century	<p>1770 - nutmeg plants were secretly taken to <b>12</b> .....</p> <p>1778 - half the Banda Islands' nutmeg plantations were destroyed by a <b>13</b> .....</p>

### 8. Middle Ages - Nutmeg was brought to Europe by the \_\_\_\_\_

**Key words: Middle Ages, brought to, Europe**

We would look in paragraph 2 where the Middle Ages period is mentioned. Here, it is stated that “throughout this period, the Arabs were the exclusive importers of the spice to Europe”, which means that the Arabs were the only people that brought nutmeg to Europe in the Middle Ages. Therefore, “Arabs” is the answer here.

→ **Answer: Arabs**

### 9. 17th century - Demand for nutmeg grew, as it was believed to be effective against the disease known as the \_\_\_\_\_

**Key words: 17th century, disease**

The 17th century starts from 1600, so we would look into where this period was first mentioned – (1602) paragraph 4. In this paragraph, a disease that was called “the plague” is mentioned, which doctors decided could be cured by nutmeg, making everyone want it at the time. Therefore, “plague” is the answer for question 9.

→ **Answer: plague**

### 10 - 11. 17th century - The Dutch

- put \_\_\_\_\_ on nutmeg to avoid it being cultivated outside the islands
- finally obtained the island of \_\_\_\_\_ from the British

**Key words: 17th century, Dutch, avoid, outside, obtained, British**



The information on the Dutch protecting its monopoly position is given in paragraph 5. It mentions that “all exported nutmeg was covered with lime to make sure there was no chance a fertile seed which could be grown elsewhere would leave the islands”. It could then be understood that to avoid fertile seed being grown - or cultivated - outside the islands, the Dutch used lime to cover nutmeg, or in other words, put lime on nutmeg. Therefore, “lime” is the answer to question 10. We can now find the answer to question 11. It is mentioned that although the Dutch were in control of the Banda Islands, one of the islands – called Run - was under the control of the British. After the exchange offered by the Dutch, the British gave the island of Run to them. It can therefore be said that the Dutch finally obtained the island of Run from the British.

⑩ cultivated = grown

→ **Answers: lime - Run**

## 12. 1770 - nutmeg plants were secretly taken to \_\_\_\_\_

**Key words: 1770, secretly taken**

As 1770 is mentioned in paragraph 6, we would investigate this paragraph. It states that: “a Frenchman ... smuggled nutmeg plants to safety in Mauritius”. “Smuggle” means to steal or to take something secretly, so this is the piece of information we are looking for. Therefore, Mauritius is our answer to question 12.

⑩ secretly take = smuggle

→ **Answer: Mauritius**

## 13. 1778 - half the Banda Islands’ nutmeg plantations were destroyed by a \_\_\_\_\_

**Key words: 1778, half, Banda Islands, destroyed**

An event in 1778 is mentioned in paragraph 6: “a volcanic eruption in the Banda region caused a tsunami that wiped out half the nutmeg groves”. “Wipe out” has the same meaning as “destroy”, and it can be understood that the tsunami was the direct cause of this event. Therefore, tsunami is the missing word here.

• destroy = wipe out

→ **Answer: tsunami**

Question	Keywords in the questions	Similar words in the passage	Meaning
2	to surround	to encase	to cover something completely, especially in order to protect it
2	to break	to split	to divide into two or more parts

6	trading company	commercial operation	a business organisation that exchanges goods
10	cultivated	grown	to grow plants/crops
12	to secretly take	to smuggle	to take goods out of a country secretly and illegally
13	to destroy	to wipe out	to completely destroy or remove something



## Test 1 – Passage 2 – Cambridge 15

### Driverless cars

- A The automotive sector is well used to adapting to automation in manufacturing. The implementation of robotic car manufacture from the 1970s onwards led to significant cost savings and improvements in the reliability and flexibility of vehicle mass production. A new challenge to vehicle production is now on the horizon and, again, it comes from automation. However, this time it is not to do with the manufacturing process, but with the vehicles themselves.

Research projects on vehicle automation are not new. Vehicles with limited self driving capabilities have been around for more than 50 years, resulting in significant contributions towards driver assistance systems. But since Google announced in 2010 that it had been trialling self-driving cars on the streets of California, progress in this field has quickly gathered pace.

- B There are many reasons why technology is advancing so fast. One frequently cited motive is safety; indeed, research at the UK's Transport Research Laboratory has demonstrated that more than 90 percent of road collisions involve human error as a contributory factor, and it is the primary cause in the vast majority. Automation may help to reduce the incidence of this.

Another aim is to free the time people spend driving for other purposes. If the vehicle can do some or all of the driving, it may be possible to be productive, to socialise or simply to relax while automation systems have responsibility for safe control of the vehicle. If the vehicle can do the driving, those who are challenged by existing mobility models - such as older or disabled travellers - may be able to enjoy significantly greater travel autonomy.

- C Beyond these direct benefits, we can consider the wider implications for transport and society, and how manufacturing processes might need to respond as a result. At present, the average car spends more than 90 percent of its life parked. Automation means that initiatives for car-sharing become much more viable, particularly in urban areas with significant travel demand. If a significant proportion of the population choose to use shared automated vehicles, mobility demand can be met by far fewer vehicles.
- D The Massachusetts Institute of Technology investigated automated mobility in Singapore, finding that fewer than 30 percent of the vehicles currently used would be required if fully automated car sharing could be implemented. If this is the case, it might mean that we need to manufacture far fewer vehicles to meet demand. However, the number of trips being taken would probably increase, partly because empty vehicles would have to be moved from one customer to the next.

Modelling work by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute suggests automated vehicles might reduce vehicle ownership by 43 percent, but that vehicles' average annual mileage would double as a result. As a consequence, each vehicle would be used more intensively, and might need replacing sooner. This faster rate of turnover may mean that vehicle production will not necessarily decrease.

- E Automation may prompt other changes in vehicle manufacture. If we move to a model where consumers are tending not to own a single vehicle but to purchase access to a range of vehicles through a mobility provider, drivers will have the freedom to select one that best suits their needs for a particular journey, rather than making a compromise across all their requirements.

Since, for most of the time, most of the seats in most cars are unoccupied, this may boost production of a smaller, more efficient range of vehicles that suit the needs of individuals. Specialised vehicles may then be available for exceptional journeys, such as going on a family camping trip or helping a son or daughter move to university.

- F There are a number of hurdles to overcome in delivering automated vehicles to our roads. These include the technical difficulties in ensuring that the vehicle works reliably in the infinite range of traffic, weather and road situations it might encounter; the regulatory challenges in understanding how liability and enforcement might change when drivers are no longer essential for vehicle operation; and the societal changes that may be required for communities to trust and accept automated vehicles as being a valuable part of the mobility landscape.
- G It's clear that there are many challenges that need to be addressed but, through robust and targeted research, these can most probably be conquered within the next 10 years. Mobility will change in such potentially significant ways and in association with so many other technological developments, such as telepresence and virtual reality, that it is hard to make concrete predictions about the future. However, one thing is certain: change is coming, and the need to be flexible in response to this will be vital for those involved in manufacturing the vehicles that will deliver future mobility.

## Questions 14 – 18

Reading Passage 2 has seven sections, A – G.

Which section contains the following information?

Write the correct answer, A – G, in boxes 14 – 18 on your answer sheet.

### 14. reference to the amount of time when a car is not in use

**Key words:** time, not in use

Paragraph C states that: “At present, the average car spends more than 90 percent of its life parked”. In this context, “parked” means that the car is stationary and not in use, which means that the amount of time referred to is 90% of the car’s life. Therefore, the answer is C.

→ **Answer: C**

### **15. mention of several advantages of driverless vehicles for individual road-users**

**Key words: advantages, individual road-users**

While several paragraphs mention the advantages of driverless vehicles, most are about the effects on society as a whole, and only paragraph B mentions the pros for individual road-users. Specifically, the author shows how the technology could reduce road collisions involving human error and free the time people spend driving. Therefore, the answer is B.

→ **Answer: B**

### **16. reference to the opportunity of choosing the most appropriate vehicle for each trip**

**Key words: opportunity, appropriate vehicle, each trip**

Paragraph E states that: “If [...], drivers will have the freedom to select one that best suits their needs for a particular journey, [...]”

- appropriate = best suit
- each trip = particular journey

The author then explains that consumers could see this happen by purchasing access to a range of vehicles, to suit their particular individual needs for exceptional journeys such as a family camping trip. Therefore, the answer is E.

→ **Answer: E**

### **17. an estimate of how long it will take to overcome a number of problems**

**Key words: how long, overcome, problems**

The hurdles are mentioned in the last two paragraphs, where paragraph F brings up specific difficulties, and paragraph G shows the potentiality to overcome those problems. Paragraph G states that “It’s clear that there are many challenges that need to be addressed, but ... these can most probably be conquered within the next 10 years.”

- problems = challenges
- overcome = conquer

It could then be inferred that 10 years is the estimate of how long it will take to overcome a number of problems. Therefore, the answer is G.

→ **Answer: G**

### **18. a suggestion that the use of driverless cars may have no effect on the number of vehicles manufactured**

**Key words: no effect, number, vehicles manufactured**

Paragraph D first begins with “... it might mean that we need to manufacture far fewer vehicles to meet demand.” However, the author states that although fewer cars might be used, they would be “...used more intensively, and might need replacing sooner. At the end, it is stated that: “This faster rate of turnover may mean that vehicle production will not necessarily decrease”. Therefore, it is suggested from this paragraph that the number of vehicles manufactured might not decrease as calculated in the beginning, meaning that the use of driverless cars may have no effect on this. Hence, the answer is D.

→ **Answer: D**

### **Question 19 - 22**

Complete the summary below.

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

Write your answers in boxes 19 - 22 on your answer sheet.

#### **The impact of driverless cars**

Figures from the Transport Research Laboratory indicate that most motor accidents are partly due to **19** ....., so the introduction of driverless vehicles will result in greater safety. In addition to the direct benefits of automation, it may bring other advantages. For example, schemes for **20** ..... will be more workable, especially in towns and cities, resulting in fewer cars on the road.

According to the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, there could be a 43 percent drop in **21** ..... of cars. However, this would mean that the yearly **22** ..... of each car would, on average, be twice as high as it currently is. This would lead to a higher turnover of vehicles, and therefore no reduction in automotive manufacturing.

**19. Figures from the Transport Research Laboratory indicate that most motor accidents are partly due to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Key words: Transport Research Laboratory, motor accidents, due to**

Paragraph B states that: “..., research at the UK’s Transport Research Laboratory has demonstrated that more than 90 percent of road collisions involve human error as a contributory factor, and it is the primary cause in the vast majority”.

- motor accidents = road collisions

It can then be inferred that most motor accidents are partly due to human error. Therefore, “human error” is the answer for question 19.

→ **Answer: human error**

**20. For example, schemes for \_\_\_\_\_ will be more workable**

**Key words: schemes, workable**

Benefits that are beyond direct ones, such as greater safety, are mentioned in paragraph C. It states that: “Automation means that initiatives for car-sharing become much more viable, ...”

⑩ schemes = initiatives

- workable = viable

It can therefore be understood that automation would make car-sharing more workable, suggesting “car-sharing” as the answer for this question.

→ **Answer: car (-) sharing**

**21. According to the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, there could be a 43 percent drop in \_\_\_\_\_ of cars.**

**Key words: University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, 43 percent drop, cars**

This piece of information is specifically mentioned in paragraph D: “Modelling work by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute suggests automated vehicles might reduce vehicle ownership by 43 percent, ...”

- drop = reduce
- cars = vehicles

Thus, the answer here is “ownership”.

→ **Answer: ownership**

**22. However this would mean that the yearly \_\_\_\_\_ of each car would, on average, be twice as high as it currently is.**

**Key words: yearly, twice as high**

In the same sentence mentioned above in paragraph D, it is stated that “... vehicles’ average annual mileage would double as a result.” As “annual” is the same as “yearly”, the answer to question 22 is “mileage”.

- yearly = annual
- twice as high = double

→ **Answer: mileage**

### **Questions 23 and 24**

**Choose TWO letters, A-E.**

**Write the correct letters in boxes 23 and 24 on your answer sheet.**

Which **TWO** benefits of automated vehicles does the writer mention?

- A Car travellers could enjoy considerable cost savings.
- B It would be easier to find parking spaces in urban areas.
- C Travellers could spend journeys doing something other than driving.
- D People who find driving physically difficult could travel independently.
- E A reduction in the number of cars would mean a reduction in pollution.

**Key words: benefits**

Cost savings and pollution are not mentioned anywhere in the passage, so A and E are incorrect. Moreover, parking is only brought up in paragraph C, where the main idea is that the average car spends most of its life parked, so B is also incorrect.

In paragraph B, one of the advantages is described as “Another aim is to free the time people spend driving for other purposes”, meaning that instead of driving, travellers could spend the time on something else. Thus, C is correct.

In the same paragraph, people who find driving physically difficult, who are referred to as “those who are challenged by existing mobility models”, are said to “be able to enjoy significantly greater travel autonomy”. As autonomy can be understood as independence, D is correct.

⑩ travel independently = travel autonomy

→ **Answers: C & D**

### Question 25 and 26

Choose **TWO** letters, A-E.

Write the correct letters in boxes 25 and 26 on your answer sheet.

Which **TWO** challenges to automated vehicle development does the writer mention?

- A making sure the general public has confidence in automated vehicles
- B managing the pace of transition from conventional to automated vehicles
- C declining how to compensate professional drivers who become redundant
- D setting up the infrastructure to make roads suitable for automated vehicles
- E getting automated vehicles to adapt to various different driving conditions

#### Key words: challenges

The hurdles are easily found in paragraph F.

As the pace of transition, professional drivers compensation and infrastructure are not mentioned anywhere, B, C and D are incorrect.

In paragraph F, the text refers to “... the societal changes that may be required for communities to trust and accept automated vehicles ...” In this context, “communities” can be understood as the “general public”, and “trust and accept” is the same as “have confidence”. Therefore, making sure that the general public has confidence in automated vehicles is one of the challenges that automated vehicle development meets, so A is correct.

Paragraph F also tells that there are: “... technical difficulties in ensuring that the vehicle works reliably in the infinite range of traffic, weather and road situations it might encounter.” As “infinite” can also be expressed as “various”, and “range of traffic, weather and road situations” is also “different driving conditions”, this sentence expresses the same idea as E. Thus, E is correct.

- general public = communities
- have confidence = trust and accept
- various = infinite

→ **Answers: A & E**

Question	Keywords in the question	Similar words in the passage	Meaning
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16	appropriate	best suit	Suitable, correct and acceptable for a situation
16	each trip	particular journey	each specific act of travelling from one place to another
17	problems	challenges	difficult tasks that test your ability or skill
17	overcome	conquer	defeat somebody or something

Question	Keywords in the question	Similar words in the passage	Meaning
19	motor accidents	road collisions	an accident in which 2 or more cars crash into each other
20	schemes	initiatives	plans for dealing with a particular problem
	workable	viable	(an idea) that can be used successfully
21	drop	reduce	to fall in amount or number
22	cars	vehicles	forms of road transport
	yearly	annual	happening once every year
	twice as high	double	an increase of 2 times in the amount or number
23/24	travel independently	travel autonomy	able to travel without help from anyone else
25/26	general public	communities	ordinary people in society in general
	have confidence	trust and accept	have the feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something
	various	infinite	very great in amount



## TEST 2

### Test 2 – Passage 1 – Cambridge 15

#### Could urban engineers learn from dance?

A The way we travel around cities has a major impact on whether they are sustainable. Transportation is estimated to account for 30% of energy consumption in most of the world's most developed nations, so lowering the need for energy-using vehicles is essential for decreasing the environmental impact of mobility. But as more and more people move to cities, it is important to think about other kinds of sustainable travel too. The ways we travel affect our physical and mental health, our social lives, our access to work and culture, and the air we breathe. Engineers are tasked with changing how we travel round cities through urban design, but the engineering industry still works on the assumptions that led to the creation of the energy-consuming transport systems we have now: the emphasis placed solely on efficiency, speed, and quantitative data. We need radical changes, to make it healthier, more enjoyable, and less environmentally damaging to travel around cities.

B Dance might hold some of the answers. That is not to suggest everyone should dance their way to work, however healthy and happy it might make us, but rather that the techniques used by choreographers to experiment with and design movement in dance could provide engineers with tools to stimulate new ideas in city-making. Richard Sennett, an influential urbanist and sociologist who has transformed ideas about the way cities are made, argues that urban design has suffered from a separation between mind and body since the introduction of the architectural blueprint.

C Whereas medieval builders improvised and adapted construction through their intimate knowledge of materials and personal experience of the conditions on a site, building designs are now conceived and stored in media technologies that detach the designer from the physical and social realities they are creating. While the design practices created by these new technologies are essential for managing the technical complexity of the modern city, they have the drawback of simplifying reality in the process.

D To illustrate, Sennett discusses the Peachtree Center in Atlanta, USA, a development typical of the modernist approach to urban planning prevalent in the 1970s. Peachtree created a grid of streets and towers intended as a new pedestrian-friendly downtown for Atlanta. According to Sennett, this failed because its designers had invested too much faith in computer-aided design to tell them how it would operate. They failed to take into account that purpose-built street cafes could not operate in the hot sun

without the protective awnings common in older buildings, and would need energy-consuming air conditioning instead, or that its giant car park would feel so unwelcoming that it would put people off getting out of their cars. What seems entirely predictable and controllable on screen has unexpected results when translated into reality.

E The same is true in transport engineering, which uses models to predict and shape the way people move through the city. Again, these models are necessary, but they are built on specific world views in which certain forms of efficiency and safety are considered and other experiences of the city ignored. Designs that seem logical in models appear counter-intuitive in the actual experience of their users. The guard rails that will be familiar to anyone who has attempted to cross a British road, for example, were an engineering solution to pedestrian safety based on models that prioritise the smooth flow of traffic. On wide major roads, they often guide pedestrians to specific crossing points and slow down their progress across the road by using staggered access points to divide the crossing into two -one for each carriageway. In doing so they make crossings feel longer, introducing psychological barriers greatly impacting those that are the least mobile, and encouraging others to make dangerous crossings to get around the guard rails. These barriers don't just make it harder to cross the road: they divide communities and decrease opportunities for healthy transport. As a result, many are now being removed, causing disruption, cost, and waste.

F If their designers had had the tools to think with their bodies - like dancers - and imagine how these barriers would feel, there might have been a better solution. In order to bring about fundamental changes to the ways we use our cities, engineering will need to develop a richer understanding of why people move in certain ways, and how this movement affects them. Choreography may not seem an obvious choice for tackling this problem. Yet it shares with engineering the aim of designing patterns of movement within limitations of space. It is an art form developed almost entirely by trying out ideas with the body, and gaining instant feedback on how the results feel. Choreographers have deep understanding of the psychological, aesthetic, and physical implications of different ways of moving.

G Observing the choreographer Wayne McGregor, cognitive scientist David Kirsh described how he 'thinks with the body'. Kirsh argues that by using the body to simulate outcomes, McGregor is able to imagine solutions that would not be possible using purely abstract thought. This kind of physical knowledge is valued in many areas of expertise, but currently has no place in formal engineering design processes. A suggested method for transport engineers is to improvise design solutions and get instant feedback about how they would work from their own experience of them, or model designs at full scale in the way choreographers experiment with groups of dancers. Above all, perhaps, they might learn to design for emotional as well as functional effects.

## Questions 1 – 6

Reading Passage 1 has seven paragraphs, A-G.

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Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, **A-G**, in boxes 1-6 on your answer sheet.

- 1 reference to an appealing way of using dance that the writer is not proposing
- 2 an example of a contrast between past and present approaches to building
- 3 mention of an objective of both dance and engineering
- 4 reference to an unforeseen problem arising from ignoring the climate
- 5 why some measures intended to help people are being reversed
- 6 reference to how transport has an impact on human lives

**1. reference to an appealing way of using dance that the writer is not proposing**

**Key words: way of using dance, not proposing**

By using the skimming and scanning technique, we would find that before going into details about how engineers can learn from dance, the author first briefly mentions ways of using dance in paragraph B. The writer says: “That is not to suggest everyone should dance their way to work, ...” to state his point that instead, we could learn from “the techniques used by choreographers”. Although dancing your way to work might be appealing, because it might make us “healthy and happy”, this is not the writer’s suggestion. Therefore, B is the answer.

→ **Answer: B**

**2. an example of a contrast between past and present approaches to building**

**Key words: contrast, past and present, building**

In the passage, we should look for keywords that refer to the “past and present”, which are the time milestones of building approaches. These are found in paragraph C, where we find “medieval” and “now” in the same sentence; “medieval” describes those approaches of the “past”, and “now” refers to the “present”. Therefore, while builders in the past carried out construction through intimate knowledge and personal experience, building designers at present rely on media technologies, unfortunately detaching themselves from physical and social realities. Thus, C is the answer for this question.

- past = medieval
- present = now

→ **Answer: C**

**3. mention of an objective of both dance and engineering**

**Key words: objective, both, dance and engineering**

By scanning, we could find that dance and engineering are both mentioned in paragraph F, so we would look here. It was stated that: “Yet it shares with engineering the aim of designing patterns of movement within limitations of space”, where “it” refers to “choreography” in the preceding sentence, and “aim” has the same meaning as “objective”. Therefore, it could be understood that both dance and engineering have the objective of “designing patterns of movement within limitations of space”, suggesting F as the answer for this question.

- objective = aim

→ **Answer: F**

#### **4. reference to an unforeseen problem arising from ignoring the climate**

**Key words: unforeseen problem, ignoring, climate**

We could start by scanning and skimming for keywords that suggest “climate”, which we find in paragraph D. It is stated that: “They failed to take into account that .... cafes could not operate in the hot sun without ...”, where the “hot sun” could be understood as a reference to climate, and “failing to take into account” is the same as “ignoring”.

Moreover, in the last sentence, the author refers to the case as an “unexpected result”, which could also be translated into an “unforeseen problem”. Therefore, D is the answer.

- ignore = fail to take into account
- unforeseen = unexpected

→ **Answer: D**

#### **5. why some measures intended to help people are being reversed**

**Key words: measures, intended, help people, reserved**

Several measures of building models are referred to in paragraph E, so we would investigate this one. After mentioning an example of “designs that seem logical in models appear counter-intuitive in the actual experience”, the writer further explains that the measures not only “make it harder to cross the road”, but also “divide communities and decrease opportunities for healthy transport”, and those are the reason why many are being “removed”. As being “removed” has the same meaning as being “reversed”, it is understood that some measures intended to help people are being reversed because of the reasons already mentioned. Therefore, E is the answer.

- be reversed = be removed

→ **Answer: E**

#### **6. reference to how transport has an impact on human lives**

**Key words: impact, human lives**

The impact of transport is described in paragraph A. Specifically, it is stated that: “The ways we travel affect our physical and mental health, our social lives, our access to work and culture, and the air we breathe”. Thus, “the ways we travel” is understood as “transport”, “affect” is the same as “have an impact on” and “our physical and mental health, our social lives, our access to work and culture, and the air we breathe” basically describes “human lives”. As a result, paragraph A conveys the same message as the statement, so A is the answer.

- have an impact = affect

→ **Answer: A**

### **Questions 7 – 13**

Complete the summary below

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.  
Write your answers in boxes 7 – 13 on your answer sheet.

### Guard rails

Guard rails were introduced on British roads to improve the  
7 ..... of pedestrians, while ensuring that the movement  
of 8 ..... is not disrupted. Pedestrians are led to access  
points, and encouraged to cross one 9 ..... at a time.  
An unintended effect is to create psychological difficulties in crossing the road,  
particularly for less 10 ..... people. Another result is that  
some people cross the road in a 11 ..... way. The guard  
rails separate 12 ....., and make it more difficult to  
introduce forms of transport that are 13 .....

Guard rails are specifically described in paragraph E, so we would look in it for this set of questions.

**7 - 8. Guard rails were introduced on British roads to improve the \_\_\_\_\_ of pedestrians, while ensuring that the movement of \_\_\_\_\_ is not disrupted.**

**Key words: Guard rails, improve, pedestrians, movement, not disrupted**

In paragraph E, the guard rails are described as “an engineering solution to pedestrian safety ...”; “pedestrian safety” could be rephrased as “the safety of pedestrians”.

Therefore, “safety” is the answer for gap 7.

Moreover, the guard rails were based on models that “prioritise the smooth flow of traffic”, where the “smooth flow” could be understood as “movement” that is “not disrupted”, meaning that it also ensures the undisrupted movement of traffic. Thus, “traffic” should be filled in gap 8

⑩ movement = flow

→ **Answer: safety – traffic.**

**9. Pedestrians are led to access points, and encouraged to cross one \_\_\_\_\_ at a time.**

**Key words: access points, one at a time**

Paragraph E states that access points are used to divide the crossing into two, and there is one of these access points, “one for each carriageway”, in order to encourage pedestrians to slow down by crossing each one at a time. As a result, what pedestrians are encouraged to cross one” at a time”, here, is the carriageway. Therefore, “carriageway” is filled in the gap.

→ **Answer: carriageway**

**10. An unintended effect is to create psychological difficulties in crossing the road, particularly for less \_\_\_\_\_ people.**

**Key words: unintended, psychological difficulties, less**

The “psychological barriers” are mentioned in paragraph E as an effect of the guard rails, and they “greatly impact those that are the least mobile”, suggesting that psychological difficulties are unintentionally created for less mobile people. Therefore, “mobile” is the answer here.

- difficulties = barriers

→ **Answer: mobile**

**11. Another result is that some people cross the road in a \_\_\_\_\_ way.**

**Key words: cross the road, way**

The guard rails are also observed to “encourage others to make dangerous crossings”. As “making crossings” is the same as the act of “crossing”, “dangerous” is the adjective that describes this action of crossing the road. Thus, the blank should be filled with “dangerous”.

- cross = make crossings

→ **Answer: dangerous**

**12 - 13. The guard rails separate \_\_\_\_\_, and make it more difficult to introduce forms of transport that are \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Key words: separate, difficult, introduce**

The drawbacks of guard rails are mentioned near the end of paragraph E, showing that they “divide communities and decrease opportunities for healthy transport”. As “divide” has the same meaning as “separate”, the noun that should be filled in gap 12 is “communities”. Moreover, to “decrease opportunities” could be understood as to “make it more difficult”, which means making it hard to introduce healthy forms of transport. Therefore, “healthy” should be filled in gap 13.

- separate = divide

→ **Answer: communities - healthy**

Question	Keywords in the questions	Similar words in the passage	Meaning
2	past	medieval	In the history of Europe, the Medieval Period lasted from the 5th to the 15th century
	present	now	at the present time or moment
3	objective	aim	a thing aimed at or sought; a goal
4	ignore	fail to take into account	fail to consider
	unforeseen	unexpected	not expected or regarded as likely to happen
5	be reversed	be removed	to change a previous decision to an opposite decision
6	have an impact	affect	have an effect on; make a difference to
7/8	movement	flow	a continuous movement
10	difficulties	barriers	obstacles or problems that make it hard to do something
11	cross	make crossings	to go to the other side of something, such as a road or an ocean
12	separate	divide	separate or be separated into parts