

Passage 2

Questions 14–27 are based on Reading Passage 2 below.

Questions 14–21

Reading Passage 2 has eight paragraphs, A–H. Choose the correct heading for each paragraph from the following list. Write the correct number, i–xii, on your answer sheet. There are more headings than sections so you will not use them all.

List of Headings

i Esperanto Today	vii Around the World
ii Vocabulary	viii The Basics of Esperanto
iii A Dream not Reached	ix A Doctor's Vision
iv Grammar Rules	x Esperanto Literature
v First Books	xi A Language for Everyone
vi Esperanto in Schools	xii For and Against Esperanto

14 Paragraph A

15 Paragraph B

16 Paragraph C

17 Paragraph D

18 Paragraph E

19 Paragraph F

20 Paragraph G

21 Paragraph H

Esperanto

A

Dr. Zamenhof had a dream. He imagined a world where people from different countries and ethnic backgrounds got along with one another. He believed that to create understanding and goodwill among people of diverse backgrounds a common language would be necessary, so he invented one. Today it is known as Esperanto.

B

Dr. Ludwig Lazarus Zamenhof was a Polish ophthalmologist who was born in 1859. He worked on developing his invented language during the 1870s and 1880s. His goal was to have a language that would be accessible to everyone. His first idea was to revive the ancient European languages, Latin and Greek. He quickly realized, however, that these are not simple languages to learn. He also discarded the possibility of focusing on any of the major modern European languages—Russian, German, French, English—for similar reasons. He wanted a language that would be accessible to everyone—simple to learn and not tied to any particular culture or political system.

C

In 1887, Dr. Zamenhof published the first textbook about his new language, *Unua Libro* (First Book). Although Dr. Zamenhof himself had dubbed the language “Lingvo Internacia” (International Language), it came to be known as Esperanto. This was the pseudonym under which he wrote the book and it means “one who hopes.” Around this same time, Dr. Zamenhof also published *Fundamenta Gramatiko* (Fundamental Grammar), which explained the sixteen basic grammar rules of the language.

D

Dr. Zamenhof based Esperanto on European languages. The vocabulary is largely rooted in Latin, although English, German, Polish, and Russian roots are also present. The grammar has been described as resembling that of Slavic languages. Dr. Zamenhof focused on keeping the rules of the language uncomplicated. Esperanto has a regular and phonetic spelling system that can be learned very quickly. The grammar is simple and regular with none of the many exceptions to rules that plague learners of other languages. The vocabulary is a system of roots and affixes that can be combined to create new words. Esperanto speakers claim that the basic rules of the language can be learned in just a few hours.

E

In the years immediately following the publication of Dr. Zamenhof's books, interest in Esperanto spread, first through eastern Europe, then to western Europe and the Americas, and eventually to countries all around the world. The first Esperanto World Congress was held in France in 1905, with close to seven hundred people representing twenty different nationalities present. The practice of holding an annual World Congress continues to this day.

F

Esperanto had adherents and detractors both. The Russian writer, Tolstoy, for example, was a huge supporter and learned the language quickly. In general, interest was wide enough to lead to the translation of important literary works into the language as well as the writing of original Esperanto literature. On the other hand, the Russian tsar put a ban on all Esperanto materials, learning the language was discouraged through much of central Europe, and in 1920 the French government banned it from schools. The language that had been developed to be a means of achieving world peace was instead treated with suspicion and fear in many places.

G

Interest in Esperanto waned for a while and was then revived for a brief time during the 1970s. It is currently experiencing another revival through the spread of the Internet. Today it is estimated that between one and two million people have at least some working knowledge of the language. A very small number, around one thousand, speak it as their native tongue. These are generally people who grew up in households where the parents were enthusiastic supporters of Esperanto and decided to make it the language spoken in their home. Books and music continue to be written in the language, and there has even been a movie in Esperanto—*Incubus*, a horror film from 1965 starring William Shatner. Associations of Esperanto speakers exist around the world. Through them, speakers can find each other locally or meet other Esperanto speakers when traveling abroad. Magazines in the language are available and in some places radio and TV stations broadcast Esperanto programs.

H

There have been other invented languages over the years, but none has reached the level of popularity or longevity of Esperanto. Even so, Esperanto has not achieved the goal that Dr. Zamenhof envisioned for it—that of being a means of common understanding among people from all over the world. It remains, instead, a focus of specialized interest among a relatively small number of people.

Questions 22–27

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage? In boxes 22–27 on your Answer Sheet write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information in the passage
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information in the passage
NOT GIVEN if there is no information about this in the passage

- 22 Dr. Zamenhof was trained as an eye doctor.
- 23 According to Dr. Zamenhof, many European languages were not easy to learn.
- 24 Dr. Zamenhof took linguistics courses at a Polish university.
- 25 Dr. Zamenhof named his invented language Esperanto.
- 26 Many Esperanto words come from Latin roots.
- 27 Esperanto grammar is similar to that of several western European languages.