

Read the following text about the London Underground, and answer the 15 questions.

THE TUBE

Paragraph 1

The first time somebody thought of linking the City of London with other railway stations was in the 1830s and soon the Metropolitan Railway started building this line in 1854. Almost a decade later, the world's first underground railway opened to connect Paddington and Farringdon. Very soon, around 1868, the Metropolitan District Railway opened from South Kensington to Westminster, connecting London's main-line terminal stations. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Paragraph 2

The Underground today serves 270 stations, out of which fourteen are outside Greater London. Some of the biggest and busiest stations include: Waterloo, King's Cross, St. Pancras, Oxford Circus and Victoria. There are 11 lines in total in the London Underground, 402 kilometres in length, which are known either by their name or colour as shown on the Tube map. For example, people also call the Central line the Red line. Another interesting fact is that trains operate both above and under the surface of the earth, making the name Underground a bit misleading. Actually, 55% of the system now runs above ground.

Paragraph 3

The Tube opens at 5am every morning Monday to Friday and a bit later at weekends. It runs until just after midnight, around 1 o'clock. In the event of a public holiday, such as New Year, or a major event, like the Olympics, some lines stay open longer to help passengers get around. On Christmas Eve, however, the Underground runs a limited service and on Christmas Day it does not operate at all.

Paragraph 4

In order to use the London Underground effectively, one has to know the zonal fare system. There are nine zones, with the first one being the most central and the rest gradually expanding towards the outside. Ticket prices vary according to the zone your destination belongs to. Paper tickets are one option, but most passengers nowadays use Oyster cards, which are pre-paid cards that can actually be used on other means of transport, like the Overground, buses, trams, the National Railway, etc. Oyster cards have been very popular as passengers get discounts this way.

Paragraph 5

On weekdays, there are peak hours when great numbers of people use the London Underground. The morning "rush hour" is between about 7.30am and 9.30am, and the evening peak time is between 4.30pm and 6.30pm. During these hours stations can get so busy and crowded that passengers may not manage to get on the first train and most of them do not even get a seat on their train.

Source: Preparing for Trinity ISE I

Questions 1-5

The text has five paragraphs (1-5). Choose the best title for each paragraph from A-F below and write the letter (A-F) on the lines below. There is one title that you don't need.

- 1. Paragraph 1 ☐
- 2. Paragraph 2 ☐
- 3. Paragraph 3 ☐
- 4. Paragraph 4 ☐
- 5. Paragraph 5 ☐

- A Brief history of London transport
- B Operating hours
- C Accessibility to the London Underground
- D Main lines and stations in the London Underground
- E The Underground zones and tickets
- F Rush hour and overcrowding

Questions 6-10

Choose the five statements from A-H below that are TRUE according to the information given in the text. Write the letters of the TRUE statements on the squares below (in alphabetical order).

- 6. ☐
- 7. ☐
- 8. ☐
- 9. ☐
- 10. ☐

- A The City of London was connected to other railway stations in the 1830s.
- B A larger part of the London Underground operates on the Earth's surface, rather than under it.
- C There are occasions when the London Underground remains closed.
- D Rush hours in the Tube last for the most part of the day.
- E Oyster cards can be very effective if you want to move around London.
- F On a weekday, the Tube is closed for only 4 hours at night.
- G Not all tickets in the London Underground cost the same amount of money.
- H All Underground stations are inside Greater London.

Questions 11-15

Complete sentences 11-15 with a word, phrase or number from the text (maximum three words). Write the word, phrase or number in the space provided.

- 11. When Paddington was connected to Farringdon, the _____ railway became a reality.
- 12. Their name or colour are the two ways by which the Tube lines _____.
- 13. The London Underground sometimes has to extend its working hours, for example, when it is _____, or a big event.
- 14. The nine Underground zones are _____ from the centre to the outer areas.
- 15. One of the major problems in the London Underground is during rush hours, when it is _____.