

IELTS READING EXAM

Academic and General Training question types

In the General Training and Academic Reading tests, you can expect a range of question types, including:

- Identifying information
- Multiple choice
- Identifying a writer's views/claims
- Matching headings
- Matching information
- Matching features
- Matching sentence ending
- Sentence completion
- Summary, note, table, flow-chart completion
- Diagram label completion
- Short-answer questions

the General Training

Questions 1–3

Choose **TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information given in the text, choose **FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information, or choose **NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this.

1 Marie Curie's husband was a joint winner of both Marie's Nobel Prizes.

- ☐ TRUE
- ☐ FALSE
- ☐ NOT GIVEN

Match each paragraph below to a title from the list. Not all letters will be used.

- A) Overgrazing
- B) Mass migration
- C) Overpopulation
- D) Polluted drinking water
- E) Famine
- F) Extinction of species
- G) Deforestation
- H) Poverty
- I) Unsustainable agriculture techniques
- J) Soil infertility

Reading Passage: Desertification Causes and Effects

Causes of Desertification

1) Trees are being cut down at much larger scale than ever before to be used as fuel, to provide products we use in our daily life, or to simply create more space for agriculture to sustain growing human population. Once the trees and other vegetation in an area are gone, there is nothing left to hold the soil in place.

Questions 1–4

Choose the correct group, A–E, for each item. You may choose any group more than once.

	A	B	C	D
1 black powder	☐	☐	☐	☐
2 rocket-propelled arrows for fighting	☐	☐	☐	☐
3 rockets as war weapons	☐	☐	☐	☐
4 the rocket launcher	☐	☐	☐	☐

First invented or used by	
A	the Chinese
B	the Indians
C	the British
D	the Arabs

Questions 1–3

Complete each sentence with the correct ending. Choose the correct answer and move it into the gap.

Harkness's research method was different to that of other writers because

1

Harkness's reconstruction of the 16th-century London scientific groups was new because

2

Harkness shows that the 16th-century London scientists were innovative because

3

she has the greatest knowledge of Elizabethan London.

she started by seeking to understand how basic terms were used in the past.

they worked as individuals rather than as a group.

she examined how their methods evolved and changed.

Clement Draper was the best scientist of his time.

they used old ways of analysing written information for new purposes.

Questions 1–5

Complete the sentences. Write **ONE WORD ONLY** from the text for each answer.

Huxley formulated his theory while studying a dinosaur belonging to a group called 1.

Heilmann rejected Huxley's theory because of the apparent absence of 2 in dinosaurs.

Feduccia and Martin believe that the ancestor of today's birds was a kind of early 3.

In cladistics, the 4 between organisms' characteristics are of major importance.

The dangerous 5 on a primitive bird from Madagascar adds weight to the 'dino-bird' argument.

Questions 1–4

Complete the summary using the list of words. Choose the correct answer and move it into the gap.

The importance of language

The wheel is one invention that has had a major impact on 1 aspects of life, but no impact has been as 2 as that of language. Language is very 3 , yet composed of just a small number of sounds.

Language appears to be 4 to use. However, its sophistication is often overlooked.

difficult complex original admired material easy fundamental

Questions 1–4

Choose **TWO** correct answers.

1–2 The list below gives some of the advantages of employing older workers.

Which **TWO** advantages are mentioned by the writer of the text?

- ☐ They are less likely to be involved in careless accidents.
- ☐ They can predict areas that may cause trouble in the future.
- ☐ They are able to train younger workers.
- ☐ They can deal with unexpected problems.
- ☐ They are more conscientious.
- ☐ They are prepared to work for lower salaries.
- ☐ They are more skilled in personal relationships.

3–4 The list below gives some of the disadvantages of employing younger workers.

Which **TWO** disadvantages are mentioned by the writer of the text?

- ☐ They are too confident of their own skills.
- ☐ They may injure themselves.