

READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on **Questions 14–26**, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below.

Australia's Camouflaged Creatures

Many species of animal in Australia protect themselves by using camouflage — a way of ‘hiding’ by blending into the surroundings.

- A** Most species use camouflage to some extent. If they are convincing, they survive to pass their genes on to future generations. After generations of natural selection, animals can develop astonishingly complex camouflage techniques, manipulating shape, colour and movement. ‘The principle of camouflage is to make it economically unviable for a predator to pursue a particular species of prey,’ explains Professor Mark Elgar of the University of Melbourne. ‘Camouflage increases the search time and, as a consequence, the predator will simply target another species, either because it doesn’t see the camouflaged individual or it just finds something more obvious to do.’
- B** The easiest way for an animal to disguise itself is to be invisible in its surroundings. To that end, stick and leaf insects have evolved complex camouflage to hide themselves from predators. Many have the texture of sticks or dry leaves, while others imitate living foliage, even the veins in a leaf. Some insects develop blemishes to match the spots caused by disease. A convincing appearance only works if its owner also acts the part, so during the day the creature using this type of camouflage keeps motionless, or sways like a dead leaf in the breeze. If disturbed, it falls to the ground and stays still. Entomologist Paul Zborowski, who has spent decades photographing inconspicuous creatures, rates the desert insects of Central Australia as the most convincingly disguised creatures he’s seen. ‘It’s an incredibly old habitat, so the creatures have had a long time to adapt,’ Zborowski explains. Most of them behave like stones and don’t move all day, feeding only at night.
- C** A tawny frogmouth sitting motionless on a stump also illustrates the importance of pairing a persuasive costume with behaviour. Professor Gisela Kaplan of the University of New England in Australia says the frogmouth’s skill at camouflaging is learned behaviour. While adopting a pose may be a reflex of the bird, and can be observed in a hatchling’s first week, the ability to choose a backdrop which matches its colouration does not develop for 4–6 months. When the chicks land, they are usually highly conspicuous, and their parents try to signal to them to move to a safe location.

- D** Fixed camouflage is only good against a relatively unchanging environment, so some animals, such as the cuttlefish, have evolved an adaptable disguise. The cuttlefish can almost instantly change its colour, pattern and texture to match its surroundings, using specialised cells and muscles. On Queensland's reefs, scientists have been studying another ocean dweller that uses colour change, although not to blend into the surroundings. Dr Karen Cheney, from the University of Queensland, says the bluestriped fangblenny alters its colouration to mimic other species of fish, allowing it to travel with them and benefit from safety in numbers.

Its most impressive impersonation is of the black-with-neon-blue-striped cleaner wrasse, which eats the parasites on larger fish. Not only does the fangblenny benefit from the reduced predation that comes with the wrasse's beneficial relationships with other fish, but the disguise also lets it get closer to prey. It darts out from the safety of the wrasse's cleaning station to nip at unsuspecting fish passing by, but it doesn't attack those coming to be cleaned.

- E** The most famous form of mimicry, however, is for defence, not attack. Batesian mimicry refers to animals that gain protection from predators by imitating a dangerous organism, often using conspicuous colours. The nineteenth-century naturalist Henry Bates first suggested this camouflage technique after noticing that several Amazonian butterfly species looked the same. The technique was later called after him.

In Australian waters, the harmless harlequin snake eel sports the same black and white bandings as the highly toxic yellow-lipped sea krait, ensuring no predator will attack. However, the success of Batesian mimicry depends on the ratio of mimics to originals. If a predator encounters too many that are edible, it will just assume none of the animals with those markings are dangerous, explains Martyn Robinson, an educational naturalist with the Australian Museum.

- F** An imitation of a more dangerous creature needn't be exact, just enough to make potential predators hesitate. The hawk moth caterpillar has markings resembling a snake's eyes on its abdomen. When confronted, the caterpillar pulls its head in and the 'eyes' flash open. Whether the potential predator thinks it has seen a snake, or is simply startled, is unclear, but the outcome is that the caterpillar lives to see another day.

- G** In Queensland's tablelands, the chameleon gecko has another way of making predators hesitate. Its body is brown, but its tail is banded in black and white. Robinson explains that if attacked, the chameleon gecko will drop off its tail, which will wriggle around on the ground. Many lizards do this, but in the case of the chameleon gecko the tail bones actually rub against one another, so it squeaks. 'The predator is, of course, thoroughly absorbed by this black-and-white-striped, wriggling, squeaking thing on the ground, and the gecko can sneak away,' Robinson says. It's a one-time-only trick: the regrown tail is brown, the same as the gecko's body.

Such precise disguise and elaborate trickery illustrate the limitless possibilities of nature. But, as Robinson points out, only the most successful illusionists are here to tell the tale.

Questions 14–18

Reading Passage 2 has seven sections, **A–G**.

Which section contains the following information?

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

- 14 a species that indicates to its young to move to a place where they are less visible
- 15 an instance where sound is used to help an animal escape
- 16 a creature that can use camouflage to match a range of different backgrounds
- 17 a claim that the majority of animals disguise themselves in some way
- 18 examples of animals that use camouflage to look like plants

Questions 19–23

Look at the following statements (Questions 19–23) and the list of people below.

Match each statement with the correct person, **A–F**.

Write the correct letter, **A–F**, in boxes 19–23 on your answer sheet.

- 19 one species has a camouflage tactic that is not present from birth.
- 20 species that live in an ancient environment have become very effective at camouflaging themselves.
- 21 part of an animal is left behind to distract predators.
- 22 if it takes too long to find one kind of prey, animals will look for an alternative source of food.
- 23 camouflage can involve copying a threatening type of animal.

List of people

- A** Professor Mark Elgar
- B** Paul Zborowski
- C** Professor Gisela Kaplan
- D** Dr Karen Cheney
- E** Henry Bates
- F** Martyn Robinson

Questions 24–26

Complete the summary below.

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

Write your answers in boxes 24–26 on your answer sheet.

The bluestriped fangblenny

Dr Karen Cheney studies the bluestriped fangblenny on **24** _____ off Queensland's coast. She found that the fangblenny was able to make itself resemble other fish by adjusting its colouration. The fangblenny impersonates the striped cleaner wrasse, a fish that is welcomed by other species as it gets rid of their **25** _____. The fangblenny can approach its **26** _____ without drawing the attention of predators or disturbing the work of the striped cleaner wrasse.

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Questions 14–18 (段落信息匹配)

题号	答案	题干翻译	精确定位句 (英)	精确定位句 (中)	详细解释 (同义替换 & 排除项)
14	C	某物种会“提示/示意”幼崽移动到不那么显眼的地方	<i>"When the chicks land, they are usually highly conspicuous, and their parents try to signal to them to move to a safe location."</i> (Sec C)	“雏鸟落地时通常非常显眼，父母会设法向它们示意让它们移动到安全处。”	“indicates to its young”=“signal to ... (the chicks)”。只有C段出现“父母示意幼崽移动”的行为。B仅谈昆虫拟态与静止；G谈壁虎断尾；D谈墨鱼/牙鰈变色，不涉及“给幼崽信号”。
15	G	一个用声音帮助动物逃脱的例子	<i>"...the tail bones actually rub against one another, so it squeaks... the predator is absorbed ... and the gecko can sneak away."</i> (Sec G)	“尾椎骨相互摩擦，会发出吱吱声.....捕食者被吸引分神，壁虎得以溜走。”	“sound is used”↔“squeaks (吱吱响)”。D段牙鰈靠伪装靠近并非声音；F段天蛾幼虫靠“眼斑”惊吓而非声音。
16	D	一种能把拟态匹配多种不同背景的生物	<i>"The cuttlefish can almost instantly change its colour, pattern and texture to match its surroundings, using specialised cells and muscles."</i> (Sec D)	“乌贼几乎可以瞬间改变颜色、花纹和质地以匹配周围环境。”	“match a range of different backgrounds”=能随环境变化而变 (可变色/纹/质地)。A、B、C多为固定背景；D段点名可快速自适应。
17	A	声称大多数动物都会在某种程度上伪装自己	<i>"Most species use camouflage to some extent."</i> (Sec A)	“大多数物种在某种程度上都会使用伪装。”	“majority”=“Most”。这是总论断，仅A段出现。
18	B	举植物伪装的动物例子	<i>"stick and leaf insects... imitate living foliage, even the veins in a leaf."</i> (Sec B)	“竹节虫和叶状螳螂.....模仿叶片/叶脉等植物。”	“look like plants”=“imitate foliage/veins”。其余段多为动物拟动物或背景。

Questions 19–23 (配对人名)

题号	答案	题干翻译	精确定位句 (英)	精确定位句 (中)	详细解释 (同义替换 & 排除项)
19	C (Gisela Kaplan)	某物种的伪装技巧并非与生俱来	<i>"...the frogmouth's skill at camouflaging is learned behaviour... the ability to choose a backdrop... does not develop for 4–6 months."</i> (Sec C)	“蛙口夜鹰的伪装本领是后天习得；选择合适背景的能力要4–6个月后才发展出来。”	“not present from birth”=“learned”/后天发展。其他人物未谈“先天/后天”。
20	B (Paul Zborowski)	生活在古老环境中的物种在伪装上已变得非常有效	<i>"It's an incredibly old habitat, so the creatures have had a long time to adapt... the most convincingly disguised creatures he's seen."</i> (Sec B)	“这是个极其古老的生境，生物有很长时间去适应.....伪装最逼真。”	“ancient environment”↔“incredibly old habitat”。A/E/F/D不提“环境古老”。
21	F (Martyn Robinson)	动物的一部分被留下来以分散捕食者	<i>"...the chameleon gecko will drop off its tail, which will wriggle... the predator is absorbed... and the gecko can sneak away,"</i> Robinson explains. (Sec G)	“变色壁虎会断尾，尾巴扭动吸引注意，壁虎脱身。”	关键词“part of an animal left behind”=“断尾”。段内反复以Robinson说明。
22	A (Mark Elgar)	如果找某一类猎物花费时间太久，动物会去找替代食物	<i>"Camouflage increases the search time and, as a consequence, the predator will simply target another species"</i> (Sec A)	“伪装延长搜索时间，结果捕食者会转而捕食其他物种。”	“look for an alternative source of food”=“target another species”。其余人物不谈“换目标”。
23	E (Henry Bates)	伪装可涉及模仿危险类型的动物	<i>"Batesian mimicry refers to animals that gain protection... by imitating a dangerous organism."</i> (Sec E)	“贝茨氏拟态：通过模仿危险生物而获得保护。”	直接定义；与F/G中的惊吓/断尾不同。

Questions 24–26 (概要填空 | ONE WORD ONLY)

The bluestriped fangblenny					
题号	答案	题干翻译要点	精确定位句 (英)	精确定位句 (中)	解释
24	reefs	在昆士兰海岸外的**__**上研究	<i>"On Queensland's reefs, scientists have been studying ... the bluestriped fangblenny ..."</i> (Sec D)	“科学家在昆士兰的珊瑚礁上研究蓝纹牙鰈。”	空格前有“off Queensland's coast”，与“reefs”复数搭配最自然。
25	parasites	清洁隆头鱼被欢迎，因为它清除其他鱼身上的**__**	<i>"...the cleaner wrasse, which eats the parasites on larger fish."</i> (Sec D)	“清洁隆头鱼吃掉大型鱼身上的寄生虫。”	语义为可数复数，文中原词即复数。
26	prey	牙鰈可以接近它的**__**而不引人注意	<i>"...the disguise also lets it get closer to prey... to nip at unsuspecting fish passing by...."</i> (Sec D)	“伪装让它更接近猎物，偷咬路过的鱼。”	“approach its __”=“get closer to prey”。 “prey”为集合名词，符合ONE WORD ONLY。