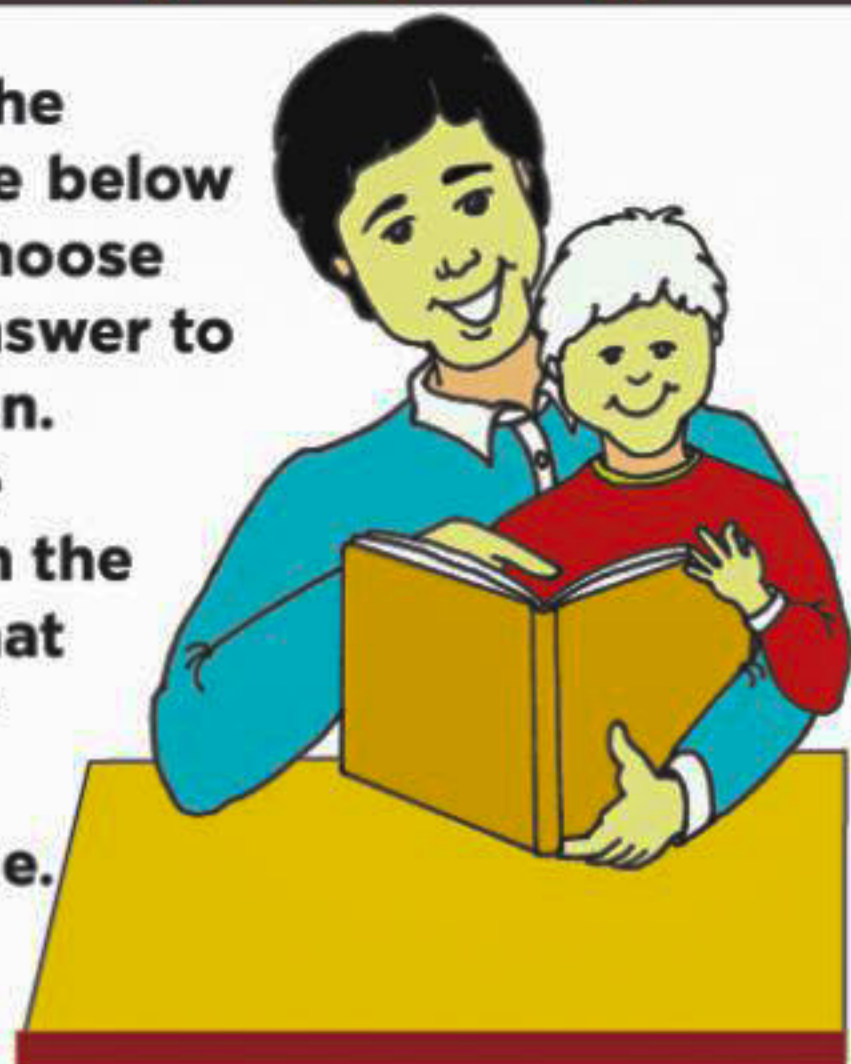


Reading Comprehension Challenge

1 Read the passage below and then choose the best answer to the question. Answer the question on the basis of what is stated or implied in this passage.



Experienced truck drivers often travel in a convoy—a group of trucks that are traveling to the same part of the country. Convoys can help truckers to stay alert.

The author implies that professional long-distance truck drivers may avoid traveling alone because:

- A) They might drive too fast.
- B) They want to arrive before anyone else.
- C) Accidents happen more frequently to lone truck drivers than to car drivers who travel alone.
- D) Long-distance travel can cause drowsiness.

2 Read the passage below and then choose the best answer to the question.

Huge beasts such as the dinosaur have never really become extinct. Mothra, a giant caterpillar who later becomes a moth, destroys Tokyo, and stars in the 1962 Japanese film named for him. Mothra is born, dies, and reborn regularly on classic movie channels. In Japan Mothra is one of the most popular films ever made. Mothra has survived the creation of more current scary creatures such as giant apes, extra-terrestrial beings and swamp creatures. More than 30 years after his creation, Mothra still lives.

The main subject of the passage is:

- A) the reasons that fads do not endure
- B) the lasting appeal of Mothra
- C) the difficulty of marketing good horror movies
- D) old models for creatures are still used because making new monsters is expensive

3 Two underlined sentences are followed by a question or statement. Read the sentences, and then choose the best answer to the question or the best completion of the statement.

Anxious to ensure that America would depart from European traditions regarding religion and royalty, the early U.S. could be described as a place that focused more on work than on the entertainment offered by spectacle and ceremony in the Old World.

However, national celebrations such as the lighting of the White House Christmas Tree and the ceremonies used to swear in new federal officials give the American people some experiences that are based upon national tradition.

What does the second sentence do?

- A) It cancels the meaning of the first.
- B) It provides an example of the first sentence.
- C) It adds more detail to the first sentence.
- D) It offers an exception to the information given in the first sentence.

4 Read the passage below and choose the best answer to the question.

The Earth's past climate—including temperature and elements in the atmosphere—has recently been studied by analyzing ice samples from Greenland and Antarctica. The air bubbles in the ice have shown that, over the past 160,000 years, there has been a close correlation between temperature changes and level of natural greenhouse gases carbon dioxide and methane. One recent analysis from Greenland showed that at the end of the last glacial period (when the great ice sheets began to retreat to their present position), temperatures in southern Greenland rose from 5 to 7 degrees in about 100 years. Air bubbles are not the only method of determining characteristics of the Earth's ancient climate history. Analysis of dust layers from ancient volcanic activity is another such method; as is the study of ice cores, which interpret past solar activity that may have affected our climate.

This passage states that:

- A) the Greenhouse effect is destroying the planet's atmosphere.
- B) temperatures in Greenland have been unusually stable over the past 100 years.
- C) there is more than one kind of information that scientists can use to determine the characteristics of the Earth's early climate.
- D) solar energy is the wave of the future.

5 Two passages are followed by a question or statement. Read the passages, then choose the best answer to the question or the best completion of the statement.

1. Before video cameras were widely used, home and business owners had to rely only on written reports and photos as a way to document their valuables for insurance purposes. This form of documentation was difficult for some insurance policy holders. They found it was easy to lose lists, forget to add new items they purchased, or delete items they no longer had. As a result these insurance inventories were often inaccurate.

2. While video taping is not an option for every home or business owner, this kind of insurance documentation is helpful for some.

How are these passages related?

- A) They repeat the same idea.
- B) They contradict one another.
- C) They compare two forms of written documentation.
- D) They present a problem and a solution.

6 Two underlined sentences are followed by a question or a statement. Read the sentences, and then choose the best answer to the question or the best completion of the statement.

Public speaking is very different from everyday conversation.

First of all, speeches are much more structured than a typical informal discussion.

How are these sentences related?

- A) Sentence two offers support for the statement made in the first sentence.
- B) Sentence two contradicts the statement made in the first sentence.
- C) Sentence two shows an exception to the first sentence.
- D) Sentence two compares two kinds of speeches.

7 Answer the question on the basis of what is stated or implied in these passages.



1. French physicist Charles Fabry found ozone gas in the atmosphere in 1913. At room temperature, ozone is a colorless gas; it condenses to a dark blue liquid at -170 F. At temperatures above the boiling point of water, 212 F, it decomposes. Ozone is all around us. After a thunderstorm, or around electrical equipment, ozone is often detected as a sharp odor.

2. Ozone is used as a strong oxidizing agent, a bleaching agent, and to sterilize drinking water. This gas is also highly reactive. For example, rubber insulation around a car's spark plug wires will need to be replaced eventually, due to the small amounts of ozone produced when electricity flows from the engine to the plug.

These passages imply that:

- A) Ozone is the result of pollution.
- B) High ozone levels in the atmosphere will cause large numbers of people to buy new car batteries.
- C) Ozone has no practical uses.
- D) Ozone is a natural part of the Earth's atmosphere.

8 Read the passage below and then choose the best answer to the question. Answer the question on the basis of what is stated or implied in these passages.

Many people who have come close to death from drowning, cardiac arrest or other causes have described near-death experiences—profound, subjective events that sometimes result in dramatic changes in values, beliefs, behavior, and attitudes toward life and death. These experiences often include a new clarity of thinking, a feeling of well being, a sense of being out of the body, and visions of bright light or mystical encounters. Such experiences have been reported by an estimated 30 to 40 percent of hospital patients who were revived after coming close to death and about 5 percent of adult Americans in a nationwide poll. Near-death experiences have been explained as a response to a perceived threat of death (a psychological theory); as a result of biological states that accompany the process of dying (a physiological theory); and as a foretaste of an actual state of bliss after death (a transcendental theory).

The primary purpose of this passage is to:

- A) entertain
- B) persuade
- C) inform
- D) express disbelief in the afterlife

Find the answers in next MONDAY issue

9 Read the passage below and then choose the best answer to the question on the basis of what is stated or implied in these passages.

In most cases little birds lay little eggs. The kiwi is an astonishing exception to this rule—it is a smallish bird that lays a big egg. The kiwi, a flightless bird found in New Zealand, weighs about four pounds, and its egg weighs, believe it or not, about one pound. That is one-fourth of the bird's body weight! If an ostrich laid an egg that was in the same proportion to the ostrich as the kiwi egg is to the kiwi, an ostrich egg would weigh a whopping seventy-five pounds instead of the usual three pounds.

Which statement below best describes the organizational method used in this passage?

- A) description
- B) comparison/contrast
- C) chronological
- D) cause/effect



10 Jazz is a peculiarly American contribution to Western culture. It was born out of the unique experience of American Blacks. Although its history is not entirely clear, jazz obviously has roots in the rhythm patterns and melodic lines of Africa, the tradition of Christian spirituals as sung by slave communities, the music of the blues as developed in the Deep South, and ragtime.

According to this passage, one can conclude that:

- A) Jazz is the sole Black contribution to Western culture.
- B) There is some difficulty tracing the origin of jazz.
- C) Jazz is most closely related to spiritual music.
- D) Jazz is not a complex musical form.

11 Read the statements below and then choose the best answer to the question from the list of lettered choices that follows.

Sometimes when we don't get enough sleep we become very short-tempered.

It is important to set a time to go to bed that is realistic.

How are these two sentences related?

- A) The first sentence explains the meaning of the second.
- B) The second sentence explains why a lack of sleep affects us.
- C) The second sentence proposes a solution.
- D) The second sentence contradicts the first.

12 Read the statements below and then choose the best answer to the question from the list of lettered choices that follows.

Most people collect Star Wars toys for sentimental reasons.

Some people collect them strictly to make money.

What is the relationship between the two sentences?

- A) cause and effect
- B) contrast
- C) repetition
- D) statement & example



13 Answer the question based on what is stated or implied.

There are two kinds of jewelry that I do. There is commercial jewelry—class rings, necklaces, the kinds of things most people wear. I sell these items to meet my expenses for raw materials, supplies, and to make my living. The other, more creative work I do makes me feel that I am developing as a craftsman.

The author of this passage implies that:

- A) Artists are poor.
- B) There is no market for creative work.
- C) Commercial and creative work fulfills different needs for the artist.
- D) Rings and necklaces can not be creative.

School Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					

14 Some actors and rock stars are paid almost 100 times as much per year as school teachers. Not to downgrade the role of entertainment in our lives, but these people are not the valuable social resource that educators are. As another example, professional athletes earn vastly more than the nation's firefighters. Again, there is little doubt that the lower paid group contributes a more vital function to communities. Finally, dress designers, who can make up to \$50,000 for a gown, far out-earn police officers, whose very presence makes our cities and towns livable.

Based on this passage, the earning power in our society:

- A) is subject to staggering inflation.
- B) does not relate to one's usefulness in society.
- C) is highest among those whose achievements are the greatest.
- D) should be highest among actors and rock stars.

15 Read the statements below and then choose the best answer to the question from the list of lettered choices that follows.

Jenny does not like cake.

She does not like to bake it, to ice it, or to eat it.

What does the second sentence do?

- A) It states the cause of the first.
- B) It compares the three things Jenny does not like about cake.
- C) It draws a conclusion about Jenny.
- D) It emphasizes what is stated in the first.

16 Read the sentences below and then choose the best answer to the question from the list of lettered choices that follows.

- When we write a check that we know is going to "bounce," we are in fact performing a criminal act.
- It is a crime to knowingly write a "hot" check, one we know we don't have sufficient funds to cover.

What does the second statement do?

- A) It provides supporting evidence for the first statement.
- B) It restates the central idea of the first sentence.
- C) It draws a conclusion from the first sentence.
- D) It provides a contradictory point of view.

17 Read the statements below and then choose the best answer to the question from the list of lettered choices that follows.

- The new Dance Tunes CD has proved to be very popular.
- It has sold 80,000 copies over the last year.

How are these two sentences related?

- A) The first sentence explains the meaning of the second.
- B) The second sentence provides evidence of the first.
- C) The second sentence explains why the CD is popular.
- D) The first sentence contradicts the second.

18 Read the passage below and then choose the best answer to the question from the list of lettered choices that follows.

Before the invention of automobiles and airplanes travel was a slow process. When traveling long distances families would be out of communication until the travelers reached their destination. Sometimes people lost touch with each other permanently.

The author would most likely continue the passage with which of the following sentences?

- A) Airplanes make travel more fun.
- B) Driving a car helps families stay in touch.
- C) Cars can be used to travel comfortably.
- D) Advances in communication have helped travelers stay in communication.

ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED FEBRUARY 23, 2017)

- KEY
TRUE / FALSE
a F b T c F d T e F f T g T h F
- SYNONYM MATCH
1. report a. study 2. experts b. specialists 3. totally c. completely 4. revolutionised d. transformed 5. unbelievable e. incredible 6. questioned f. asked 7. advanced g. futuristic 8. design h. plan 9. treatment i. medical care 10. used up j. finished
- COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS
1. Under water 2. Samsung 3. City planners 4. How it would change our lives 5. Unbelievable 6. 2,000 7. Virtual meetings 8. The doctor 9. Space 10. English
- MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ
1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. a 10. d