

Test 2 answer key with extra explanations

Reading

Reading Passage 1

Questions 1–13

1 The correct answer is B: This paragraph refers to dance, then says, 'That is not to suggest everyone should dance their way to work, however healthy and happy it might make us'. The phrase 'however happy and healthy it might make us' suggests that this idea is appealing. **F and G are incorrect** because they mention ways of using dance which the writer is actually proposing.

2 The correct answer is C: This paragraph says, 'Whereas medieval builders improvised and adapted construction through their intimate knowledge of materials and personal experience of the conditions on a site, building designs are now conceived and stored in media technologies that detach the designer from the physical and social realities they are creating.' The word 'Whereas' signals a contrast; the first part of the sentence describes how buildings were designed in medieval times, while the second part describes how this is done nowadays.

3 The correct answer is F: This paragraph refers to choreography (the art of designing sequences of dance movements), then says, 'it shares with engineering the aim of designing patterns of movement within limitations of space'. If something shares an aim with something else, it means that this is an objective which they both have.

4 The correct answer is D: This paragraph refers to the designers of the Peachtree Center who 'failed to take into account that purpose-built street cafés could not operate in the hot sun without the protective awnings common in older buildings'. 'They failed to take into account' means that they did not to consider something. The designers did not consider the climate when they planned the centre, so they did not include 'protective awnings' (material stretched out over a frame to provide shelter from sun or rain) in their designs for the outdoor cafés. This caused the unforeseen (unexpected) problem that the cafés could not operate in the hot sun. **E is incorrect:** Although it mentions an unforeseen problem, this problem is not related to climate.

5 The correct answer is E: This paragraph refers to guard rails being put in place as 'an engineering solution to pedestrian safety', which means they were means of helping people. It then describes the unexpected problems that these guard rails caused and says that 'many are now being removed', meaning that these measures are being reversed. The measures are being reversed because of the problems they caused pedestrians and communities.

6 The correct answer is A: This paragraph says, 'The ways we travel affect our physical and mental health, our social lives, our access to work and culture, and the air we breathe.' **D and E are incorrect** because they refer to planning decisions, rather than transport, having an impact on people's lives.

7 The correct answer is 'safety': Paragraph E describes the guard rails as 'an engineering solution to pedestrian safety'. 'The safety of pedestrians' and 'pedestrian safety' are two ways of expressing the same idea. The word 'lives' would be grammatically correct but it is incorrect because it is not precise enough: the text specifies that the guard rails are a safety measure. **'Crossings' is incorrect** because it does not fit grammatically: the phrase would have to be 'crossings for pedestrians' and not 'crossings of pedestrians'.

8 The correct answer is 'traffic': Paragraph E says that the guard rails solution is 'based on models that prioritise the smooth flow of traffic.' The word 'flow' means movement; if movement of traffic is 'smooth', this means that it is not disrupted. **'Transport' is incorrect** because this has too general a meaning: 'transport' refers to the whole system of moving goods and people around – 'traffic' can move, but 'transport' cannot. **'Cars' is incorrect** because it is too specific: 'traffic' includes many other vehicles in addition to cars. Words referring to humans, such as **'pedestrians' and 'people', are incorrect** because the text says that the rails make it harder for people to cross roads.

9 The correct answer is 'carriageway': Paragraph E says that the arrangement of access points is used 'to divide the crossing into two – one for each carriageway'. This means that there is a separate access point for each side of the road (carriageway): there is an access point for crossing the side of the road where the traffic is moving in one direction and another one for crossing the side of the road where the traffic is moving in the other direction. Because the access points divide the road into two, pedestrians cannot cross both carriageways at one time. **'Road' is incorrect** because the text refers to crossing each side of the road separately, not each road.

10 The correct answer is 'mobile': Paragraph E says that the psychological barriers impact on 'those that are the least mobile'. The people who are the least mobile, such as elderly or disabled people, are included in the category of 'less mobile people'.

11 The correct answer is 'dangerous': Paragraph E says that the arrangement of access points has the effect of 'encouraging others to make dangerous crossings to get around the guard rails'. This has the same meaning as 'cross the road in a dangerous way'. 'Dangerous' is the only adjective in this section which can refer to a way of crossing a road.

12 The correct answer is 'communities': Paragraph E says that the barriers 'divide communities'. **'Roads' is incorrect** because the text does not say that roads are separated. Carriageways are separated, but the word 'carriageway' only appears in the singular form in the text, so this would not fit grammatically.

13 The correct answer is 'healthy': Paragraph E says that the barriers 'decrease opportunities for healthy transport'. The phrase 'decrease opportunities for' means give fewer chances or make it more difficult to introduce things. **'Dangerous' is incorrect** because this is a negative outcome – not the kind of transport which anyone would aim to introduce.

Questions 14–26

14 The correct answer is F: In this paragraph, Shapiro ‘prefers to focus the debate’ on ‘how we could use [emerging technology] to make genetic modifications which could prevent mass extinctions in the future’. It is the only answer where possible extinction of multiple species is mentioned. **B is incorrect** because it refers to the ‘dangerously debilitating’ facial tumour syndrome which *threatens the existence* of the Tasmanian devils, the island’s other notorious resident.’ ‘The return of thylacines to Tasmania could help to ensure that devils are never again subjected to risks of this kind’. It refers to Tasmanian devils and thylacines, not any other animals. **E is incorrect** because it refers only to ‘preserving the *endangered* Asian elephant’.

15 The correct answer is A: This paragraph refers to de-extinction and says that ‘The basic premise involves using cloning technology to turn the DNA of extinct animals into a fertilised embryo.’ This embryo would contain only the DNA of the extinct animal. **C is incorrect** because it describes a process combining the DNA of an extinct species and a living species, ‘A more practical approach for long-extinct species is to take the DNA of existing species as a template, ready for the insertion of strands of extinct animal DNA to create something new’. **D is incorrect** because it refers to a hybridised combination of the extinct passenger pigeon and the living band-tailed pigeon. **E is incorrect** because it refers to a hybridised combination of the extinct woolly mammoth and the living Asian elephant.

16 The correct answer is D: This paragraph refers to the extinct passenger pigeon then says, ‘Since the disappearance of this key species, ecosystems in the eastern US have suffered, as the lack of disturbance caused by thousands of passenger pigeons wrecking trees and branches means there has been minimal need for regrowth. This has left forests stagnant and therefore unwelcoming to the plants and animals which evolved to help regenerate the forest after a disturbance.’ The stagnating and unwelcoming forests referred to are a habitat which has suffered. **E is incorrect** because although it mentions a habitat being affected by climate change, it does not say that it has suffered as a result of species extinction.

17 The correct answer is A: This paragraph gives the precise date when a species became extinct: ‘the passenger pigeon’s existence came to an end on 1 September 1914, when the last living specimen died at Cincinnati Zoo’. **B is incorrect** because although it refers to ‘the decades since the thylacine went extinct,’ it does not specify when this happened. **E is incorrect** because it makes no mention of when the woolly mammoth went extinct.

18 The correct answer is ‘genetic traits’: In Paragraph E, Church refers to ‘pinpointing which genetic traits made it possible for mammoths to survive the icy climate of the tundra’. ‘Pinpoint’ has a similar meaning to ‘identify’, and ‘enabled’ means ‘made it possible’. **‘Way’ and ‘main way’ are incorrect** as they do not fit with the meaning of the sentence: a ‘way’ cannot enable an animal to do something. **‘Heat loss’ is incorrect** because it does not make sense in this context. Heat loss is something which makes it more difficult for an animal to live in cold climates.

19 The correct answer is 'heat loss': In Paragraph E, Church refers to adaptations 'for the purpose of reducing heat loss in the tundra'. 'Reduce' is a synonym of 'minimise'. **'Ears' is incorrect** because 'minimise' can only refer to a degree of something (such as heat loss or risk). It cannot refer to an object becoming smaller.

20 The correct answer is 'ears': In Paragraph E, Church says, 'Necessary adaptations would include smaller ears'. This has the same meaning as 'ears of a reduced size'. **'Heat loss' is incorrect** because this is not a physical feature of the animal and also because these words do not collocate with 'size'.

21 The correct answer is 'fat' or 'insulating fat': In Paragraph E, Church adds 'extra insulating fat' to the list of necessary adaptations. 'Extra' is equivalent to 'more'.

22 The correct answer is 'emissions' or 'carbon emissions': Paragraph E says that 'large mammals could also be a useful factor in reducing carbon emissions – elephants punch holes through snow and knock down trees, which encourages grass growth. This grass growth would reduce temperatures, and mitigate emissions from melting permafrost.' **'Mitigate emissions' is incorrect** because 'mitigate' is a verb, so this cannot be placed after the verb 'decrease'.

23 The correct answer is B: In Paragraph B, Michael Archer refers to a disease affecting Tasmanian devils, then says, 'The return of thylacines to Tasmania could help to ensure that [Tasmanian] devils are never again subjected to risks of this kind.' **A is incorrect** because Ben Novak refers to an extinct species which could improve a habitat. **C is incorrect** because Beth Shapiro does not refer to any particular species.

24 The correct answer is C: Paragraph F refers to Beth Shapiro then says, 'She prefers to focus the debate on how this emerging technology could be used to fully understand why various species went extinct in the first place'. Neither of the other people refers to causes of extinction.

25 The correct answer is A: Paragraph D says, 'According to Novak, a hybridised band-tailed pigeon, with the added nesting habits of a passenger pigeon, could, in theory, re-establish that forest disturbance, thereby creating a habitat necessary for a great many other native species to thrive.' **B is incorrect** because Michael Archer refers to an extinct species which could improve the health of a particular living species but does not refer to habitat. **C is incorrect** because Beth Shapiro does not refer to any particular species.

26 The correct answer is C: In Paragraph F, Beth Shapiro refers to extinctions then says, 'We know that what we are doing today is not enough'. Neither of the other people refers to current efforts to preserve biodiversity.

Questions 27–40

27 The correct answer is C: The first paragraph says that ‘laughter and humour provide psychological scientists with rich resources for studying human psychology, ranging from the development of language to the neuroscience of social perception’. Something which provides ‘rich resources’ has value. **A is incorrect** because although the first paragraph says that laughter can help scientists study the development of language, it does not say that laughter has an impact on language. **B is incorrect** because although the first paragraph says, ‘Laughter is universal across all human cultures’, it does not mention its function. **D is incorrect** because the text says that laughter ‘even exists in some form in rats, chimps, and bonobos’, not that it is universal in animal societies.

28 The correct answer is A: The second paragraph says that Douglass ‘picked up on a quality of laughter that is now interesting researchers: a simple “haha” communicates a remarkable amount of socially relevant information.’ This suggests that he was aware of the social significance of laughter. **B is incorrect** because the text says that his recordings ‘were intended to help people at home feel like they were in a social situation’, not to tell viewers when to laugh. **C is incorrect** because the text does not refer to the social spectrum. The reference to ‘mixtures of laughter from men, women and children’ implies that he wanted them to appeal to both sexes and a range of ages, but does not mention different social classes. **D is incorrect** because the text says that Douglass ‘hated dealing with the unpredictable laughter of live audiences’.

29 The correct answer is B: The third paragraph refers to the listeners being from 24 diverse societies from around the world, then says, ‘On average, the results were remarkably consistent’. If results are consistent, this means that they are similar to each other; the word ‘remarkably’ shows that this lack of variation was significant. **A is incorrect** because there is no reference to different types of laughter. **C is incorrect** because although the text mentions that different academic disciplines were involved (psychology, anthropology and biology), it does not suggest that this is significant. **D is incorrect** because the recordings were all ‘samples of laughter from pairs of English-speaking students’.

30 The correct answer is B: The fourth paragraph explains that the groups of participants included both high- and low-status members of a college fraternity group. It then says that ‘each student took a turn at being teased by the others’ and mentions newcomers being ‘in the “powerful” role of teasers’. This means that the high-status individuals took turns being low status and that the low-status individuals took turns being high status. **A, C and D are incorrect** because there is no mention of participants becoming upset, becoming friends or being unable to laugh.

31 The correct answer is D: The fifth paragraph says, ‘high-status individuals were rated as high-status whether they produced their natural dominant laugh or tried to do a submissive one’. This means that the listeners always knew when someone was a high-status individual, regardless of the type of laugh they were producing. This also tells us that **C is incorrect**: If high-status individuals were identifiable even when they tried to produce a submissive laugh,

this means that the submissive laughs of high- and low-status individuals were different. **A and B are incorrect** because the text says that low-status individuals ‘were rated as significantly higher in status when displaying a dominant versus submissive laugh’. This means that it was not always clear whether the dominant laughs were being produced by high-status individuals or by low-status individuals playing a dominant role: this is because the low-status individuals produced convincing dominant laughs in that role.

32 The correct answer is F: The sixth paragraph describes the videos as ‘eliciting either humour, contentment, or neutral feelings’. These ideas relate to emotions. **B, C, E and H are incorrect** because they are adjectives and this phrase requires a noun. **A and G are incorrect** because they are not all designed to generate laughter or enjoyment, and **D is incorrect** because none of the videos are designed to generate anxiety.

33 The correct answer is H: The seventh paragraph says, ‘Students who had watched the *Mr. Bean* video ended up spending significantly more time working on the task’. **A, D, F and G are incorrect** because they are nouns and this phrase requires an adjective. The *Mr. Bean* video was referred to as ‘a BBC comedy’ in the previous paragraph, and ‘amusing’ is the only adjective which describes a comedy.

34 The correct answer is C: The eighth paragraph refers to the task in the second study, where researchers ‘had participants complete long multiplication questions by hand’, as ‘a tedious task’. **A, D, F and G are incorrect** because they are nouns and this phrase requires an adjective. The only adjective which has the same meaning as ‘tedious’ is ‘boring’.

35 The correct answer is D: The final paragraph says, ‘humour has been found to help relieve stress’. **B, C, E and H are incorrect** because they are adjectives and this phrase requires a noun. The only noun which has the same meaning as ‘stress’ is ‘anxiety’.

36 The correct answer is E: The final paragraph quotes the researchers saying, ‘We suggest that humour is not only enjoyable but more importantly, energising.’ **D, F and G are incorrect** because they are nouns and this phrase requires an adjective. The only adjective which has the same meaning as ‘energising’ is ‘stimulating’.

37 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN: The third paragraph says, ‘Participants were asked whether they thought the people laughing were friends or strangers. On average, the results were remarkably consistent: worldwide, people’s guesses were correct approximately 60% of the time.’ This information tells us more than half of the laughs were accurately identified, but it does not specify how many of these correctly identified laughs were those of friends or strangers.

38 The correct answer is YES: The fourth paragraph says, ‘as expected, high-status individuals produced more dominant laughs and fewer submissive laughs relative to the low-status individuals’. The phrase ‘as expected’ means that the researchers’ predictions were correct.

39 The correct answer is NO: The seventh paragraph says, 'Participants were allowed to quit the task at any point. Students who had watched the *Mr. Bean* video ended up spending significantly more time working on the task'. This means that they were not given a fixed amount of time to work on the task.

40 The correct answer is NO: In the final paragraph, Cheng and Wang refer to the 'traditional view of task performance' (established notions) which 'implies that individuals should avoid things such as humour that may distract them from the accomplishment of task goals'. They then make their own conclusions: 'We suggest that humour is not only enjoyable but more importantly, energising.' As their conclusions were different, this means that they were not in line with established notions.