

READING PASSAGE 2

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

Should we stop eating meat?

Some claim that it's the only way to save our planet from disaster. But is it really that simple?

- A The call for people to eat less meat to save the planet is growing louder, so if less is good, wouldn't none be better? To find out, let's imagine what would happen if the world eliminated meat, milk and eggs from its diet, then trace the effects. Last year the world consumed 289 million tonnes of meat, 700 million tonnes of milk and 1.2 billion eggs. Environmentally speaking, this came at an enormous cost.
- B All agriculture damages the environment. Take for example the felled forests and the common use of irrigation systems. And it may surprise you to know that agriculture creates more greenhouse gases than all methods of transport put together. Livestock farming does the most damage. In part, that is because most livestock eat grain that could be used to feed human populations, and farmers are forced to grow more than we would otherwise need to meet the demand. Altogether, if we switched to a vegan diet, meaning no meat, dairy or eggs, the land currently required for crops would drop by an estimated 21 per cent, about 3.4 million hectares, roughly the size of India.
- C One environmental impact that would also lessen through a reduction in animal farming would be that of the nitrogen emitted from agricultural processes, which spreads into both waterways and land. According to environmental scientist Allison Leach, if everyone eliminated dairy products and eggs, this kind of pollution would fall by 60%. Livestock production has another serious environmental impact. Global statistics are hard to come by, but in the US at least, livestock account for 55% of erosion, mostly from forests being cut down to make way for grazing land. On top of this, half of all antibiotics manufactured are fed to livestock as part of their normal diet, a practice that is leading to drug-resistant bacteria.
- D A meat-free world, then would be greener in many ways. However, if everyone opted to give up meat there would be significant costs too. For most of human history, livestock grazed on land that wasn't suitable for ploughing, and in doing so they converted inedible grass into edible meat and milk. Even today, a flock of sheep or goats can be the most efficient way to get food from marginal land. In a world in which over a billion people do not have enough to eat, using this land for crop production would contribute to food insecurity.

- E In some parts of the world today, livestock like chickens, for instance, can subsist on leftovers and whatever they find. Tara Garnett, who heads the Food Climate Research Network at the University of Surrey, points out the usefulness of these animals. By giving them your leftovers, she says, they deal with your rubbish, and you get meat. Garnett admits, though, that if this kind of approach were generally adopted, it would require a major adjustment in food preferences; people would have to get used to chicken, for example, with less fat.
- F Another downside to a meat-free world would be the disappearance of animal by-products. Such a world would have to replace the 11 million tonnes of leather and 2 million tonnes of wool that come annually from livestock farming and which are turned into clothing. Furthermore, even ardent vegetarians acknowledge that dairy products and meat may be a good thing in poorer countries. 'Whilst there's no doubt that considerable reduction of meat consumption would have an environmental benefit, we do have to be careful about saying it would be the best solution if the whole world went vegetarian,' says Annette Pinner, chief executive of the UK Vegetarian Society. For many of the world's poorest rural residents, an animal may represent their only realistic hope for a little extra income, and a little animal protein can make a big difference to a marginal diet.
- G What if we decided on a no-meat vegetarian diet, rather than a vegan diet? After all, milk and eggs are very efficient ways of producing animal calories. 'It's difficult to switch to a no-meat-but-milk diet,' says Helmut Haberl, a social ecologist. 'Dairy cows must calve every year to keep producing milk, and only half their offspring will be female. While many vegetarians see moral reasons not to kill and eat the males, there is surely no practical reason to waste so much meat.' Similar arguments apply to chickens kept for eggs.
- H So even though a meat-free world sounds good on paper, it is likely that a utopian future will still have some animal products in it. The real questions, then, are how much meat do we want, and how will we produce it? The answers depend on how you approach these questions. The most straightforward approach is to assume that the world will continue to want evermore meat. The United Nations' best guess is that by 2050, the world will need to more than double its production of meat, an increase that would be environmentally disastrous.
- I Under this scenario the goal will have to be producing the most meat at the lowest environmental cost. According to Walter Falcon, an agricultural economist, this means fewer free range cattle and sheep in green fields. 'If you're going to keep some livestock systems, I think the ones you'll want to keep are the intensive ones,' he says. Of course this does not take into account animal welfare issues, as intensive farming usually means poor living conditions and the use of growth hormones.

Questions 14–17

Reading Passage 2 has nine paragraphs, A–I.

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, A–I, in boxes 14–17 on your answer sheet.

- 14 the suggestion that people may need to adapt to a different quality of meat
- 15 a description of the way animals were fed in the past
- 16 a prediction in regard to human demand for meat
- 17 the potential consequences of a meat-free world for textile industries

Questions 18–22

Complete the summary below.

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

Write your answers in boxes 18–22 on your answer sheet.

How does agriculture damage the environment?

Agriculture causes significant harm to the environment in a number of ways, including the frequent use of 18 _____ in modern farming and the cutting down of trees. It is also responsible for the production of many greenhouse gases, more so than 19 _____ is. However, it is livestock farming in particular that is most harmful, because cows, chickens and sheep, for example, are given vast quantities of grain which could be consumed by people instead. A meat-free diet would mean that actually less 20 _____ could be used for crops. Far less chemical pollution, specifically in the form of 21 _____, would also be released into the environment, especially if consumers cut out dairy and egg products as well as meat. In the US, there is clear evidence that considerable 22 _____ is caused by the demand for grazing land, although there is no information on this from other countries.

Questions 23–26

Look at the following statements (Questions 23–26) and the list of people below.

*Match each statement with the correct researcher, **A–E**.*

*Write the correct letter, **A–E**, in boxes 23–26 on your answer sheet.*

- 23** It is not possible to say that a vegetarian diet is right for everyone.
- 24** It may be economically preferable to farm animals in limited space.
- 25** It does not make sense to give up meat without giving up dairy products too.
- 26** Some animals can be fed in a way that allows waste to be recycled.

List of People

- A** Allison Leach
- B** Tara Garnett
- C** Annette Pinner
- D** Helmut Haberl
- E** Walter Falcon

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Questions 14–17 段落信息匹配

| 题号 | 答案 | 题干翻译 | 详细定位 | 精确定位句 (英) | 定位句翻译 | 详细解释 |
|----|----|---------------------|---------|--|--|---|
| 14 | E | 人们可能需要适应不同品质的肉类这一建议 | 段落 E 中段 | "By giving them your leftovers, she says, they deal with your rubbish, and you get meat. Garnett admits, though, that if this kind of approach were generally adopted, it would require a major adjustment in food preferences; people would have to get used to chicken, for example, with less fat." | "她说，把剩饭剩菜给这些动物，它们帮你处理垃圾，而你得到肉。不过 Garnett 也承认，如果普遍采用这种方式，人们在饮食偏好上就必须作出巨大调整；例如，人们得习惯吃脂肪更少的鸡肉。” | 题干里的 “adapt to a different quality of meat” 对应 “major adjustment in food preferences” 和 “chicken... with less fat”。意思是：如果我们用剩饭喂鸡，鸡的肉会比较瘦，人们要习惯这种质量/口感不同的肉。故选 E。 |
| 15 | D | 对过去动物如何进食方式的描述 | 段落 D 开头 | "For most of human history, livestock grazed on land that wasn't suitable for ploughing, and in doing so they converted inedible grass into edible meat and milk." | "在人类历史的大部分时间里，家畜都在不适合耕种的土地上吃草放牧，通过这种方式把人类不能吃的草转化为可以食用的肉和奶。” | 题干关键词 “in the past” “the way animals fed” 对应 “For most of human history” 和 “grazed on land”，具体描述的是：过去家畜主要靠在贫瘠土地上吃草来获取食物。故选 D。 |
| 16 | H | 关于人类对肉类需求的预测 | 段落 H 末尾 | "The United Nations' best guess is that by 2050, the world will need to more than double its production of meat, an increase that would be environmentally disastrous." | "联合国的最佳估计是，到 2050 年，世界将需要把肉类产量提高到现在的两倍以上，而这种增长在环境上将是灾难性的。” | "best guess... by 2050, the world will need to..." 是标准的“预测”表达。对未来肉类需求的预估，与题干 “a prediction in regard to human demand for meat” 完全对应。故选 H。 |
| 17 | F | 肉类世界消失对纺织工业的潜在影响 | 段落 F 开头 | "Another downside to a meat-free world would be the disappearance of animal by-products. Such a world would have to replace the 11 million tonnes of leather and 2 million tonnes of wool that come annually from livestock farming and which are turned into clothing." | "没有肉类的世界的另一大缺点是动物副产品会消失。这样的世界就必须想办法替代每年来自畜牧业、并被制成衣物的 1100 万吨皮革和 200 万吨羊毛。” | 题干中的 “textile industries” 指的是纺织/服装行业，对文中 “leather... wool... turned into clothing”。如果世界不再养畜，就要替代这些纺织原料，这是对纺织业的潜在后果。故选 F。 |

Questions 18–22 概要填空 (ONE WORD ONLY)

| 题号 | 答案 | 题干翻译中的空格部分 | 详细定位 | 精确定位句 (英) | 定位句翻译 | 详细解释 |
|----|------------|----------------------------|-------------|---|--|--|
| 18 | irrigation | 现代农业中经常使用的 _____ | 段落 B, 句 1–2 | "All agriculture damages the environment. Take for example the felled forests and the common use of irrigation systems." | "所有农业都会破坏环境。举例来说，有被砍伐的森林，以及灌溉系统的普遍使用。” | 概要里说 “the frequent use of ___ in modern farming”，与原文 “common use of irrigation systems” 同义。只需用一个词，所以填 irrigation。 |
| 19 | transport |比 _____ 造成的还多 | 段落 B, 句 3 | "And it may surprise you to know that agriculture creates more greenhouse gases than all methods of transport put together." | "你可能会惊讶：农业产生的温室气体比所有形式的交通运输加起来还多。” | 概要中 “more so than ___ is” 指代产生温室气体的另一个来源。原文明确对比 agriculture vs transport，所以填 transport。 |
| 20 | land | 实际上更少的 _____ 可以用于种植作物 | 段落 B 末 | "...if we switched to a vegan diet... the land currently required for crops would drop by an estimated 21 per cent..." | "如果我们改为纯素饮食，当前种植作物所需的土地预计会减少 21%。” | 概要里的 “A meat-free diet would mean that actually less ___ could be used for crops” 把 “would drop” 改写为 “could be used”。这里指的就是作物所需的 land。 |
| 21 | nitrogen |尤其是以 _____ 的形式，也会大大减少 | 段落 C 开头 | "...that of the nitrogen emitted from agricultural processes, which spreads into both waterways and land." | "(会减弱的环境影响之一) 就是农业过程排放的氮，它扩散到水路和土地中。” | 概要里提到 “Far less chemical pollution, specifically in the form of ___ would also be released...”，与原文 “nitrogen emitted...” 完全对应，因此填 nitrogen。 |
| 22 | erosion |大量的 _____ 是由放牧用地需求造成的 | 段落 C 中部 | "Global statistics are hard to come by, but in the US at least, livestock account for 55% of erosion, mostly from forests being cut down to make way for grazing land." | "全球的数据很难获得，但至少在美国，畜牧业要对 55% 的水土流失/侵蚀负责，这主要是因为要砍伐森林来开辟放牧地。” | 概要句说 “considerable ___ is caused by the demand for grazing land”，和原文 “erosion... from forests being cut down to make way for grazing land” 完全平行，所以答案是 erosion。 |

Questions 23–26 人名配对题

| 题号 | 答案 | 题干翻译 | 详细定位 | 精确定位句(英) | 定位句翻译 | 详细解释 |
|----|----|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|
| 23 | C | 不可能说素食饮食适合所有人。 | 段落 F 中后部 (Annette Pinne) | "'Whilst there's no doubt that considerable reduction of meat consumption would have an environmental benefit, we do have to be careful about saying it would be the best solution if the whole world went vegetarian,' says Annette Pinne..." | "Annette Pinne 说：‘尽管毫无疑问，大幅减少肉类消费会给环境带来好处，但在说“如果全世界都变成素食者那是最好的解决方案”时，我们必须谨慎。’" | 她强调要小心声称“全世界都吃素是最佳方案”，也就是说不能简单认为素食适合所有人和所有国家，正好对应题干。故 23 选 C Annette Pinne。 |
| 24 | E | 在有限空间饲养动物在经济上可能更合算。 | 段落 I 中部 (Walter Falcon) | "According to Walter Falcon, an agricultural economist, this means fewer free range cattle and sheep in green fields. 'If you're going to keep some livestock systems, I think the ones you'll want to keep are the intensive ones,' he says." | "农业经济学家 Walter Falcon 认为，这意味着要减少在绿地上放养的牛和羊。他说：‘如果你要保留一些畜牧系统，我认为你会想保留的是那些集约化饲养的系统。’" | 这里 “intensive ones”= 集约化 / 高密度饲养系统，前文背景是 “producing the most meat at the lowest environmental cost”。在雅思题中常把“成本低、更高效”视作“经济上更可取”。与题干 “economically preferable to farm animals in limited space” 对应，因此 24 选 E Walter Falcon。 |
| 25 | D | 只放弃吃肉而不放弃乳制品是不合理的。 | 段落 G 中部 (Helmut Haberl) | "It's difficult to switch to a no-meat-but-milk diet," says Helmut Haberl... "While many vegetarians see moral reasons not to kill and eat the males, there is surely no practical reason to waste so much meat." | "Helmut Haberl 说：‘转向只喝奶不吃肉的饮食是很难的.....尽管许多素食者出于道德理由不想杀死并吃掉这些雄性动物，但从实际角度看，并没有理由浪费这么多肉。’" | 他的意思是：如果继续喝奶，就一定会有大量公牛犊出生，如果出于“素食”立场不吃这些肉，就等于浪费——从“practical”角度看不合理。对应题干 “it does not make sense to give up meat without giving up dairy products too.” 故 25 选 D Helmut Haberl。 |
| 26 | B | 有些动物可以通过一种方式被喂养，从而实现废物再利用。 | 段落 E 开头 (Tara Garnett) | "Tara Garnett... points out the usefulness of these animals. By giving them your leftovers, she says, they deal with your rubbish, and you get meat." | "Tara Garnett 指出了这些动物的用途。她说，把你的剩饭剩菜给它们，它们就帮你处理垃圾，而你还能得到肉。" | 把 “leftovers (剩饭)” 和 “rubbish (垃圾)” 喂给鸡，相当于用动物来回收处理废弃物，与题干 “fed in a way that allows waste to be recycled” 正好对应。故 26 选 B Tara Garnett。 |