

## 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 14–19**

Reading Passage 2 has six paragraphs, **A–F**.

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

Write the correct number, **i–viii**, in boxes 14–19 on your answer sheet.

### List of headings

- i** Different areas of professional expertise
- ii** Reasons why it is unfair to criticise lawyers
- iii** The disadvantages of the legal system
- iv** The law applies throughout our lives
- v** The law has affected historical events
- vi** A negative regard for lawyers
- vii** The public's increasing ability to influence the law
- viii** Growth in laws

**14** Paragraph **A**

**15** Paragraph **B**

**16** Paragraph **C**

**17** Paragraph **D**

**18** Paragraph **E**

**19** Paragraph **F**

## The Importance of Law

- A The law influences all of us virtually all the time. It governs almost all aspects of our behaviour, and even what happens to us when we are no longer alive. It affects us from the embryo onwards. It governs the air we breathe, the food and drink we consume, our travel, family relationships, and our property. It applies at the bottom of the ocean and in space. Each time we examine a label on a food product, engage in work as an employee or employer, travel on the roads, go to school to learn or to teach, stay in a hotel, borrow a library book, create or dissolve a commercial company, play sports, or engage the services of someone for anything from plumbing a sink to planning a city, we are in the world of law.
- B Law has also become much more widely recognised as the standard by which behaviour needs to be judged. A very telling development in recent history is the way in which the idea of law has permeated all parts of social life. The universal standard of whether something is socially tolerated is progressively becoming whether it is legal, rather than something that has always been considered acceptable. In earlier times, most people were illiterate. Today, by contrast, a vast number of people can read, and it is becoming easier for people to take an interest in law, and for the general population to help actually shape the law in many countries. However, law is a versatile instrument that can be used equally well for the improvement or the degradation of humanity.
- C This, of course, puts law in a very significant position. In our rapidly developing world, all sorts of skills and knowledge are valuable. Those people, for example, with knowledge of computers, the internet, and communications technology are relied upon by the rest of us. There is now someone with IT skills or an IT help desk in every UK school, every company, every hospital, every local and central government office. Without their knowledge, many parts of commercial and social life today would seize up in minutes. But legal understanding is just as vital and as universally needed. The American comedian Jerry Seinfeld put it like this, 'We are all throwing the dice, playing the game, moving our pieces around the board, but if there is a problem, the lawyer is the only person who has read the inside of the top of the box.' In other words, the lawyer is the only person who has read and made sense of the rules.

- D The number of laws has never been greater. In the UK alone, about 35 new Acts of Parliament are produced every year, thereby delivering thousands of new rules. The legislative output of the British Parliament has more than doubled in recent times from 1,100 pages a year in the early 1970s, to over 2,500 pages a year today. Between 1997 and 2006, the legislature passed 365 Acts of Parliament and more than 32,000 legally binding statutory instruments. In a system with so much law, lawyers do a great deal not just to vindicate the rights of citizens and organisations but also to help develop the law through legal arguments, some of which are adapted by judges to become laws. Law courts can and do produce new law and revise old law, but they do so having heard the arguments of lawyers.
- E However, despite their important role in developing the rules, lawyers are not universally admired. Anti-lawyer jokes have a long history going back to the ancient Greeks. More recently, the son of a famous Hollywood actor was asked at his junior school what his father did for a living, to which he replied, ‘My daddy is a movie actor, and sometimes he plays the good guy, and sometimes, he plays the lawyer.’ For balance, though, it is worth remembering that there are and have been many heroic and revered lawyers such as the Roman philosopher and politician Cicero, and Mahatma Gandhi, the Indian campaigner for Independence.
- F People sometimes make comments that characterise lawyers as professionals whose concerns put personal reward above truth, or who gain financially from misfortune. There are undoubtedly lawyers that would fit that bill, just as there are some scientists, journalists and others in that category. But, in general, it is no more just to say that lawyers are bad because they make a living from people’s problems than it is to make the same accusation in respect of nurses or IT consultants. A great many lawyers are involved in public law work, such as that involving civil liberties, housing and other issues. Such work is not lavishly remunerated and the quality of the service provided by these lawyers relies on considerable professional dedication. Moreover, much legal work has nothing to do with conflict or misfortune, but is primarily concerned with drafting documents. Another source of social disaffection for lawyers, and disaffection for the law, is a limited public understanding of how law works and how it could be changed. Greater clarity about these issues, maybe as a result of better public relations, would reduce many aspects of public dissatisfaction with the law.

### *Questions 20–21*

*Choose **TWO** letters, A–E.*

*Write the correct letters in boxes 20–21 on your answer sheet.*

Which **TWO** of the following statements does the writer make about legal skills in today's world?

- A There should be a person with legal training in every hospital.
- B Lawyers with experience in commercial law are the most in demand.
- C Knowledge of the law is as important as having computer skills.
- D Society could not function effectively without legal experts.
- E Schools should teach students about the law.

### *Questions 22–26*

*Complete the summary below.*

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

*Write your answers in boxes 22–26 on your answer sheet.*

### **Lawyers as professionals**

People sometimes say that 22 \_\_\_\_\_ is of little interest to lawyers, who are more concerned with making money. This may well be the case with some individuals, in the same way that some 23 \_\_\_\_\_ or scientific experts may also be driven purely by financial greed. However, criticising lawyers because their work is concerned with people's problems would be similar to attacking IT staff or 24 \_\_\_\_\_ for the same reason. In fact, many lawyers focus on questions relating, for example, to housing or civil liberties, which requires them to have 25 \_\_\_\_\_ to their work. What's more, a lot of lawyers' time is spent writing 26 \_\_\_\_\_ rather than dealing with people's misfortunes.

## 14–19 段落标题匹配

题号	段落	答案 (罗马数字)	精确定位句	解释
14	A	iv	“The law influences all of us virtually all the time... It governs almost all aspects of our behaviour... from the embryo onwards... at the bottom of the ocean and in space.” (第A段开头)	全段用大量生活场景展示法律无处不在、贯穿一生，对应 “The law applies throughout our lives”。
15	B	vii	“Today... it is becoming easier for people to take an interest in law, and for the general population to help actually shape the law in many countries.” (第B段中部)	主题是公众识字率提高、法律渗透社会并让大众更能影响法律，对应 “The public's increasing ability to influence the law”。
16	C	i	“In our rapidly developing world, all sorts of skills and knowledge are valuable... IT skills... But legal understanding is just as vital and as universally needed.” (第C段)	本段把IT/计算机等专业能力与法律理解并列比较，强调不同专业能力的价值，匹配 “Different areas of professional expertise”。
17	D	viii	“The number of laws has never been greater. ... about 35 new Acts... thousands of new rules... output... more than doubled....” (第D段开头与数据)	以大量数据说明法律数量的增长，对应 “Growth in laws”。
18	E	vi	“However... lawyers are not universally admired. Anti-lawyer jokes have a long history....” (第E段开头)	讨论社会上对律师的负面观感，对应 “A negative regard for lawyers”。
19	F	ii	“But, in general, it is no more just to say that lawyers are bad...” 以及后文给出多条反驳理由。(第F段)	全段在为律师辩护：很多从事公共法律、并非逐利；公众误解等，正是 “Reasons why it is unfair to criticise lawyers”。

## 20–21 多选题 (选两项)

题号	答案	精确定位句	解释
20–21	C, D	C: “But legal understanding is just as vital and as universally needed.” (第C段) D: 与上一句联读前文 “Without [IT] knowledge, many parts of commercial and social life today would seize up in minutes.” + “legal understanding is just as vital...”。	C 直接表述法律知识与计算机技能同样重要。D 由 “IT 知识缺失 → 社会停摆” 与 “法律理解同样至关重要” 并列推出：没有法律专家（法律理解）社会也难以有效运转。其余选项文中未提出 (A/E 未要求学校或医院配法务；B 未谈“商业法最抢手”).

## 22–26 摘要填空 (每空一词)

### Lawyers as professionals

题号	答案	精确定位句	解释
22	truth	“professionals whose concerns put personal reward above truth ....” (第F段首句)	题干 “is of little interest to lawyers” 对应原文 “把个人回报置于真理/真实之上”。
23	journalists	“just as there are some scientists, journalists and others in that category.” (第F段)	概括 “some _____ or scientific experts”，与 “scientific experts” 并列的职业是 journalists。
24	nurses	“...than it is to make the same accusation in respect of nurses or IT consultants.” (第F段)	类比 “指责律师=指责 IT 人员或护士”。
25	dedication	“the quality of the service... relies on considerable professional dedication.” (第F段)	题干 “requires them to have _____ to their work” 对应 “需要奉献/投入”。
26	documents	“much legal work... is primarily concerned with drafting documents.” (第F段)	律师大量时间用于撰写文件。