

ENGLISH READING PRACTICE TEST 3

LEVELS 1-3

PART 1. Look at the text in each question. What does it say? Mark the correct letter A, B, C on your answer sheet.

Questions 1-5

1 **To:** Alice
From: Pete

I have three tickets for tomorrow's night concert but I won't be able to go. If you want them, come to my house by 4p.m. The concert starts at 7.30.

What is Pete doing?

- A. He is apologizing to Alice for not going to concert.
- B. He is inviting Alice to go to the concert with him
- C. He is offering Alice concert tickets he has got.

2

We recommend that you allow a minimum of three hours for your visit to Hampton Court

- A. The tour around Hampton Court lasts less than three hours.
- B. Most visitors spend about 3 hours visiting Hampton Court.
- C. At least three hours is recommended for your visit to Hampton Court.

3

BUY 3 WHEELS GET 1 FREE

Installation and hardware additional

- A. Buy three wheels and get one free with installation.
- B. Buy three wheels for the price of one.
- C. Buy three wheels and get one free without installation.

4

Jim,
Can you give me a lift to the conference next Friday? We could share the cost of the petrol and I could meet you in Bristol if necessary.
Barbara

Barbara would like

- A. to drive Jim and herself to the conference.
- B. to buy all the fuel needed for the conference trip.
- C. Mark to pick her up somewhere in Bristol.

5

**RESERVED PARKING
FOR BANK CUSTOMERS
ONLY**

- A. People using the bank are allowed to park here.
- B. Employees of the bank can park their cars here.
- C. Nobody is allowed to park in front of the bank.

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

Questions 6-15

ELEPHANTS

When you think about the (6) _____ of an elephant do you think of their amazing trunks, beautiful ivory tusks, their large flapping ears, or just their immense size? As you (7) _____ already know, elephants are the largest land animals in the world today. (8) _____ part of their anatomy is helpful to the elephant to survive in their environment. But it is the elephant's trunk that is the (9) _____ important to them.

(10) _____ their trunk has over 40,000 muscles, it allows the elephant to move their trunk in many different positions, and gives them the ability to grasp and to (11) _____ up objects. Their trunks are also very strong. In (12) _____, they could uproot large trees from the ground if they needed to. The elephants also use their trunks to communicate (13) _____, and for their sense of smell. Even though an elephant has a total of 24 sharp teeth, they only (14) _____ to use two or three of these teeth (15) _____ the same time.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| 6. A. marks | B. points | C. features | D. articles |
| 7. A. need | B. have | C. may | D. ought |
| 8. A. None | B. Both | C. Each | D. All |
| 9. A. best | B. most | C. more | D. worst |
| 10. A. Despite | B. But | C. So | D. Because |
| 11. A. pick | B. go | C. raise | D. grow |
| 12. A. order | B. fact | C. advance | D. case |
| 13. A. to | B. with | C. for | D. from |
| 14. A. make | B. do | C. set | D. put |
| 15. A. at | B. on | C. in | D. by |

PART 3. Read the text to decide if each statement is TRUE or FALSE.

Questions 16-25

Transport in London

TICKETS TO TRAVEL

Single fares are available for any journey, although visitors will find it easier and better value to purchase a Travelcard. Travelcards are valid for use on the Underground, bus, DLR, tram and national rail, and also offer a one-third discount on River services. They are available for one, three or seven days, and in peak or off-peak versions for one and three days.

CONGESTION CHARGE

If you are driving in central London between 7am and 6pm Mon-Fri (except public holidays), you need to pay the Congestion Charge. The charge is £8 per day, which must be paid in advance or on the day of travel. If you pay by midnight the next day, the charge is £10.

NATIONAL RAIL

Trains are useful for reaching places that are not served by the Tube. Mainline stations include: Waterloo and Victoria, serving the south of England; Paddington, the south-west; Euston, the north; King's Cross, the north-east; and Liverpool Street, the east.

UNDERGROUND

There are 12 colour-coded Tube lines. Most operate from 5am to 12.30am Mon-Sat, and from 7.30am to 11.30pm on Sundays. It's cheaper and less crowded to avoid the rush hour and travel after 9.30am. The network is divided into six concentric zones – zone 1 is the central area.

AIRLINES

Virgin Atlantic Airways links London with major cities in the USA and across the world. British Airways carries passengers between 175 domestic and international destinations. BMI, the UK's second largest airline, operates from Heathrow and offers low-cost domestic and European flights and flies to international destinations.

TO LONDON BY BUS

Green Line operates three coaches an hour to Baker Street, Marble Arch and Victoria. Fares from £11 single; journey time 75 mins. EasyBus runs every 40 mins to Baker Street. Fares from £2 single; journey time about 55 mins.

COACHES

A quick and inexpensive way of making a day trip out of London. Victoria Coach Station is a major hub for various bus companies.

DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY

The DLR connects the City and the Underground network with Docklands. It's also a useful link to Maritime Greenwich. Services operate from 5.30am to 12.30am and tickets must be purchased before boarding a train.

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|---|---------|----------|
| 16. Travelcard holders receive a 33% discount on London River Services. | A. True | B. False |
| 17. Off-peak travelcards are only available for zones 1-3. | A. True | B. False |
| 18. The Congestion Charge applies 07:00-18:00, Monday to Friday
excluding public holidays. | A. True | B. False |
| 19. The Congestion Charge is £10 per day if you pay in advance. | A. True | B. False |
| 20. Trains are useful for reaching places that are not served by the metro system. | A. True | B. False |

- | | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| 21. There is a total of 12 different coloured lines in the London Underground system. | A. True | B. False |
| 22. BMI is the largest airline in the United Kingdom. | A. True | B. False |
| 23. The Green Line operates at a frequency of every 30 minutes. | A. True | B. False |
| 24. Victoria Coach Station is the most impressive coach station in London. | A. True | B. False |
| 25. The last DLR train goes at 12.30 after midnight. | A. True | B. False |

PART 4. Read the following passages and choose the best answer for each question.

Questions 26-28 refer to the following letter:

The Nature Conversation Society

Dear Member,

Following the Annual General Meeting, we are proceeding with the election of two new members of the board. Board members are elected for a three-year term and may not serve more than two consecutive periods. As an active member of the society, you are entitled to vote for the candidate of your choice by secret ballot.

The profiles of the four candidates standing for election are enclosed on a separate sheet. You will also find a postal ballot form and a stamped addressed envelope. Photocopies of ballot forms will not be accepted.

Please return your vote to us by November 8th. The results of the the ballot will be published on our website and in the December newsletter.

Best Regards,

Norris McWerter

Chairman

26. How can members vote in the election?

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| A. By attending the yearly meeting | B. By submitting a postal vote |
| C. By connecting to the society's website | D. By calling Norris McWerter |

27. How long can a member serve on the board?

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| A. Two years | B. Four years |
| C. Six years | D. Eight years |

28. What is NOT included with this letter?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| A. A newsletter | B. A postal ballot form |
| C. A profile of the candidates | D. A stamped addressed return envelope. |

Questions 29-31 refer to the following article:

The majority of top managers work most productively outside standard working hours. This per a recent survey by Jefferson Watch Corporation of 100 chief executives of the top 500 companies in the country. The morning hours before other employees arrive were favored by 43 executives, while 18 preferred to work after the other employees had left. Among those who considered normal working hours to be their most productive, 75% favored mornings over afternoons. 115% of those surveyed said that they worked at home in the evenings, and 65% worked over the weekends.

29. Who participated in the survey?

- A. Jefferson's top one hundred managers
- B. Presidents from each of five hundred companies
- C. One hundred executives of the top firms in the nation
- D. Forty-three leaders of the watch Industry

30. What did the survey reveal?

- A. When executives do their best work
- B. How many hours most businesses are open
- C. What brands of watches top managers wear
- D. How close workers lived to their jobs

31. What percentage of those surveyed work on Saturdays or Sundays?

- A. 43
- B. 65
- C. 75
- D. 85

Questions 32-35 refer to the following instruction:

Softwind's technical support staff provides free telephone assistance to registered Softwind users. In order to receive this free assistance, you must first register your product with Softwind. To do this, fill in the enclosed registration card, including the name of the retail outlet where you purchased this product. Softwind will then send you a personal identification number (PIN), which must be supplied to support staff whenever you request assistance. Registering your product will also enable us to send you timely information on updates and future releases. Before calling technical support, please try to find the answer to your question in the handbook that accompanies this product. In particular, we recommend that you check the section on frequently asked questions that begins on page 2155.

32. Who were these instructions written for?

- A. Technical support staff
- B. Softwind engineers
- C. Retail sales personnel
- D. Softwind customers

33. What information is necessary in order to register this product?

- A. The name of the store that sold the product
- B. The user's personal identification number
- C. The dates of future releases
- D. The user's forwarding address

34. How can you receive a PIN?
- A. By requesting one from support staff
 - B. By telephoning technical support
 - C. By mailing in the registration card
 - D. By signing up for one at a retail outlet
35. What should you do first if you have a problem with the product?
- A. Read the manual
 - B. Change your PIN
 - C. Telephone technical support
 - D. Request updated instructions

Questions 36-40 refer to the following article:

At the beginning of nineteenth century, the American educational system was **desperately** in need of reform. Private schools existed, but only for the very rich. There were very few public schools because of the strong sentiment that children who would grow up to be laborers should not “waste” their time on education but should instead prepare themselves for their life’s work. It was in the face of this public sentiment that educational reformers set about their task. Horace Mann, probably the most famous of the reformers, felt that there was no excuse in a republic for any citizen to be uneducated. As superintendent of Education in the state of Massachusetts from 1837 to 1848, he initiated various changes, which were soon matched in other school districts around the country. He extended the school year from five to six months and improved the quality of teachers by instituting teacher education and raising teacher salaries. Although these changes did not bring about a sudden improvement in the educational system, they at least increased public awareness as to the need for a further strengthening of the system.

36. The best title for the passage could be
- A. A Flight for change
 - B. Nineteenth – the Century of Reform.
 - C. American Education in the Beginning of the 19th Century.
 - D. The Beginnings of Reform in American Education
37. The passage implied that to go to a private school, a student needed
- A. a strong educational background
 - B. good grades
 - C. a lot of money
 - D. a high level of intelligence
38. The word “**desperately**” in the passage mostly means
- A. completely
 - B. partly
 - C. obviously
 - D. urgently
39. According to the passage, Horace Mann wanted a better educational system for Americans because ...
- A. people had nothing else to do except go to school
 - B. education at the time was so cheap
 - C. all citizens should be educated in a republic
 - D. Massachusetts residents needed something to do with their spare time
40. According to the passage, which sentence is NOT TRUE?
- A. Horace Mann brought about changes in many schools in the United States.
 - B. Horace Mann began raising teacher’s salaries.
 - C. Horace Mann was a famous US educational reformer.
 - D. Horace Mann suggested schools prepare children for their life’s work.