

Full name: _____

READING PRACTICE TEST 2

PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1-10

Jonas Salk is the American physician and medical researcher who developed the first safe and effective vaccine for poliomyelitis. Salk received his M.D. in 1939 from New York University College of Medicine, where he worked with Thomas Francis Jr., who was studying how to develop vaccines from killed viruses. Salk joined Francis in 1942 at the University of Michigan School of Public Health and became part of a group that was working to develop a vaccine against influenza.

In 1947, Salk became associate professor of bacteriology and head of the Virus Research Laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, where he began research on poliomyelitis. Working with scientists from other universities in a program to classify the various strains of the polio virus, Salk corroborated other studies in identifying three separate strains. He then demonstrated that killed virus of each of the three, although incapable of producing the disease, could induce antibody formation in monkeys.

In 1952, he conducted field tests of his killed-virus vaccine, first on children who had recovered from polio and then on subjects who had not had the disease. The results of both tests showed that the children's antibody levels rose significantly and no subjects contracted polio from the vaccine. His findings were published the following year in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. In 1954, a mass field trial was held, and the vaccine, injected by needle, was found to safely reduce the incidence of polio. On April 12, 1955, the vaccine was released for use in the United States.

Salk served successively as professor of bacteriology, preventive medicine, and experimental medicine at Pittsburgh, and in 1963, he became fellow and director of the Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego, California, later called the Salk Institute. Among many other honors, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977.

1. What is the main idea of the passage ?
 - A. How Jonas Salk trained to be a physician and medical researcher
 - B. How the medical research of Jonas Salk led to the development of the polio vaccine
 - C. How Salk and his colleagues learned to kill viruses
 - D. How Salk was promoted to important positions at the University of Pennsylvania
2. Which of the following is the closest in meaning to the underlined word “**vaccine**” as used in paragraph 1 of the passage ?

- A. Medicine designed to cure a disease temporarily
- B. Medicine that cures a disease after the patient gets sick
- C. Medicine designed to kill viruses that are fatal to children
- D. Medicine that creates immunity against a disease

3. In the first paragraph, what was Thomas Francis Jr. studying ?

- A. How to prevent the spread of influenza in Michigan
- B. How to work with physicians from Manhattan
- C. How to develop vaccines from killed viruses
- D. How to get a degree in medicine from New York University

4. Which sentence in the second paragraph describes Salk's first work at the University of Pittsburgh ?

- A. The first sentence
- B. The second sentence
- C. The third sentence
- D. None of the above

5. Which word is closest in meaning to the underlined word “**corroborated**” as used in paragraph 2 of the passage ?

- A. Rejected
- B. Published
- C. Examined
- D. Confirmed

6. All of the following statements about the killed virus vaccine are true EXCEPT :

- A. it did not induce antibody formation in monkeys
- B. it had three strains that scientists worked with
- C. it was incapable of producing the disease
- D. it helped monkeys form antibodies

7. The underlined word “**findings**” in paragraph 3 refers to

- A. Results
- B. Antibody levels
- C. Vaccine
- D. Polio

8. From the passage, it can be inferred that the experimental polio vaccine was given to people by

- A. pill
- B. injection
- C. surgery
- D. liquid

9. In the passage, it is implied that the Salk Institute was

- A. originally called the Institute for Biological Studies
- B. originally the University of Michigan School of Public Health
- C. originally the Virus Research Laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh
- D. originally the medical school at New York University

10. Where in the passage could the following sentence best fit?
Thousands of children and adults were free from the fears of contracting this terrible disease

- A. At the end of paragraph 1
- B. At the end of paragraph 2
- C. At the end of paragraph 3
- D. At the end of paragraph 4

PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11-20

The Forbidden City is the former imperial palace in the centre of Beijing, China. Construction began in 1406, and the emperor's court officially moved in by 1420. The Forbidden City got its name because most people were barred from entering the 72-hectare site, surrounded by walls. Even government officials and the imperial family were permitted only limited access. Only the emperor could enter any section at will.

The architecture of the Forbidden City conforms rigidly to traditional Chinese principles. All buildings within the walls follow a north-south line, and the most important ones face south to honor the sun. The designers arranged the other buildings, and the ceremonial spaces between them, to impress all visitors with the great power of the Emperor, while reinforcing the insignificance of the individual. This architectural concept was carried out to the smallest detail. For example, the importance of a building was determined not only by its height or width but also the style of its roof and the quantity of statuettes placed on the roof's ridges.

In recognition of the importance of **its unparalleled** architecture, UNESCO added the palace to its World Heritage List in 1987. Today, visitors from all over the world do not wait for an imperial invitation to walk about this palace, now a museum of imperial art.

One of the most impressive landmarks of the Forbidden City is the Meridian Gate, the formal entrance to the southern side of the Forbidden City. The gate, with its auxiliary wings on either side of the entry way, is 38 meters high at its roof ridge. When you stand in front of this majestic structure, you understand how awed people felt when they stood there listening to imperial **proclamations**.

As you walk through the gate, you come into a large courtyard, 140 meters long and 210 meters wide. Running through the courtyard is the Golden River, which is crossed by five parallel white marble bridges. These bridges lead to the Gate of Supreme Harmony, which, in turn, leads to the heart of the Forbidden City. Its three main halls stand atop a three-tiered marble terrace overlooking an immense plaza. The plaza has enough space to hold tens of thousands of subjects paying homage to the emperor.

At the northern most end of the Forbidden City is the Imperial Garden, which is totally different from the rest of the compound. Instead of rigid formality, you see a seemingly **spontaneous** arrangement of trees, fishponds, flowerbeds, and sculpture. Here is the place of relaxation for the emperor. The motion picture *The Last Emperor* (1987), which portrays the life of Hsuan-t'ung P'u-i, was filmed partly within the Forbidden City.

11. Which sentence in paragraph 1 explains who could go anywhere in the Forbidden City at any time ?

- A. Sentence 2
- B. Sentence 3
- C. Sentence 4
- D. Sentence 5

12. How long did it take to build the Forbidden City?

- A. About five years
- B. About seven years
- C. About ten years
- D. About fourteen years

13. From the passage, it can be inferred that

- A. Chinese architects borrowed ideas from many different countries
- B. the design of the Forbidden City is dull and colorless
- C. the architecture of the Forbidden City exemplifies traditional Chinese values

D. the garden of the Forbidden City was laid out in a strict, rectangular pattern

14. Which phrase is closest in meaning to the underlined word “**unparalleled**” as used in paragraph 3?

- A. At an angle from the main line
- B. A high quality found nowhere else
- C. Partially designed in a foreign country
- D. Careless of small details in design

15. Which word(s) does the underlined word “**its**” refer to in paragraph 3?

- A. UNESCO
- B. Architecture
- C. Palace
- D. World Heritage List

16. From the passage, it is implied that the main entrance area to the Forbidden City is

- A. surrounded by three tall walls
- B. painted gold and green
- C. decorated with statuettes
- D. not very impressive

17. Which phrase is closest in meaning to the underlined word “**proclamations**” as used in paragraph 4?

- A. Music composed for public ceremonies
- B. Speeches encouraging soldiers to fight
- C. Official public announcements
- D. Poetry written for the emperor

18. All the following are found in the Imperial Garden EXCEPT:

- A. fishponds
- B. sculpture
- C. white marble bridges
- D. flowerbeds

19. According to the passage, what do the bridges over the Golden River lead to?

- A. The Meridian gate
- B. The center of Beijing
- C. The Gate of Supreme Harmony

D. The Imperial Gardens

20. Which phrase is closest meaning to the underlined word “**spontaneous**” as used in paragraph 6?

- A. Without meaning
- B. Without thinking
- C. Without planning
- D. Without drawing