

READING COMPREHENSION TASK 3

Read the passage and choose the sentence which best suits the gap:

➤ **Passage 1**

The term spices is a pleasant one, whether it connotes fine French cuisine or a down-home, cinnamon-flavored apple pie. ... In the past, individuals traveled the world seeking exotic spices for profit and, in searching, have changed the course of history. Indeed, to gain control of lands harboring new spices, nations have actually gone to war.

- a. The taste and aroma of spices are the main elements that make food such a source of fascination and pleasure.
- b. The term might equally bring to mind Indian curry made thousands of miles away and those delicious barbecued ribs sold on the corner.
- c. It is exciting to find a good cookbook and experiment with spices from other lands—indeed, it is one way to travel around the globe!
- d. The history of spices, however, is another matter altogether, and at times, it can be filled with danger and intrigue.

➤ **Passage 2**

... It rained in April; it rained in May. It rained in the mornings; it rained in the afternoons. It poured, it drizzled, it showered, it misted—but always it rained. But the good news is we won't have a drought this summer.

- a. The rain makes me gloomy.
- b. This spring was the rainiest on record.
- c. Rain is nice, but I prefer sunshine.
- d. Scientists know very little about the global climate.

➤ **Passage 3**

It weighs less than three pounds and is hardly more interesting to look at than an overly ripe cauliflower. ... It has created poetry and music, planned and executed horrific wars, and devised intricate scientific theories. It thinks and dreams, plots and schemes, and easily holds more information than all the libraries on Earth.

- a. The human brain is made of gelatinous matter and contains no nerve endings.
- b. The science of neurology has found a way to map the most important areas of the human brain.
- c. Nevertheless, the human brain is the most mysterious and complex object on Earth.
- d. However, scientists say that each person uses only 10% of his or her brain over the course of a lifetime!