READING PASSAGE 3

*You should spend about 20 minutes on **Questions 27-40**, which are based on Reading Passage 3 below.*

Whether made of highly polished metal or of glass with a coating of metal on the back, mirrors have fascinated people for thousands of years. Ancient Egyptians were often depicted holding hand mirrors. For centuries, the people of Rajasthan in India have sewn bits of reflective glass into their clothing, and the resulting sparkle emphasizes the magic and mystery of that desert land.

To scientists, the simultaneous simplicity and complexity of mirrors make them effective and accessible tools for exploring questions about perception and cognition in humans and other 'intelligent' species, and about how the brain interprets and acts upon the great mass of sensory information from the external world. Mirrors are used to study how the brain decides what is self and what is other, how it judges distance, and how it reconstructs the richly three-dimensional quality of the outside world from what is essentially a two-dimensional snapshot taken by the retina of the eye. Mirrors are applied in medicine to create reflected images of patients' limbs or other body parts and thus trick the brain into healing itself. Mirror therapy has been successful in treating chronic pain and paralysis. In a sense, mirrors are the best 'virtual reality' system that can be built. The object 'inside' the mirror is virtual, but as far as our eyes are concerned, it exists as much as any other object.

Research has shown that mirrors can subtly affect human behaviour, often in surprisingly positive ways. Subjects tested in a room with a mirror have been found to work harder and to be less inclined to cheat, compared with control groups performing the same exercises in non-mirrored settings. In addition, the researchers found that people in a room with a mirror were comparatively less likely to make judgements about others based on negative social stereotypes concerning, for example, sex, race or religion. The researchers said that this indicates that when people are made to be self-aware, they are likelier to stop and think about what they are doing. A by-product of that awareness may be a shift away from acting on autopilot toward more desirable ways of behaving. Physical self-reflection, in other words, encourages philosophical self-reflection — a lesson in the ancient Greek notion that you cannot know or appreciate others until you know yourself.

The link between self-awareness and elaborate sociality may help explain why the few nonhuman species that have been found to recognize themselves in a mirror are those with sophisticated social lives. Animals that live in communal units, such as the great apes – chimpanzees, bonobos, orangutans and gorillas – along with dolphins and Asian elephants, have passed the famed mirror self-recognition test, which means they will, when given a mirror, scrutinize marks that have been applied to their faces or bodies. The animals will also check up on personal cleanliness, inspecting their mouths, nostrils and bodies. Yet not all members of self-reflective species will pass the mirror test. Studies of individual elephants and dolphins raised in isolation suggest that these particular individuals do not exhibit mirror self-recognition.

For that matter, humans do not necessarily see the face in the mirror as it actually is either. What the human eye sees objectively and how the brain interprets that image are not necessarily the same. Dr Nicholas Epley, Professor of Behavioral Science at the University of Chicago, USA, described experiments in which people were asked to pick out pictures of themselves from among pictures of other human faces. Participants identified their personal photographs significantly quicker when their faces had been computer-enhanced to be more appealing and they were likely to call this retouched image their genuine face. This self-delusion is not simply the result of a widespread preference for prettiness: when asked to match photographs of strangers, participants were, in fact, best at spotting unenhanced faces — that is, those not made to look prettier.

How can we be so self-delusional when the truth stares back at us? Dr Epley explains that, although we do indeed see ourselves in the mirror every day, we don't look exactly the same every time. There is the just-out-of-bed morning you, the ready-for-work you, the dressed-for-an-elegant-dinner you. Which image is you? People on average resolve the question of these multiple images of themselves in their favour. That is, they piece together a mental representation formed from different aspects of themselves when they are looking their best.

In a series of other studies, psychologists interviewed people about what they think a mirror shows them. They asked questions like, 'Imagine you are standing in front of a bathroom mirror; how big do you think the image of your face is on the surface? And what will happen to the size of that image if you step steadily backward, away from the glass?' To the first question, people overwhelmingly say 'The outline of my face on the mirror would be pretty much the size of my face. As for the second question, that's obvious: if I move away from the mirror, the size of my image will shrink with each step.' Both answers, it turns out, are wrong. Outline your face on a mirror, and you will find it to be exactly half the size of your real face. Step back as much as you please, and the size of that outlined oval will not change: it remains half the size of your face, even as the background scene reflected in the mirror steadily changes.

Questions 27–30

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Reading Passage 3?

In boxes 27–30 on your answer sheet, write:

YES	*if the statement agrees with the views of the writer*
NO	*if the statement contradicts the views of the writer*
NOT GIVEN	*if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this*

27 The conflicting nature of mirrors makes them inappropriate aids for investigating human thought.

28 Humans find it difficult to distinguish between reflections of two- and three-dimensional objects.

29 Illusions using mirrors can help in the treatment of medical problems.

30 Mirrors for use in scientific experiments have to be constructed to precise specifications.

Questions 31–34

*Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.*

Write the correct letter in boxes 31–34 on your answer sheet.

31 If a mirror is present during certain experiments, the subjects tend to

A monitor the behaviour of other subjects.
B act more industriously and independently.
C become less confident of themselves.
D focus overwhelmingly on their own reflection.

32 Research results imply that physical self-reflection leads people to be

A more tolerant of others.
B more satisfied with their own lives.
C more open to learning from others.
D more likely to accept unpopular ideas.

33 The successful completion of a well-known mirror test suggests that the animal subjects

A find the image in the mirror uninteresting.
B recognise the basic need for personal cleanliness.
C realise that the marks they see are on their own body.
D understand that marks on their face have been made deliberately.

34 Which of the following is the most suitable title for Reading Passage 3?

A Conflicting interpretations of mirror research
B Psychological responses to mirror images
C The physical properties of mirrors
D The use of mirrors through history

Questions 35–40

Complete each sentence with the correct ending, ***A–I****, below.*

Write the correct letter, ***A–I****, in boxes 35–40 on your answer sheet.*

35 Dr Epley found that when identifying images of themselves, people

36 When trying to identify images of unfamiliar individuals, Dr Epley found that people most frequently

37 Dr Epley says that a single objective reflection is impossible because people

38 Dr Epley says that when forming an opinion of how they think they look, people

39 When guessing the size of their mirrored face from close up, people

40 As they imagine stepping backwards from a mirror, people

A believe they can improve their looks by being friendly.
B are confronted daily with their images in a variety of situations.
C assume their image will get progressively smaller.
D recognise familiar faces much more readily.
E estimate the image to be larger than it actually is.
F select those photographs which have not been altered.
G find there is little change in the image they face.
H locate the photographs faster if they are made to look attractive.
I create a positive generalised self-image.

27–30 判断题（是否符合作者观点）

题号	题干中文	答案	精确定位句（第 X 段）	定位句中文	详细解释（同义替换 & 错误项排除）
27	镜子的**矛盾性**使其**不适合**用来探究人的思维。	**NO**	第 2 段首句："*To scientists, the simultaneous simplicity and complexity of mirrors make them **effective and accessible tools** for exploring questions about perception and cognition …*"	对科学家而言，镜子同时简单又复杂，这恰恰使它们成为**有效且易用的工具**，用于探索知觉与认知等问题。	题干说"使其不适合"，而原文直接说**使其成为有效工具** → 与作者观点相反，故 **NO**。同义：*effective and accessible tools* ↔ "适合/有效的工具"；*investigating human thought* 与原文 *perception and cognition in humans* 语义一致。
28	人类难以区分**二维**与**三维**物体的镜像。	**NOT GIVEN**	相关最近句：第 2 段中部："*… how it reconstructs the richly three-dimensional quality of the outside world from what is essentially a **two-dimensional snapshot** taken by the retina …*"	大脑如何把视网膜上本质为**二维**的快照重建为**三维**世界。	文中讲"**大脑如何重建** 2D→3D"，并未断言"人类**难以区分**二维/三维镜像"。没有"难以区分/困难"之类评价词。因此 **NG**。
29	利用镜子的**错觉**可以帮助**治疗**医学问题。	**YES**	第 2 段："*Mirrors are applied in medicine to … **trick the brain into healing itself**. **Mirror therapy has been successful** in treating **chronic pain and paralysis**.*"	镜子用于医学以**欺骗大脑使其自我康复**；镜像疗法在治疗**慢性疼痛和瘫痪**方面已**取得成功**。	题干 "illusions using mirrors" ≈ 原文 "trick the brain（制造知觉错觉）"；"help in the treatment" ≈ "successful in treating"。语义完全支持，故 **YES**。
30	科学实验用的镜子必须按**严格规格**制造。	**NOT GIVEN**	全文无关于"镜子要按精密规格制造"的陈述。实验只说"在有镜子的房间"等。	—	无任何关于"制造公差/规格/精度"的要求描述；不能从"有效工具"推导出"必须精密制造"。故 **NG**。

31–34 单选题

题号	题干中文	正确选项	精确定位句（第 X 段）	定位句中文	详细解释（同义改写 & 错误项排除）
31	某些实验中若有镜子在场，被试倾向于……	**B** act more industriously and independently	第 3 段前半："*… in a room with a mirror have been found to **work harder** and to be **less inclined to cheat**, compared with control groups …*"	有镜子的房间中，被试被发现**更努力工作**，并且**不太倾向作弊**。	**B** 中 *industriously* = "努力地"；*independently* 可对位"不靠作弊（他人/不正当手段）"。**A** 监看他人——文中无；**C** 自信降低——无；**D** 只顾照镜子——无。
32	研究暗示"身体上的自我照见"会让人更……	**A** more tolerant of others	第 3 段中部："*… people in a room with a mirror were comparatively **less likely to make judgements** about others based on **negative social stereotypes** …*"	有镜子的房间里，人们**不太会**依据负面刻板印象来评判他人。	"不按负面成见评判他人" = 对他人**更宽容（tolerant）**。**B** 更满意生活/**C** 更愿向他人学习/**D** 接受不受欢迎观点——文中都未提。
33	著名"镜中自我识别测试"成功表明受试动物……	**C** realise the marks they see are on their own body	第 4 段："*… have passed the famed mirror self-recognition test, which means they will, when given a mirror, **scrutinize marks** that have been applied to their faces or bodies.*"	通过测试意味着：给镜子时，它们会**审视**被涂在自己脸或身体上的**标记**。	这表明动物把镜像中的标记**归因到自身**（认识"那是我身上的痕迹"）→ **C**。**B** "认识到清洁需要"是段落后一句"也会检查嘴鼻身体清洁"但**不是**测试"成功"的内涵；**A** 无；**D** "明白标记是被故意做的"过度推断。
34	最合适的篇章标题是……	**B** Psychological responses to mirror images	通读第 2–7 段主题：镜子在**知觉/认知/行为**、自我意识、动物镜像识别、Epley 的人类自我偏差研究。	—	文章核心是**心理与行为对镜像的反应**。**A** "互相冲突的解读"并非主线；**C** 物理性质仅顺带；**D** 历史用法只在第 1 段一带而过。

35–40 句尾配对（A–I）

题号	题干中文（前半句）	正确结尾	答案	精确定位句（第 X 段）	定位句中文	详细解释（同义改写 & 误选排除）
35	Epley 发现：在辨认**自己的**照片时，人们……	**H** locate the photographs faster if they are made to look attractive.	**35 H**	第 5 段："*Participants **identified their personal photographs significantly quicker** when their faces had been **computer-enhanced to be more appealing**, and they were likely to **call this retouched image their genuine face**.*"	当照片被**美化**得更吸引时，人们**显著更快**认出是自己，并倾向把此**修饰图**当作"真实的自己"。	关键词同义：*more appealing = attractive*；*identified quicker = locate faster*。误选 **D**"更易识别熟悉面孔"太泛；**I**"正向自我"对应第 6 段而非第 5 段具体实验。
36	在辨认**陌生人**的照片时，人们**最常**……	**F** select those photographs which have not been altered.	**36 F**	第 5 段："*… when asked to match photographs of strangers, participants were, in fact, **best at spotting unenhanced faces** — those **not made to look prettier.***"	让匹配**陌生人**时，参与者**最擅长**识别**未修饰**的面孔——即没有被美化的。	*unenhanced* = "未修饰/未修改"。排除 **H**：那是"自己的照片"；**D** 仍过泛。
37	Epley 指出：不可能存在单一"客观的自我镜像"，因为人们……	**B** are confronted daily with their images in a variety of situations.	**37 B**	第 6 段前半："*… although we do see ourselves… we **don't look exactly the same every time**. There is the just-out-of-bed you, the ready-for-work you, the dinner you … Which image is you?*"	虽天天照镜子，但**每次都不完全一样**：起床的你、上班的你、晚宴的你——哪一个才是"你"？	"在不同情境下不断看到不同的自己" = **B**。排除 **E/I**：它们分别对应 Q39/Q38。
38	Epley 说：当形成"自我长相"的看法时，人们会……	**I** create a positive generalised self-image.	**38 I**	第 6 段后半："*People on average resolve this… **in their favour**. That is, they **piece together a mental representation … when they are looking their best**.*"	人们通常**向有利于自己的方向**解决多种"自我形象"，把**自己最好状态的片段拼合成一个总体化的自我表征**。	"向有利于自己/最好状态" = **积极的综合自我形象**。
39	近距离估计镜中**脸的大小**时，人们会……	**E** estimate the image to be larger than it actually is.	**39 E**	第 7 段："*To the first question, people say 'The outline… **pretty much the size** of my face.' … Both answers are **wrong**. … it is **exactly half** the size of your real face.*"	人们以为镜中脸的轮廓与**真脸差不多一样大**，但实际上**只有一半**。	以为"差不多等大" → 相当于把镜像**估大**（超过真实 1/2）。
40	**想象向后退离镜子**时，人们会……	**C** assume their image will get progressively smaller.	**40 C**	第 7 段："*As for the second question, [people think] if I move away… the size of my image **will shrink**… **Both answers are wrong**… the size **will not change**.*"	多数人认为后退**镜像会逐步变小**；但事实是**不会变**（仍是面部真实尺寸的一半）。	题干用 *assume*（以为/假设）准确对应"人们的想象"，与原文一致。误选 **G**"几乎没变化"描述的是**真实现象**而非人们的"想象"。