

READING PASSAGE 1

*You should spend about 20 minutes on **Questions 1–13**, which are based on Reading Passage 1 below.*

The history of the British wool industry

Wool is part of Britain's history and heritage, more so than any other commodity ever produced in that country. It was made into cloth there in the Bronze Age, which began about 1900 BC. By the time the Romans invaded in 55 BC the Britons had developed a wool industry, and this was encouraged by their new masters. Roman emperors appreciated the fineness of British woollen cloth. Although Saxon invasions in the fifth century nearly destroyed the industry, it is known that in the eighth century Britain was exporting woollen fabrics to continental Europe, and after the arrival of the Norman conquerors in 1066 the industry expanded. By the twelfth century, wool was becoming England's greatest national asset. Cloth making was widespread, particularly in the large towns of southern and eastern England, nearest to France. But the greatest wealth came from exports of raw wool.

Kings and their ministers welcomed the revenue that resulted from exports and export taxes – and also the power it gave to the king, who could grant or withdraw permits for the wool towns and for the industry. Trade associations, known as 'guilds', were founded to guarantee good work by experienced weavers (people who produce cloth from woollen threads), and were powerful for hundreds of years. The peak of cloth production was reached in the thirteenth century. Then the wool trade declined for a long period because of political conflict.

In 1331, King Edward III encouraged master weavers from Flanders (an area of present-day Belgium) to settle in England. These Flemish weavers and their descendants were to play a part in the final development of English cloth. The export trade in raw wool recovered and the first half of the fourteenth century was a time of prosperity for English wool farmers. But it was overshadowed by a long war with France (export taxes on wool were one of the principal means of financing the war) and by bubonic plague (the Black Death), which in 1349 caused devastation: in many villages as much as three-quarters of the population died. This led to an increase of the sheep flocks, for there were not enough people left to cultivate the land for arable crops.

Despite setbacks, raw wool exporting expanded, and so also did manufacturing of wool fabrics. This was becoming both specialised and localised. The area of England known as the West Country had three advantages – extensive sheep pastures, a supply of soft water for washing, scouring and dyeing wool, and water-power to drive machinery. Similarly, the hills of Yorkshire and Lancashire in the north of England had soft water and fast running streams. Water from the latter could be used to drive mills for 'fulling', a shrinking process which makes the fabric firmer and its surface more compact.

In East Anglia there was soft water, but no hills or fast-running streams to provide power for fulling mills. Instead, East Anglia used the long, fine wool from its native sheep breeds to produce a cloth which did not require the fulling process. This was the type of cloth which is now called 'worsted', after the village of Worstead. For four hundred years East Anglia dominated the worsted trade, with skills inherited from the Flemish settlers of 1331.

English cloth quickly achieved an international reputation. From being primarily a raw wool exporter, the country became in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries a manufacturer and exporter of cloth. At the end of the fifteenth century, it was said that England was largely a nation of sheep farmers and cloth manufacturers. The next two centuries saw continued expansion of the industry despite conflicts at home and abroad. In the sixteenth century, French weavers, persecuted for their Protestant religion, sought refuge in England and took their skills with them. England began to surpass Flanders in woollen manufacture; by the end of the seventeenth century it comprised two-thirds of the value of its exports. Radical changes lay ahead, in the geographical location of the industry, in labour use and in manufacturing processes. By 1770, output of worsted from Yorkshire equalled that of East Anglia, and its cloth manufacturing district began to take shape with the expansion of major towns: Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, and Wakefield.

The Industrial Revolution of 1750–1850 also brought change. It led the way for new inventions stemming from the Lancashire cotton industry, to mechanize and speed dramatically the processes of spinning and weaving. Manufacturing methods, unchanged since the revival of the trade in the fourteenth century, were now superseded. Mechanization had been opposed in the past and it was again. The widespread unrest of 1812 led to the destruction of equipment by bands of rioters, who feared they would lose employment. But machinery won the day.

Over the course of the nineteenth century, the older industries in areas such as East Anglia, where opposition had been most bitter, permanently declined. They were overtaken by Yorkshire, where machinery was more readily accepted. The younger industry jumped ahead and never lost its lead, supported by abundant supplies of inexpensive coal to generate steam and, later, electrical power. Other specialised types of manufacturing developed in Scotland, famed for its tweeds (a range of coloured woollen cloth with characteristic designs), and in the West Country, which focused on the production of high-quality, woven carpets.

Questions 1–5

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

In boxes 1–5 on your answer sheet, write

TRUE	<i>if the statement agrees with the information</i>
FALSE	<i>if the statement contradicts the information</i>
NOT GIVEN	<i>if there is no information on this</i>

- 1 The process of making cloth from wool was introduced to Britain by the Romans.
- 2 In the twelfth century, exporting woollen cloth was less profitable than exporting raw wool.
- 3 Rulers had a financial interest in the success of the wool industry.
- 4 An outbreak of bubonic plague led to a sharp fall in sheep numbers.
- 5 Worsted cloth was cheaper to produce than other types of woollen fabric.

Questions 6–13

Complete the notes below.

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

Write your answers in boxes 6–13 on your answer sheet.

Woollen cloth manufacture

Growing importance of the cloth industry:

- 16th century: skilled **6** _____ emigrated to England
- end 17th century: majority of English **7** _____ were wool products
- 18th century: production of worsted cloth increased in Yorkshire – growth of five key manufacturing **8** _____
- 1750–1850: new machinery was developed – initially for the production of **9** _____
- 1812: protests resulted in the **10** _____ of machinery
- 19th century: in Yorkshire mechanisation increased, aided by the availability of cheap **11** _____

Growth of specialisation:

- Scotland – specialised in **12** _____
- West Country – specialised in **13** _____

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一、判断题 Q1-5

题号	答案	精确定位句 (英文)	题干翻译 + 定位句翻译与详细解释
1	FALSE	<i>"It was made into cloth there in the Bronze Age, which began about 1900 BC. By the time the Romans invaded in 55 BC the Britons had developed a wool industry ..."</i> (第1段)	题干：“把羊毛织成布的工艺是由罗马人引入英国的。” 翻译：“早在青铜时代（约公元前1900年），那里就已经把羊毛制成布。到公元前55年罗马人入侵时，不列颠人已经发展出羊毛工业。” **解释：** 文中明确说在罗马人来之前，Britons 已经会用羊毛做布、并且已经有工业基础，因此“由罗马人引入”与原文相反，故选 FALSE 。
2	TRUE	<i>"By the twelfth century, wool was becoming England's greatest national asset... But the greatest wealth came from exports of raw wool."</i> (第1段末)	题干：“在12世纪，出口呢绒布比出口原毛利润更低。” 翻译：“到12世纪，羊毛正逐渐成为英格兰最重要的国民财富.....但最大的财富来自原毛出口。” **解释：** **原文对比说明：最大财富来源是“原毛出口”，而不是布匹出口，也就是原毛比布更赚钱，所以题干“布出口利润更低”与原文一致，选 TRUE 。
3	TRUE	<i>"Kings and their ministers welcomed the revenue that resulted from exports and export taxes – and also the power it gave to the king..."</i> (第2段)	题干：“统治者在羊毛工业的成功中有经济利益。” 翻译：“国王及其大臣欢迎出口和出口税带来的财政收入——以及它赋予国王的权力.....” 解释：“welcomed the revenue”就是欢迎由羊毛出口带来的“收入”，说明统治者在这一行业中拥有直接的经济利益，因此题干说 rulers had a financial interest 属于同义转述，选 TRUE 。
4	FALSE	<i>"...by bubonic plague (the Black Death), which in 1349 caused devastation: in many villages as much as three-quarters of the population died. This led to an increase of the sheep flocks, for there were not enough people left to cultivate the land..."</i> (第3段)	题干：“一次腺鼠疫暴发导致羊群数量急剧下降。” 翻译：“1349年的黑死病造成了毁灭性打击：在许多村庄多达四分之三的人口死亡。这导致羊群数量增加，因为已经没有人来耕种农田。” **解释：** **题干说瘟疫导致“羊变少”，而原文清楚写的是“increase of the sheep flocks (羊群增加)”，方向相反，所以答案为 FALSE 。
5	NOT GIVEN	<i>"Instead, East Anglia used the long, fine wool from its native sheep breeds to produce a cloth which did not require the fulling process. This was the type of cloth which is now called 'worsted'..."</i> (第4段)	题干：“与其他类型的呢绒相比，粗梳呢 (worsted) 生产成本更低。” 翻译：“相反，东盎格利亚利用当地绵羊品种产出的细长羊毛，生产一种不需要缩绒工序的布料。这种布现在被称为 'worsted'。” **解释：** **文中只说明这种布“不需要 fulling process (缩绒工序)”，并未直接说这样就“更便宜 / cheaper to produce”。成本高低是读者的推断，原文没有明说，因此信息 未给出，答案为 NOT GIVEN 。

二、填空题 Q6–13

要求：ONE WORD ONLY

题号	答案	精确定位句（英文）	题干翻译 + 定位句翻译与详细解释
6	weavers	<i>“In the sixteenth century, French weavers, persecuted for their Protestant religion, sought refuge in England and took their skills with them.”</i> （倒数第3段开头）	题干：“16 世纪：技术娴熟的 6 _____ 迁居到英国。” 翻译：“16 世纪，因新教信仰受到迫害的法国织工逃到英国避难，并把他们的技艺一同带来。” **解释：**题干里的 “skilled” 与原文中 “French weavers ... took their skills” 对应，真正移民的是 “weavers”，故填 weavers 。
7	exports	<i>“England began to surpass Flanders in woollen manufacture; by the end of the seventeenth century it comprised two-thirds of the value of its exports.”</i> （同一段）	题干：“17 世纪末：英国的大部分 7 _____ 是羊毛制品。” 翻译：“英格兰开始在呢绒制造上超过佛兰德；到 17 世纪末，它（羊毛制品）已占英国出口总价值的三分之二。” 解释：“two-thirds of the value of its exports” 说明英国出口总值中三分之二是羊毛相关产品，即 “多数出口是羊毛制品”，故空格应为 exports 。
8	towns	<i>“By 1770, output of worsted from Yorkshire equalled that of East Anglia, and its cloth manufacturing district began to take shape with the expansion of major towns: Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, and Wakefield.”</i> （同段稍后）	题干：“18 世纪：约克郡粗梳呢产量上升——五个重要制造业 8 _____ 的发展。” 翻译：“到 1770 年，约克郡的粗梳呢产量与东盎格利亚持平，其布料制造区随着主要城镇——利兹、布拉德福德、哈利法克斯、哈德斯菲尔德和韦克菲尔德——的扩张而逐渐成形。” **解释：**这里列出五个地方，前面用的是 “major towns”，与题干中的 “five key manufacturing ...” 对应，因此填 towns 。
9	cotton	<i>“The Industrial Revolution of 1750–1850 also brought change. It led the way for new inventions stemming from the Lancashire cotton industry, to mechanize ... the processes of spinning and weaving.”</i> （倒数第2段开头）	题干：“1750–1850：发明了新机器——起初是用于生产 9 _____ 的。” 翻译：“1750–1850 年的工业革命也带来了变化。它引出了源自兰开夏棉纺织业的新发明，用来使纺纱和织布的过程机械化并大幅加快。” **解释：**新机器 “stemming from the Lancashire cotton industry”，说明最初是为 cotton 工业开发，后来才推广到羊毛业，因此空格填 cotton 。
10	destruction	<i>“The widespread unrest of 1812 led to the destruction of equipment by bands of rioters, who feared they would lose employment.”</i> （同段中部）	题干：“1812：抗议活动导致机器被 10 _____。” 翻译：“1812 年的广泛骚乱导致暴民团伙毁坏设备，因为他们害怕失业。” 解释：“led to the destruction of equipment” 对应题干 “protests resulted in the ____ of machinery”，名词形式直接填 destruction 。
11	coal	<i>“The younger industry jumped ahead and never lost its lead, supported by abundant supplies of inexpensive coal to generate steam and, later, electrical power.”</i> （最后一段前半句）	题干：“19 世纪：在约克郡，机械化进一步发展，得益于廉价 11 _____ 的供应。” 翻译：“新兴产业后来一骑绝尘、保持领先，这得益于大量廉价煤炭供应，用来产生蒸汽，后来又用于发电。” **解释：**廉价的 “coal” 是机械化的能源基础，与题干中的 “availability of cheap ____” 一一对应，所以填 coal 。
12	tweeds	<i>“Other specialised types of manufacturing developed in Scotland, famed for its tweeds (a range of coloured woollen cloth with characteristic designs)...”</i> （最后一段末句）	题干：“苏格兰——专门生产 12 _____。” 翻译：“其他专业化的制造形式在苏格兰发展起来，该地因其 tweeds （一系列具有独特图案的彩色呢绒）而闻名。” **解释：**括号中的解释说明 tweeds 是一种有代表性的羊毛布料，因此苏格兰专长就是 tweeds，填 tweeds 。
13	carpets	<i>“...and in the West Country, which focused on the production of high-quality, woven carpets.”</i> （同一句）	题干：“西部地区——专门生产 13 _____。” 翻译：“而英格兰西部地区则专注于生产高质量的机织地毯。” **解释：**West Country “focused on the production of ... carpets”，与题干完全对应，因此答案是 carpets 。