LC READING TEST 4

Read the sentences below and decide which option can best replace the word in bold so that the meaning of the sentence remains the same.

Many people who attended the concert felt that the bands which performed before the interval were better than those which appeared later.

- middle
- stop
- break
- pause

A range of workshops to help students improve their research skills has been **organised** by the university in response to demand.

- planned
- arranged
- sorted
- managed

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The new study **potentially** provides valuable information about climate change, highlighting areas where further research could lead to more effective strategies for reducing environmental damage globally.

- ○ undoubtedly
- ○ definitely
- ○ possibly
- ○ apparently

The researchers faced the **allegation** of having changed data, which, if found to be true, could impact future scientific collaborations.

- ○ accusation
- ○ criticism
- ○ suspicion
- ○ belief

The report highlights various factors influencing climate change and urges policymakers to **acknowledge** the importance of adopting sustainable practices to reduce long-term environmental and economic impacts.

- ○ confess
- ○ accept
- ○ allow
- ○ appreciate

LIVEWORKSHEETS

This study explores how individuals in deprived communities confront inequalities, demonstrating the resilience required to challenge power structures in their pursuit of social change.

- ○ lead up to
- ○ get through to
- ○ stand up to
- ○ brush up on

Read the article from a psychology textbook. Use sentences A–H to complete the text. Choose the correct sentence for each gap. Write the letter of the missing sentence in the gap. There are two extra sentences you will not need.

A By combining strategies like trust-building and hidden recording, researchers can reduce the paradox more effectively.

B It is an approach which can work in long-term studies because participants might stop noticing the researcher's presence.

C Even though the paradox cannot be fully avoided, researchers can reduce its effects with careful methods.

D For example, putting a cold thermometer

E It could be said that, in one area, observation technology uses the paradox to the benefit of society.

F This makes it harder to collect accurate data.

G Unsurprisingly, the officers observed nobody breaking traffic laws during one whole day.

H While this can avoid the Observer's Paradox, it also creates challenges relating to the human rights of studied subjects.

The Observer's Paradox

The Observer's Paradox happens when researchers affect the behaviour which they want to study just by being in the same location at the time of the behaviour. This is a common issue in fields like education, linguistics and sociology, where observing natural behaviour is the goal. For example, the teacher and the students in a classroom might behave differently because they all know they are being watched for evaluation purposes. [ ]

Researchers use several methods to reduce this problem. One common method is to build trust with participants over time. When people feel at ease, they are more likely to act naturally. [ ] However, it takes a lot of time and is not suitable if results are needed quickly.

Another way is to use recording devices rather than a human researcher in the same location. Tools like cameras or microphones can be placed in ways that are not so obvious. This helps people feel less observed, making their behaviour more natural. Some researchers go one stage further and try to observe behaviour without participants knowing they are being studied.

[ ] Modern research rules emphasise informed consent, meaning participants should know exactly what is going to happen and agree to it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Sometimes, the people who set out to measure something are unaware of the paradox. In quite a well-known example, the police in a certain city believed that a lot of drivers were ignoring red lights at junctions, but they were not sure how serious the problem was. They decided to position a person in uniform next to the main sets of lights in the city centre to observe drivers' behaviour. [ ]

The Observer's Paradox is not limited to studies involving people. In physics, it occurs when the act of measuring certain items can alter the results.

[ ] In everyday life, this would not be significant, but it is fundamental to quantum mechanics, for instance, where observing a particle's position with a special type of microscope changes its speed. To address this, physicists use indirect measurements or sophisticated tools that minimise interference. Lasers or non-invasive techniques can observe systems without significantly disturbing them. This allows for more accurate data collection despite the paradox.

[ ] The large number of cameras nowadays, particularly in shops and city streets and on motorways, clearly changes the behaviour of people who might be thinking of committing a crime.

Read the four texts below about the changing world of work. There are seven questions about the texts. Which text gives you the answer to each question? Choose the correct text (A–D) for each question.

A

For most of history, farming was the main type of work all around the world except for people living near the coast, who often depended on fishing. Early societies living in settled communities needed agriculture to survive, and most people worked planting crops, harvesting them and raising animals. These jobs took physical effort, knowledge of the land and careful planning. Over time, some people started other jobs, trading or producing craft goods like furniture, pottery or clothing, but farming remained the most common type of work. Until the Industrial Revolution in the late 1700s, more than 80% of people worldwide still worked in agriculture. Machines eventually reduced the need for so many farm workers, and while agriculture remains crucial today, its importance as a source of mass employment is now shrinking very fast. It currently stands at about 27% of the global workforce, but that is down from 40% as recently as 2000.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B

This business studies textbook explains how to manage different kinds of employees today. One key focus is on knowledge workers. These workers rely on skills, ideas and problem-solving instead of physical labour or an ac quired craft skill. Examples include teachers, engineers and programmers. The book explains that knowledge workers need freedom to do their jobs well, since too much control can limit creativitv. It also discusses how good communication and clear goals improve teamwork. While the book is helpful, it mostly looks at workplaces in Western countries, which may not be relevant to other regions. Despite this, it is a useful guide for managers handling a changing workforce shaped by technology and innovation. One particularly interesting part discusses the fact that many knowledge workers, such as teachers or doctors, need to be responsible for monitoring their own production, since they are delivering a service which is consumed as it is produced. This process is called quality assurance to distinguish it from quality control, which is possible in manufacturing because the product can be checked before being delivered to a customer.

C

Artificial intelligence (AI) is changing how industries work, especially in production. Tasks like assembly line work, which humans used to do, are increasingly being done now by machines. This is clearly a threat to many traditional jobs. On the plus side, however, the process is also opening up more and more opportunities for knowledge work. With machines doing repetitive tasks, humans can focus on things which they can still often do better than machines, even AI ones, like planning, decision-making and creative work. Experts believe that most workers in manual jobs today will need to learn new skills, such as analysing data or using new software. This change, called by some the 'Fourth Industrial Revolution', is redefining work. Many companies are already training workers for these knowledge-based roles. While this shift can be difficult, it gives workers the chance to focus on more meaningful and innovative tasks.

D

Knowledge workers need to manage themselves to stay effective. Unlike traditional jobs, where managers control tasks, knowledge workers have more freedom but also more responsibility. Setting clear goals and breaking projects into small steps can help maintain focus. Time management is also important, as distractions like emails and meetings can interrupt creative work even more than manual or clerical tasks. Tools like calendar and task list apps can help workers who are new to knowledge work to effectively organise their time. Continuous learning is also important, because new technology is constantly changing, with jobs appearing and disappearing quickly in many sectors of employment. Perhaps the key point, though, for people moving into knowledge work for the first time, is that they need to learn to work without a manager organising their time and setting targets for them.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

In which text does the writer ...

explain why knowledge workers need control of their own output?

give a possible name for the new age of employment?

give details about the decline of a type of employment?

highlight a deficiency in the scope of a text?

identify the key thing which new knowledge workers must get used to?

point out the pros and cons of a current employment issue?

offer ways that people might be able to switch to become knowledge workers?

LIVEWORKSHEETS