PART 2: READING

MULTIPLE-CHOICE, CHOOSE SINGLE ANSWER

A Read the text and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. Only one response is correct.

So far, we have been looking at the work of humanist historians in the Renaissance and the new way in which they approached their subject. Not only did they use close reading of ancient texts, as you would expect, but they also did a lot of research in the archives. That is, they didn't just read the historians that came before them, they looked for real documents. For example, they studied the records of cases that went to court, official letters that had survived, and so on to get a fuller picture of how people really lived and went about their business.

These same techniques of historical research were used in what we can call "legal humanism". The idea here was to get as accurate a picture as possible of the law and its practice in ancient, especially Roman, times. Legal historians did this with a view to refining the laws and applying them to the present historical situation. Legal scholarship's original desire to recover and purify the heritage of the ancient world later came to be distorted by political views, but even here, in the 16th century, such intense study could lead to unexpected conclusions. For example, in France, inquiries meant to uncover and apply the legal wisdom of the Romans ended by uncovering a Roman law so pure that it was totally alien. This law, in fact, belonged to the past and to a different society, and was therefore unusable.

What was the ultimate aim of legal scholarship?

1 To purify the ancient legal system.

2 To promote humanism in general.

3 To apply Roman law to their own society.

4 To perfect techniques of historical research.

B Read the text and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. Only one response is correct.

When it comes to an organ of such complexity as the eye, it is not difficult to understand why some people cannot accept that such perfection was arrived at by the trial and error, or gradual development, of natural selection. Yet people thought the Earth stood still until Copernicus told them otherwise. In the same way, it shouldn't be hard to believe that a complex eye could be formed by natural selection if it can be shown that there were numerous stages from a simple and imperfect eye to a complex and perfect one, with each development being useful to its possessor and the variations being inherited.

However, the search for the stages through which an organ in any one species has come to perfection, which ideally would mean looking exclusively at its past generations, is rarely possible. Therefore, researchers are forced to examine species and genera of the same group to discover what stages or gradual developments are possible. Even the state of development of the same organ in a different class of creature may throw light on the steps taken towards perfection.

Some people object that in order for the eye to modify and still remain a useful instrument to its owner, many changes would have had to take place simultaneously. However, it is not necessary to suppose this if the modifications were extremely slight and gradual.

Why are researchers forced to look outside a specific species for clues to gradual development?

1 Because the eye is so complex and perfect already.

2 Because evidence of its ancestors is almost impossible to find.

3 Because the eye cannot change without losing its usefulness.

4 Because other species have more complex eyes.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

MULTIPLE-CHOICE, CHOOSE MULTIPLE ANSWERS

A Read the text and answer the question by selecting all the correct responses. More than one response is correct.

A Xhosa bride in southern Africa, in contrast to her western counterpart, is expected to show both reluctance and sadness during her wedding – any signs of joy are considered inappropriate. She may even cry, and not without reason, because she is leaving her own family and relatives to live among a group of strangers where she will have to be careful of what she says and does.

For example, a new bride is not allowed to walk across the central meeting place in the middle of the *kraal*, or village, nor the cattle pen. And when she wishes to go from house to house, she must take the back way. To show respect for her husband's senior relatives, she has to avoid using the names of senior male relatives or even words similar to them, which can lead to some complex paraphrases. Furthermore, she is not allowed to use the personal names of her mother-in-law, nor those of her husband's aunts and elder sisters. Her first priority is the care of her husband, which means doing most of the heavy domestic work. Further constraints are having to wear a handkerchief low over her forehead, never showing her bare head to her husband's relatives, not being allowed to drink milk from the homestead herd, and not touching the drinking utensils.

However, these rules become less strict as time passes. The handkerchief is eventually removed, gifts are exchanged, and family relationships become a bit more relaxed. Finally, there is a ritual killing of a cow and the bride is allowed to drink the milk of the homestead. However, once she has done this, she can no longer drink the milk of her father's house, symbolizing her final separation from her family.

According to the text, which of the following behaviors are expected of a new Xhosa bride?

1 She is not allowed to drink milk from her father's cows.

2 She cannot use the name of any of her husband's male relatives.

3 At her wedding she is meant to appear unwilling.

4 She is not allowed to enter her new home by the front entrance.

5 She must wear a head scarf when meeting her husband's relatives.

6 She is not allowed to touch plates in the family home.

7 She must avoid using the names of some of her husband's female relatives.

B Read the text and answer the question by selecting all the correct responses. More than one response is correct.

There are perhaps three ways of looking at furniture: some people see it as purely functional and useful, and don't bother themselves with aesthetics; others see it as essential to civilized living and concern themselves with design and how the furniture will look in a room – in other words, function combined with aesthetics; and yet others see furniture as a form of art.

In the past, designers of furniture usually worked for royalty, the nobility, landowners and rich merchants and so were not constrained by the limits of space, economy, or even practicality that inhibit the contemporary designer. Indeed, function was not the first consideration and interiors did not always have to be practical. In the Renaissance, for example, fine furniture and interiors were designed to show off not only the riches of the owners, but their learning, wisdom and good taste as well. No doubt, this attitude still exists among a number of the wealthy.

Apart from a brief period in the 20th century when furniture designers mistook themselves for artists and sculptors, producing, say, chairs that were nice to look at, but impossible to sit on comfortably, modern designers have, for the most part, come to terms with the functional aspect of furniture. These days, a well-designed interior must be practical and exclude what is unnecessary. Limited space must be used imaginatively, and a sense of space and clarity is needed as a setting for efficient living. Therefore, in the modern home, furniture should fulfil a specific purpose, and need as little care and attention as possible. In addition to this, costs must be kept to a minimum because, these days, there are many luxuries competing for our attention. Function and economy, therefore, are of the utmost importance.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

According to the text, how does modern furniture design differ from that of the past?

1 Practicality and economy are the most important considerations.
2 Designers are only employed by the wealthy.
3 Designers are primarily concerned with aesthetic appeal.
4 Modern furniture should need little looking after.
5 Making the best use of available space is important.
6 Furniture should be as decorative as possible.

For Further Guidance, see page 63.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

MULTIPLE-CHOICE, CHOOSE MULTIPLE ANSWERS

WHAT'S TESTED

The purpose of this task is to assess your ability to read an academic text for a variety of purposes, including reading for the main idea, reading for specific details, reading for the writer's purpose, analyzing discourse, making inferences, assessing the quality and usefulness of the text, and assessing the writer's style. The texts are up to 300 words long and cover a variety of academic topics drawn from the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. Each text has one multiple-choice question; there will be between five and seven options to choose from, more than one of which will be correct. You will have either two or three items in this part. The individual questions are not timed; you will have a fixed time of between 32 and 41 minutes to complete the entire Reading part, depending on which form of the PTE Academic you receive.

TIPS

- Read the question before you read the text. This will tell you what information you will be reading for.
- Scan the answer options to further help you focus on the information you will be reading for.
- Skim the text to get an idea of its general content and the main idea. You should be able to answer the question *"What is the passage mainly about?"* in your own words.
- Read the entire text again carefully. Pay attention to details that support the main idea.
- Read the question and the answer options again. Select any correct answers if you know them – remember, there is more than one correct choice. If you are not sure about the answers, eliminate any options that are obviously incorrect and choose from those that remain.
- If you do not know the answers, and are unable to eliminate any choices, guess. Never leave the question unanswered. If you leave the question unanswered, it will be marked as incorrect. By guessing, you have the possibility of answering correctly.

A DETAILED STUDY

The exercise below will help you to practice answering multiple-answer multiple-choice questions. Read Text B on page 61 again and answer the following questions.

1 What does the writer say about economy and practicality in the second paragraph?

a It constrains modern furniture designers.

b It was more important for furniture designers in the past.

2 What is implied about the wealthy in the second paragraph?

a They are willing to pay extra for custom-designed furniture.

b In the past, only they could afford well-designed furniture.

3 In the third paragraph, what does the writer say is of utmost importance to modern furniture designers?

a Function and economy.

b Aesthetics and craftsmanship.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 According to the writer, what should modern furniture need little of?

a Function and practicality.

b Care and attention.

5 What is suggested about space in modern homes?

a It is limited.

b It is greater than in the past.

6 What is implied about the decorative aspect of modern furniture?

a It is less important than function.

b It is more important than practicality.

Now check your answers.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

RE-ORDER PARAGRAPHS

ON-SCREEN
Remember that in the exam, you will re-order the paragraphs by dragging and dropping them with your mouse.

A The paragraphs have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order.

Jumbled paragraphs	Correct paragraph order (1–4)
a *Habeas corpus*, a law by which a prisoner could demand to be brought before the courts and have his case heard, was a well-established right in England, but the authorities had found a number of ways of getting round its use where political prisoners were concerned.	
b The new act put a stop to such abuses and deprived the executive of powers it might have used to support oppressive and arbitrary government.	
c In 1679, what became known as the first Exclusionist Parliament passed at least one useful piece of legislation: on the day parliament was suspended, the King gave his assent to a *Habeas Corpus* Act.	
d James Harrington, the philosopher, is a good example. When his sisters applied for *habeas corpus*, he was taken from the Tower of London to a barren island where *habeas corpus* could not be imposed.	

B The paragraphs have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order.

Jumbled paragraphs	Correct paragraph order (1–4)
a However, the potential for crime is enormous. Some experts believe that American financial systems are losing up to $5 billion a year to computer fraud. Once a hacker has got into the bank's system, he or she can order it to transfer large sums of money to a foreign account.	
b Any computer network connected to the telephone system is vulnerable because the hacker needs only to discover the coded password in order to gain entry to the network. All it takes is intelligent guesswork, trial and error, and perseverance.	

LIVEWORKSHEETS

c At first, this appeared to be a perfect example of electronic spying, but it turned out to be a bunch of talented computer buffs doing it for fun. If they had wanted to create real problems, they could have altered files or deleted them altogether.	
d A German student sitting at home at a computer terminal connected to the telephone system managed to hack into NASA's computers and read top secret files. He and a group of other students in Hamburg had also got into about thirty other restricted computer networks.	

C The paragraphs have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order.

Jumbled paragraphs	Correct paragraph order (1–4)
a At the turn of the 19th century, however, only a relatively small sector of the British economy had been directly affected by the Industrial Revolution.	
b For each of the three major countries of western Europe – Britain, France, and Germany – the closing decades of the 18th century were years of increasing economic prosperity, and the pace of economic development in Britain far outdid that of the others.	
c It would be a mistake to call the other two countries underdeveloped – in terms of cultural achievement, especially literature, art, and philosophy, they outstripped Britain – but they lagged behind in terms of economic development.	
d Even two decades later, the picture was little different, except that cotton had become the country's leading manufacturing industry. It was not until the middle of the century that it could be properly described as an industrial society.	

LIVEWORKSHEETS

READING: FILL IN THE BLANKS

ON-SCREEN
Remember that in the exam, you will fill the blanks by dragging and dropping the words with your mouse.

A In the text below some words are missing. Choose the correct word to fill each blank from the box below. There are more words than you need to complete the exercise.

This MPhil **(1)** ..... students from a wide variety of academic, business and political **(2)** ..... to the traditions, methods, and state-of-the-art research that shape an advanced analysis of human society. The MPhil is an eleven-month course designed for those who wish to go on to do doctoral research or **(3)** ..... for those who **(4)** ..... want to improve their understanding of methodology and analysis, and attain an independent postgraduate degree in its own right.

backgrounds	plainly	equally	professions	introduces	presents	simply

B In the text below some words are missing. Choose the correct word to fill each blank from the box below. There are more words than you need to complete the exercise.

The main **(1)** ..... of advertising is to sell **(2)** ..... by getting them known and, here, brash, sensational ideas may often serve the **(3)** ..... . But by no means is all advertising aimed at promoting a new product or even a product at all. One of the most famous posters of the 20th century **(4)** ..... Lord Kitchener early in the 1914–18 war pointing a finger, perhaps accusingly, at the entire male military-age population of Britain.

aim	illustrates	products	purpose	point	shows	produces

For Further Guidance, see page 69.

C In the text below some words are missing. Choose the correct word to fill each blank from the box below. There are more words than you need to complete the exercise.

Universities are, of course, the primary centers of intellectual life in modern society. Therefore, they are a **(1)** ..... center of criticism: criticism of society and of the dominant **(2)** ..... in it, especially its politics, by sections of both the **(3)** ..... and the student bodies. This critical **(4)** ..... of the university, as the place where ideas are born and where support for criticism is **(5)** ..... among students, who form the mass base for many protest movements, has been true for a long time and in many countries.

semester	revealed	key	found	staff	trends	participation	role

LIVEWORKSHEETS

D In the text below some words are missing. Choose the correct word to fill each blank from the box below. There are more words than you need to complete the exercise.

When it comes to low-cost housing, architects are hardly ever **(1)** ..... . About 98% of the market is built without architects and the result is usually rows of clones of a building, regardless of whether they are **(2)** ..... for an area or not. Developers alone, without the **(3)** ..... of an architect, do not see the big picture needed to make housing part of a safe, vibrant community. A little more thought could instantly improve community **(4)** ..... as well as lead to building houses that are both comfortable and cheap.

useful	safety	relations	involved	input	practical	consultation

E In the text below some words are missing. Choose the correct word to fill each blank from the box below. There are more words than you need to complete the exercise.

During the 19th century, the enormous expansion of world production and trade was **(1)** ..... mainly by gold. Even the **(2)** ..... issued by the banks were fully convertible to gold on demand, and this was the basis of their acceptance. However, production and trade were expanding at a faster **(3)** ..... than new **(4)** ..... of gold were being discovered. If trade was to continue growing at this rate, some commodity other than gold also had to be used as a **(5)** ..... of exchange.

cash	amounts	notes	supplies	way	means	rate	financed

LIVEWORKSHEETS

FILL IN THE BLANKS

WHAT'S TESTED

The purpose of this task is to assess your ability to analyze lexical, contextual, and grammatical cues to correctly complete incomplete sentences in an academic reading text. The texts are up to 300 words long and cover a variety of academic topics. There are three to five blanks in each text. The options appear in a separate box; there are always three more options than the number of blanks in the text. There will be a minimum of six and a maximum of eight. The number of blanks and options depends on the nature of the text. For each blank, you have to choose the option that best completes the sentence and drag it to the text with your mouse. You will read either four or five texts. The individual texts are not timed; you will have a fixed time of between 32 and 41 minutes to complete the entire Reading part, depending on which form of the PTE Academic you receive.

TIPS

- Skim the text, skipping over the blanks, to get an idea of its general content and the main idea. You should be able to answer the question "*What is the passage mainly about?*" in your own words.
- Read the first sentence containing a blank carefully. Using vocabulary and grammatical cues provided by the words surrounding the blank, determine what kind of word is needed – that is, what part of speech is required (e.g., adjective, adverb, plural noun, preposition). Check the options and eliminate any that are clearly the wrong part of speech. Choose from among what remains.
- Look for any obvious clues to the logical order or chronology of events, such as *first, second, lastly, finally, next, then, after*, and so on, and eliminate any answer options that are illogical. Choose from among what remains.
- Some items test your knowledge of idioms and collocations. Check whether any of the options form a common expression, and if so, whether this makes sense in the given context.
- If you do not know the answer, and are unable to eliminate any options, guess. Never leave the question unanswered. If you leave the question unanswered, it will be marked as incorrect. By guessing, you have the possibility of answering correctly.
- Keep track of your time using the on-screen timer.

A DETAILED STUDY

The exercise below will help you to use contextual clues to eliminate answer options. Read Text B on page 67 again and answer the following questions.

1 What part of speech must the word in the first blank be?

.....

2 Based on your answer to Question 1, which of the answer options cannot go in the first blank?

.....

3 What part of speech must the word in the second blank be?

.....

4 Based on your answer to Question 3, which of the answer options cannot go in the second blank?

.....

5 What word collocates with *sell*?

.....

6 What part of speech must the word in the third blank be?

.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7 Based on your answer to Question 6, which of the answer options cannot go in the third blank?

.....

8 Is the word that goes in the third blank part of an idiomatic expression? If so, what is the expression?

.....

9 What part of speech must the word in the fourth blank be?

.....

10 Based on your answer to Question 9, which of the answer options cannot go in the fourth blank?

.....

Now check your answers.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

READING AND WRITING: FILL IN THE BLANKS

ON-SCREEN

Remember that in the exam, a drop-down menu will appear when you click on each blank with your mouse. You will select an answer from each menu.

A Below is a text with blanks. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

The first printed books began to **(1)** ..... during the second quarter of the 15th century. The earliest examples were put together in a number of different ways, sometimes leaving space for decorations and ornate capitals to be **(2)** ..... by miniaturist painters, and sometimes containing handwritten text alongside printed illustrations. Most of them had texts and pictures printed **(3)** ..... from woodblocks, which is how they got the name "block-books". Printing was normally done on separate leaves which were then bound together in book form.

The obvious advantage of having printed text and visual images together on one sheet was quickly grasped by monks, who saw its **(4)** ..... as a means of spreading knowledge, and as an economic and effective way to get their message across to a wide audience. The monasteries, however, by no means had a monopoly on the production and sale of woodcut printing; in fact, probably the most profitable area of European printmaking was the production of playing cards.

Nonetheless, the content of most surviving block-books is essentially biblical. The purpose of the illustrations was functional: to make the meaning of the stories as clear and as understandable as possible to those who were unable to read the often difficult text. It was also a result of the need to **(5)** ..... the stories that the characters were presented in contemporary clothes and the illustrations contained details of ordinary life in the late Middle Ages.

1	occur	publish	appear	seem
2	made	printed	copied	added
3	early	entirely	singly	only
4	potential	possibility	advantage	ability
5	simplify	popularize	modernize	improve

B Below is a text with blanks. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

For copyright purposes, a literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work must be original and it must be set down in some **(1)** ..... form, for example, on paper, computer disk, or on audio or video tape. It is not unusual for people to have the same idea at roughly the same time, but copyright applies in the way an idea is expressed, not in the idea itself. This is because ideas can encompass a wide range of concepts: for example, thousands of books and films have the same basic **(2)** ..... – boy meets girl, loses girl, gets girl back, good triumphs over evil, and so on. So ideas, as opposed to the way in which they are expressed, cannot be protected under copyright law. Perhaps oddly, statistical lists and computer programs are also **(3)** ..... as literary works and therefore come under copyright law.

You are breaking the law when you reproduce the whole or a significant part of someone else's creation without their permission. This would include, for example, recording a CD or a video, putting on a public **(4)** ..... of a play, making photocopies, or copying onto a computer disk. It is also a breach of the law to key copyright material into a computer without consent, as is storing it on the computer memory. This can even apply to a small part of a work if the **(5)** ..... is considered to be essential.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Infringement of copyright can be both a criminal act and a civil wrong. However, consumers who buy illegally copied materials, such as music CDs and films on DVD, for private use cannot be prosecuted, even if they know its origin.

1	solid	complete	actual	permanent
2	histories	plots	scenes	genres
3	thought	presented	regarded	given
4	acting	show	performance	display
5	content	substance	subtext	matter

C Below is a text with blanks. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

In prehistoric times, Europe was **(1)** ..... with vast primeval woods and forests, which must have deeply influenced the minds as well as the lives of our ancestors. In places where they had not made clearings, they must have lived in a constant half-light. As far as we know, the oak was the commonest and most **(2)** ..... tree. We get our evidence partly from the statements of some classical writers, but more convincingly from the **(3)** ..... of ancient villages built on wooden piles in lakes and from the oak forests which have been found embedded in peat bogs.

These bogs, which are most evident in northern Europe, but which are also found in some central and southern parts of the continent, have **(4)** ..... the plants and trees which flourished after the end of the Ice Age. The great peat bogs of Ireland reveal that there was a time when vast woods of oak and yew covered the country, the oak growing on hills that were up to a height of four hundred feet or so above the sea, while the yew grew at higher **(5)**..... . Ancient roadways made of oak have been found, as have, more famously, human relics.

1	smothered	covered	overgrown	flourishing
2	useful	productive	practical	varied
3	rest	remains	leftovers	lack
4	kept	maintained	conserved	preserved
5	levels	piles	degrees	points

D Below is a text with blanks. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

A rule of thumb for distinguishing butterflies from moths in this country is to examine the antennae or feelers, although, when comparing Lepidoptera worldwide, this technique is not to be relied on. Generally, especially among those native to the UK, butterflies have clubbed feelers, **(1)** ..... moths can have feelers of various kinds other than clubbed. There are moths that fly by day and the more brightly colored of them are sometimes **(2)** ..... for butterflies, but their feelers will distinguish them.

Variations within a single species of butterfly often occur, and all kinds are **(3)** ..... to vary in their tint or markings, or sometimes both. These variations may at times be so **(4)** ..... as to be hardly noticeable, but in a fair proportion, the variation is quite striking. In such cases, unless the difference is extreme, it is possible to track all the intermediate stages between the ordinary form of a species and its most extreme variety. The coloring on the underside of a butterfly differs from that of the upper side and matches, or **(5)** ..... in with, its natural habitat to a remarkable degree. This is why, when they settle, you can see them with their wings positioned together upright over their back.

The number of known species of butterflies throughout the world has been put at about thirteen thousand or more, but some believe there are several thousand more species as yet undiscovered.

1	nevertheless	however	whereas	nonetheless
2	mistaken	misplaced	misled	misunderstood
3	bound	probable	liable	susceptible
4	invisible	slight	marginal	unimportant
5	colors	shades	blends	moves

LIVEWORKSHEETS

E Below is a text with blanks. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

Every day, on television, on the radio, and in the newspapers, we see, hear, and read about leaders and politicians making decisions that are clearly wrong-headed and that seem to us, the horrified watchers, listeners, and readers, counter-productive. To be reasonably impartial about such blunders, we must try to put **(1)** ..... for the moment how the decision might affect us as individuals; what we are looking for are decisions that are contrary to the interests of their makers. A glaring historical example of such stupidity would be the respective attempts of Charles XII, Napoleon Bonaparte, and Hitler to invade Russia **(2)** ..... the disasters it brought each of their predecessors.

Now, when investigating these matters we must tread carefully and remember that it is wrong to judge the past by the ideas of the present. Therefore, the disastrous **(3)** ..... made in the past must have been seen at the time by contemporaries to be counterproductive, not just with the **(4)** ..... of experience. Again, we must check to see if there were any other **(5)** ..... of action that could have been taken and, if so, why they were not.

1	away	aback	aside	behind
2	although	despite	regardless	whatever
3	actions	decisions	practices	effects
4	benefit	aim	interest	clarity
5	ways	means	possibilities	courses

F Below is a text with blanks. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

Light is usually **(1)** ..... as a form of energy and it is indeed a kind of electromagnetic energy, not much different from radio waves, television signals, heat, and X-rays. All of these are made up of waves that spread, bend, interfere with one another, and **(2)** ..... with obstacles in their path, rather like waves in water. A physicist might tell you that light, along with all its electromagnetic relatives, is really a form of matter, little different from more substantial matter such as houses and, like them, it is made up of individual particles. Light particles, called photons, **(3)** ..... in streams, similar to the way in which water pours through a hose.

To most people, this might sound paradoxical or illogical, as many things to do with physics seem to these days. How can light be both energy and matter, wave and particle? The reason it can be is, in fact, not at all **(4)** ..... : all energy is a form of matter. Almost everybody recognizes – even if they do not understand – Einstein's famous equation, $E = mc^2$, which spells it out: E refers to energy and m to the mass of matter. Furthermore, all matter has some of the **(5)** ..... of waves and some of particles, but the waves of such solid-seeming things as houses are not discernable and can generally be ignored because ordinary matter acts as if it were made up of particles.

1	illustrated	pictured	described	referred
2	crash	encounter	collide	react
3	journey	travel	pour	voyage
4	complicated	sophisticated	unknowable	incomprehensible
5	particulars	characteristics	character	actions

LIVEWORKSHEETS