

READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on **Questions 14-26**, which are based on Reading Passage 2 on the following pages.

Questions 14–20

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

Choose the correct heading for each paragraph from the list of headings below.

Write the correct number, **i–x**, in boxes 14–20 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| i | Levels of wealth affected by several other influences besides climate |
| ii | The failure of vaccination programmes |
| iii | The problems experienced by small countries |
| iv | The role of governments in creating wealth |
| v | The best use of financial assistance |
| vi | The inspiration for Masters's research |
| vii | The advantages of cold weather to people and agriculture |
| viii | Positive correlations between climate and economy |
| ix | Reflecting on the traditional view |
| x | Crop spread in Europe and other continents |

14 Paragraph **A**

15 Paragraph **B**

16 Paragraph **C**

17 Paragraph **D**

18 Paragraph **E**

19 Paragraph **F**

20 Paragraph **G**

The economic effect of climate

Latitude is crucial to a nation's strength, says Anjana Ahuja

- A** Dr William Masters was reading a book about mosquitoes when an idea struck him. 'There was this anecdote about the yellow fever epidemic that hit Philadelphia in 1793,' Masters recalls. 'This epidemic decimated the city until the first frost came.' The sub-zero temperatures froze out the insects, allowing Philadelphia to recover. If weather could be the key to a city's fortunes, Masters thought, then why not to the historical fortunes of nations? And could frost lie at the heart of one of the most enduring economic mysteries of all – why are almost all the wealthy, industrialised nations to be found where the climate is cooler?
- B** After two years of research, he thinks that he has found a piece of the puzzle. Masters, an agricultural economist from Purdue University in Indiana, and Margaret McMillan at Tufts University, Boston, show that annual frosts are among the factors that distinguish rich nations from poor ones. Their study is published this month in the *Journal of Economic Growth*. The pair speculate that cold snaps have two main benefits – they freeze pests that would otherwise destroy crops, and also freeze organisms, such as those carried by mosquitoes, that carry disease. The result is agricultural abundance and a big workforce.
- C** The academics took two sets of information. The first was average income for countries, the second was climate data provided by the University of East Anglia. They found a curious tally between the sets. Countries having five or more frosty days in the winter months are uniformly rich; those with fewer than five are impoverished. The authors speculate that the five-day figure is important: it could be the minimum time needed to kill pests in the soil. To illustrate this, Masters notes: 'Finland is a small country that is growing quickly, but Bolivia is a small country that isn't growing at all. Perhaps climate has something to do with that.'
- D** Other minds have applied themselves to the split between poor and rich nations, citing anthropological, climatic and zoological reasons for why temperate nations are the most affluent. Jared Diamond, from the University of California at Los Angeles, pointed out in his book *Guns, Germs and Steel* that Eurasia is broadly aligned east-west, while Africa and the Americas are aligned north-south. So in Europe crops could move quickly across latitudes because climates are similar. One of the first domesticated crops, einkorn wheat, extended quickly from the Middle East into Europe; it took twice as long for it to get from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States. This easy movement along similar latitudes in Eurasia would also have meant a faster dissemination of other technologies, such as the wheel and writing, Diamond speculates.

- E** There are exceptions to the 'cold equals rich' argument. There are well-heeled tropical countries such as Singapore, a result of its superior trading position. Likewise, not all European countries are moneyed. Masters stresses that climate will never be the overriding factor – the wealth of nations is too complicated to be attributable to just one factor. Climate, he feels, somehow combines with other factors – such as the presence of institutions, including governments, and access to trading routes – to determine whether a country will do well.
- F** In the past, Masters says, economists thought that institutions had the biggest effect on the economy, because they brought order to a country in the form of, for example, laws and property rights. With order, so the thinking went, came affluence. 'But there are some problems that even countries with institutions have not been able to get around,' he says. 'My feeling is that, as countries get richer, they get better institutions. And the accumulation of wealth and improvement in governing institutions are both helped by a favourable environment, including climate.'
- G** This does not mean, he insists, that tropical countries are beyond economic help and destined to remain penniless. Instead of aid being geared towards improving administrative systems, it should be spent on technology to improve agriculture and to combat disease. Masters cites one example: 'There are regions in India that have been provided with irrigation – agricultural productivity has gone up and there has been an improvement in health.' Supplying vaccines against tropical diseases and developing crop varieties that can grow in the tropics would break the poverty cycle.

Questions 21–26

Complete the sentences below.

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

Write your answers in boxes 21–26 on your answer sheet.

- 21 Philadelphia recovered from its _____ when the temperature dropped dramatically.
- 22 _____ is an example of a small country whose economy is expanding.
- 23 _____ spread more slowly from Mexico than it did from the Middle East.
- 24 Technology spread more quickly in _____ than in Africa.
- 25 _____ is economically rich in spite of its tropical climate.
- 26 Aid should be used to improve agriculture rather than to improve _____.

Disclaimer

Compiled, formatted, and lightly proofread by ZYZ Reading Walks.

All copyright in the underlying works remains with the original authors and publishers.

No affiliation with or endorsement by any rights holder (including IELTS® owners).

For non-commercial educational use only. This notice must remain intact in all copies.

Available free of charge from ZYZ Reading Walks. Resale or any paid distribution is prohibited.

详细表格 (每题含：答案、标题翻译、定位句与解析)

题号	段落	答案 (编号+英文)	中文标题理解	精确定位句 (原文)	定位句翻译	解析
14	A	vi – The inspiration for Masters's research	马斯特斯研究灵感的来源	<i>Dr William Masters was reading a book about mosquitoes when an idea struck him.</i>	威廉·马斯特斯博士在读一本关于蚊子的书时，突然有了一个想法。	A 段几乎整段都在讲：他读书时看到 1793 年黄热病的轶事 → 联想到“气候会不会影响城市乃至国家的命运？”这是研究的“起点”。所以标题是“研究的灵感来源”，而不是气候与经济的具体结论。
15	B	vii – The advantages of cold weather to people and agriculture	寒冷天气对人和农业的好处	<i>... show that annual frosts are among the factors that distinguish rich nations from poor ones.; The pair speculate that cold snaps have two main benefits – they freeze pests that would otherwise destroy crops, and also freeze organisms... that carry disease.</i>表明每年出现霜冻是区分富国与穷国的因素之一。两人推测，寒潮有两大好处——它会冻死本来会毁坏庄稼的害虫，也会冻死那些传播疾病的生物。	B 段核心内容就是“frost / cold snaps 的两个好处：农作物少受害虫、疾病少，人力充足”。完全对应标题中“the advantages of cold weather to people and agriculture”。
16	C	viii – Positive correlations between climate and economy	气候与经济之间的正相关	<i>They found a curious tally between the sets. Countries having five or more frosty days in the winter months are uniformly rich; those with fewer than five are impoverished.</i>	他们发现这两组数据之间有一种奇妙的对应：冬季有五天或以上霜冻的国家无一例外都很富裕，而少于五天的国家都很贫穷。	C 段主要讲“收入数据 + 气候数据”两组信息之间的对应关系，说明“霜冻天数多 → 国家富；少 → 贫”，这是典型的“positive correlations between climate and economy”。虽然提到 Finland / Bolivia 两个小国，但重点不是“小国问题”，所以不是 iii。
17	D	x – Crop spread in Europe and other continents	欧洲及其他大陆农作物的传播	<i>One of the first domesticated crops, einkorn wheat, extended quickly from the Middle East into Europe; it took twice as long for it to get from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States.</i>	最早被驯化的作物之一——单粒小麦——从中东迅速扩展到欧洲；而它从墨西哥传播到如今的美国东部却花了两倍的时间。	D 段从 Jared Diamond 的理论出发，重点讲“Eurasia 东西走向 → 作物传播快；美洲、非洲南北走向 → 传播慢”，并以 einkorn wheat 为例，外加车轮、文字等技术的扩散。标题 x 直接点出“作物在欧洲和其他大陆的传播”，最贴切。
18	E	i – Levels of wealth affected by several other influences besides climate	财富水平受除气候外多种因素影响	<i>Masters stresses that climate will never be the overriding factor – the wealth of nations is too complicated to be attributable to just one factor. Climate, he feels, somehow combines with other factors – such as the presence of institutions, including governments, and access to trading routes – to determine whether a country will do well.</i>	马斯特斯强调，气候永远不会是最重要的因素——国家的财富状况过于复杂，不能归因于单一因素。他认为，气候会以某种方式同其他因素结合——比如制度（包括政府）以及对贸易航线的获得——共同决定一个国家是否会发展良好。	E 段先举新加坡等例外，再强调：气候不是唯一决定因素，还要看制度、政府、贸易路线等。与标题 i “Levels of wealth affected by several other influences besides climate”（除了气候，还有多种影响）完全对应。
19	F	ix – Reflecting on the traditional view	对传统观点的反思	<i>In the past, Masters says, economists thought that institutions had the biggest effect on the economy...; 'My feeling is that, as countries get richer, they get better institutions.'</i>	马斯特斯说，以前经济学家认为对经济影响最大的是制度.....：“我的感觉是，随着国家变得更富裕，它们才会拥有更好的制度。”	F 段结构：① 回顾“传统观点”——经济学家认为制度最重要；② 指出这一观点无法解释所有问题；③ 给出自己的修正意见（环境包括气候也很重要，而且可能是“先富后有好制度”）。这是典型的“先回顾再反思”，正好对应“reflecting on the traditional view”。
20	G	v – The best use of financial assistance	最佳的援助资金使用方式	<i>Instead of aid being geared towards improving administrative systems, it should be spent on technology to improve agriculture and to combat disease.</i>	援助不应再集中于改善行政体系，而应花在改进农业和防治疾病的技术上。	G 段讨论的重点就是“援助 (aid) 应该花在什么地方”：灌溉、农业技术、疫苗、适应热带的作物品种，用来打破贫困循环。这正是标题 v “最佳的财务援助用途”，不是 ii，因为文中并没有说疫苗项目失败，反而是鼓励提供疫苗。

详细表格（题干翻译 + 定位 + 解析）

题号	正确答案	题干翻译	精确定位句（原文）	定位句翻译	解析
21	yellow fever epidemic	费城在气温骤降时从其_____中恢复。	<i>‘There was this anecdote about the yellow fever epidemic that hit Philadelphia in 1793,’ Masters recalls. ‘This epidemic decimated the city until the first frost came.’ The sub-zero temperatures froze out the insects, allowing Philadelphia to recover.</i>	“有一个关于 1793 年袭击费城的 黄热病疫情 的轶事，”马斯特斯回忆道。“这场疫情让这座城市元气大伤，直到第一场霜冻到来。”零下的气温冻死了那些昆虫，使费城得以恢复。	题干里的“when the temperature dropped dramatically”对应原文“the first frost came / sub-zero temperatures”。城市从什么中恢复？紧接着的指代就是“This epidemic... allowing Philadelphia to recover.”所以答案是完整名词短语 yellow fever epidemic （不超过三个词）。单写 epidemic 也许勉强，但官方通常希望写全。
22	Finland	_____是一个经济正在扩张的小国的例子。	<i>To illustrate this, Masters notes: ‘Finland is a small country that is growing quickly, but Bolivia is a small country that isn’t growing at all.’</i>	为了说明这一点，马斯特斯举例说：“芬兰是一个增长很快的小国，而玻利维亚则是一个根本没有增长的小国。”	题干关键词：“small country whose economy is expanding（正在发展/扩张的小国）”。原文中“a small country that is growing quickly”直接对应，主语是 Finland，所以填 Finland。
23	einkorn wheat	_____从墨西哥传播开来的速度比从中东传播的速度更慢。	<i>One of the first domesticated crops, einkorn wheat, extended quickly from the Middle East into Europe; it took twice as long for it to get from Mexico to what is now the eastern United States.</i>	最早被驯化的作物之一——单粒小麦——从中东迅速扩展到欧洲；而它从墨西哥传播到如今的美国东部却花了两倍的时间。	题干的比较结构“spread more slowly from Mexico than it did from the Middle East”是对原文“it took twice as long for it to get from Mexico...”的同义改写。这里的“it”指代前面提到的作物 einkorn wheat ，因此答案就是它。注意只写作物名，不要带多余词。
24	Eurasia	技术在_____的传播速度比在非洲更快。	<i>Jared Diamond... pointed out in his book Guns, Germs and Steel that Eurasia is broadly aligned east-west, while Africa and the Americas are aligned north-south. ... This easy movement along similar latitudes in Eurasia would also have meant a faster dissemination of other technologies, such as the wheel and writing, Diamond speculates.</i>	贾雷德·戴蒙德指出，在他的著作《枪炮、病菌与钢铁》中，欧亚大陆大致呈东西走向，而非洲和美洲则大致呈南北走向.....戴蒙德推测，在欧亚大陆这种沿相似纬度的轻松移动，也意味着其他技术（如车轮和文字）会更快地传播。	题干问“Technology spread more quickly in ____ than in Africa”。原文明确写“faster dissemination of other technologies”发生在 Eurasia ，并与前句的“Africa”形成对比。因此答案应为 Eurasia，而不是 Europe，因为该技术传播的句子主语是“this easy movement in Eurasia”。
25	Singapore	_____尽管位于热带，却在经济上十分富裕。	<i>There are well-heeled tropical countries such as Singapore, a result of its superior trading position.</i>	有一些富裕的热带国家，例如新加坡，这是其优越贸易地位的结果。	题干“economically rich in spite of its tropical climate”与原文“well-heeled tropical countries such as Singapore”完全同义；“well-heeled”= 富有的、有钱的。因此空格填该具体例子 Singapore 。
26	administrative systems	援助应该被用来改善农业，而不是改善_____。	<i>Instead of aid being geared towards improving administrative systems, it should be spent on technology to improve agriculture and to combat disease.</i>	援助不应再集中于改善行政体系，而应花在改进农业和防治疾病的技术上。	题干结构“Aid should be used to improve agriculture rather than to improve ...”是原文句子的几乎直译。原文明确说“不应再用于 improving administrative systems”，因此空格填 administrative systems ，刚好三个词。