

ENGLISH READING PRACTICE TEST 1

CLASS: B1.59

PART 1. Look at the text in each box. What does it say? Mark the correct letter A, B or C. Questions 1-5

1

*Students from Year 12 are free
to use the library computers
at anytime*

What does this notice say about Year 12 students?

- A. They needn't pay to use the library computers.
- B. They don't have to get permission to use the computers
- C. They must check whether the computers are free before they use them

2

**PARKING IN THIS SPACE
FOR DOCTOR ON DUTY
ONLY**

- A. Tell the doctor if you need to park here.
- B. Only the doctor working today can park here.
- C. Park in this space only in an emergency.

3

SALE

**Spring sale next week!
Up to 50% off many items**

Which of the sentences is true?

- A. 50% of the items will be sold next week.
- B. All items will be half price in the spring.
- C. Some items will be half price next week.

4

*If entrance door is locked,
please press **BUTTON** to
contact hotel reception.*

- A. Use this button to call hotel staff if you cannot get in.
- B. If you cannot lock the door, please contact hotel reception.
- C. Press this button to unlock the entrance door.

5

Peter

*Thursday's half-price day at
the cinema near my place.
Let's go then instead of
Sunday. OK?*

Anne

Anne want to change

- A. the film they see
- B. the cinema they go
- C. the day they see the film

PART 2. Read the passage below and fill in each blank with one suitable word.

Questions 6-15

STARTING A BUSINESS

Nearly 450,000 businesses are started in Britain every year. One third of these stops (6)_____during the first three years. Starting a business is never easy (7)_____so many things are outside your control. If you are thinking about working for yourself, you (8) _____ start by thinking about the qualities you need to (9)_____a business . Be hard (10) _____ yourself. If you have a weakness, it is better to find out now (11)_____than later when your business could be in danger. Ask yourself whether you are a good organizer. Is your health (12)_____? Are you good (13)_____making decisions? Do you have any practical experience of the business you want to start? Are you prepared to work long hours for very (14)_____money? If you can't (15) _____yes to most of these, perhaps you should think again about starting up in business on your own.

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 6. A. trade | B. trading | C. to trade | D. traded |
| 7. A. however | B. but | C. because | D. although |
| 8. A. have | B. ought | C. need | D. must |
| 9. A. run | B. make | C. get | D. set |
| 10. A. about | B. on | C. with | D. to |
| 11. A. more | B. rather | C. earlier | D. quicker |
| 12. A. fine | B. firm | C. well | D. good |
| 13. A. at | B. for | C. in | D. with |
| 14. A. short | B. little | C. low | D. few |
| 15. A. give | B. report | C. answer | D. put |

PART 3. Read the text and decide if each sentence is CORRECT or INCORRECT. Questions 16-25

The Popularity of Social Networks

Social networking sites become more and more popular every day. In Japan, the top site is Mixi. In Europe, it is Bebo. The most popular site in Latin America is Orkut. In the United States, the top site is Facebook. In fact, Facebook is one of the most popular social networking sites in the world. A Harvard University student started Facebook in 2004, and it spread to more than 400 million users in just a few years.

Why is the social networking trend spreading so fast? One reason is because people are social. We like to communicate with people. We make friends with people in school, at work, and online. We use cell phones, email, instant message, and websites to learn what our friends are doing. The Internet is a good way to socialize and communicate with people in many places.

Social networking sites are interactive and personal. People can post and share their photos, their videos and the others' photos and videos. Others can comment on their photos and videos. Also, they can tell people what they are doing at any moment and keep in touch. They can post a link of their favourite song and band to a site. They can join groups of people who share the same interests. This interaction makes these websites become more popular.

Another reason that social networking sites are popular is because users can write on the site. People can have their own website, blog or page on sites like Facebook. Readers are now also writers and can easily add material to the Web. People can express their own ideas, and they put their own experiences online.

Social networking sites first became popular with college students. At one college, students said that they spent almost two hours every day just on Facebook. Teenagers also use these sites to stay connected with their friends. These days, even older people are using social networks. The Internet keeps changing, but one trend is clear: people enjoy using websites which let them connect with others. They like to express themselves and communicate online.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 16. Social networking sites are popular only in the United States. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 17. More than 400 million Harvard University students started to use Facebook in 2004 | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 18. Most people are not very social. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 19. On social networking sites, people can see what their friends are doing and thinking. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 20. Today, people can express their own ideas online. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 21. Social networking sites are popular with people of all ages. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 22. It is difficult for people to create their own website or blog. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 23. Social networking sites are popular when people can share information about themselves. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 24. Cell phones can help people communicate instantly online. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |
| 25. Social networking sites first became popular with college students. | A. Correct B. Incorrect |

PART 4. Read the following passages and choose the best answer to each question below each passage.

Questions 26-30 refer to the following passage:

Ted Robinson has been worried all the week. Last Tuesday, he received a letter from the local police. In the letter, he was asked to call at the station. Ted wondered why he was wanted by the police, but he went to the station yesterday and now he is not worried any more.

At the station, he was told by a smiling policeman that his bicycle had been found. Five days ago, the policeman told him, the bicycle was picked up in a small village four hundred miles away. It is now being sent to his house by train. Ted was most surprised when he heard the news. He was amused too because he never expected the bicycle to be found. It was stolen twenty years ago when Ted was a boy of fifteen.

26. Why was Ted worried?
- A. Because he received a letter
 - B. Because he went to the police station yesterday
 - C. Because the police would catch him
 - D. Because he didn't know why the police wanted him
27. How was the police who talked to Ted?
- A. pleasant B. worried C. surprised D. small
28. Why was Ted very surprised when he heard the news?
- A. Because his bicycle was stolen 20 years ago
 - B. Because his bicycle was found when he was a boy of fifteen
 - C. Because the bicycle was picked up four hundred miles away
 - D. Because the bicycle was sent to him by train
29. When was Ted's bicycle found?
- A. Last Tuesday B. Five days ago
 - C. Twenty years ago D. Yesterday

30. Which of the following sentences is NOT true?
- A. The police asked Ted to go to their station.
 - B. The policeman told Ted the good news five days ago.
 - C. Ted is very anxious.
 - D. Ted is 35 years old now.

Questions 31-34 refer to the following passage:

The sun releases large amount of energy. Most of the energy goes into space and some of it reaches the earth. There are several kinds of energy from the sun but the two most important are light and heat. Life on earth depends on light to grow; and humans and other animals need warmth to live. Solar energy is not only unlimited but also it is clean. It doesn't pollute the air or water. Why doesn't the world use more solar power?

It is still very expensive to collect solar energy for use. Scientists around the world are trying to find a cheaper way to collect it and change it into electricity for machines. For example, automobile engineers are trying to develop electronic cars that use solar power. Many buildings are using solar energy to heat their water now.

Scientists are looking for other ways to use solar energy. For instance, they want to use it to take the salt out of sea water. People who live in dry desert areas near oceans need fresh water. Scientists want to supply this fresh water from the ocean. Related to this, researchers in Mexico and Abu Dhabi are doing important work on desalination.

31. What does the text mainly discuss?

- A. different kinds of solar energy
- B. who collects solar energy
- C. how solar energy is used
- D. solar energy and its uses in human life

32. How is solar energy described in the text?

- A. clean and limited in amount
- B. clean and safe
- C. clean and is never used up
- D. clean and cheaper than others

33. What is the answer to the question at the end of the first paragraph?
- A. For we have to pay a dear price for it.
 - B.B. For it is not easy to use it.
 - C. For we have to do lots of research.
 - D. For we may have to depend on it.
34. What is one way of solar energy use NOT mentioned in the text?
- A. used as heat to warm water
 - B. used as power for engines
 - C. used as power for home lightening
 - D. used as a way to desalinate ocean water

Questions 35 – 40 refer to the following text.

For a long time, amphibians were confused with reptiles. Like reptiles, they have three-chambered hearts and are cold-blooded. Some amphibians, such as salamanders, are even shaped like lizards. However, unlike reptiles, amphibians never have claws on their toes or scales on their bodies. Furthermore, the eggs of amphibians lack shells, so they must be laid in water or moist places.

Amphibians were the first creatures to spend sizable amounts of their lives on land. The larvae of most amphibians, such as frog tadpoles, are born with gills and live in water. However, their gills disappear as they develop lungs. Most retain the ability to breathe through the moist surface of their skin. This comes in handy when they hibernate in the bottom mud of lakes and ponds during the coldest months. They take in the small amount of oxygen they need through their skin. Some amphibians undergo what is known as “**double metamorphosis**”, changing not only from gills breathers to lung breathers but also from vegetarians to insectivores.

Although the amphibian class is rather small in number of species, it shows great diversity. There are three major types. The caecilians of the tropics are long, legless, burrowing creatures.

Caudate amphibians, such as newts and salamanders, mostly have long tails and stubby legs. Salientians, which include both frogs and toads, are tailless as adults and have powerful hind legs. Toads differ from frogs primarily in that **they** have dry, warty skin.

35. The author's main purpose in writing the passage is to
- A. Define and describe amphibians
 - B. Contrast different types of amphibians
 - C. Trace the development of amphibians from larvae to adults
 - D. Explain how amphibians differ from other creatures
36. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT a characteristic of amphibians?
- A. They have three-chambered hearts
 - B. They lay eggs without shells
 - C. They are cold-blooded
 - D. They have claws on their toes
37. According to the passage, the term **double metamorphosis** in paragraph 2 refers to the fact that
- A. First breathe through their gills, then through their lungs, then through their skin
 - B. Change both the shape of their bodies and the way in which they lay eggs
 - C. First live in the water, then on land, then in mud in the bottom of ponds and lakes
 - D. Change both their methods of breathing and their feeding habits

38. It can be inferred from the passage that amphibians' ability to breathe through their skin is especially useful during the
- A. Summer B. fall C. winter D. spring
39. All of the following are identified in the passage as amphibians EXCEPT
- A. Newts B. Salamanders C. Caecilians D. Lizards
40. In paragraph 4, the word **they** refers to
- A. Tails B. Adults C. Toads D. Frogs