

International School of Economics at TSU

Entrance Exam, May 16, 2015

Test No 3, English

Reading Passage I

Directions: For each blank space, choose the best answer from the choices given below. Be sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet.

Until about 250 years ago, households did not take dirt as (1) _____ as they do now – it was a fact of life, and that was that. Cleaning often consisted of an annual (2) _____ called ‘spring cleaning’ when the furniture was moved aside, and all the linen products in the house were cleaned. Carpets and rugs were taken outside, hung on ropes and had the dust (3) _____ out of them – an exhausting and messy process.

The industrial revolution brought about a major change – as new (4) _____ became available to make homes cleaner, a corresponding interest in (5) ‘_____ hygiene’ appeared in households. This in turn led to the (6) _____ of further products, one of which was the vacuum cleaner.

The first vacuum cleaners appeared in the 1860s in the United States. They were operated by hand pumps and were almost as (7) _____ as spring cleaning. It was only when electric motors had become sufficiently (8) _____ to become portable that vacuum cleaners became common household items. Most of today's major (9) _____ – including Electrolux and Hoover – were born in the 1920s.

The household (10) _____ that vacuum cleaners suck up is mostly dead skin cells – humans (11) _____ millions of cells every day. A much smaller proportion comes from dust and soil carried into the house from (12) _____.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| (1)
a) importantly
b) crucially
c) considerably
d) seriously | (5)
a) house
b) domestic
c) homely
d) internal | (9)
a) concepts
b) manufactures
c) markets
d) copyrights |
| (2)
a) ritual
b) result
c) resolution
d) scheme | (6)
a) fabrication
b) appearing
c) recreation
d) development | (10)
a) trash
b) rubbish
c) earth
d) dirt |
| (3)
a) cleaned
b) taken
c) beaten
d) sucked | (7)
a) laborious
b) similar
c) nefarious
d) messy | (11)
a) lose
b) outgrow
c) omit
d) shed |
| (4)
a) products
b) concepts
c) ideals
d) developments | (8)
a) scientific
b) forward
c) technological
d) advanced | (12)
a) external
b) outside
c) beyond
d) indoors |

Reading Passage II

Directions: For each blank space, choose the best answer from the choices given below. Be sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet.

In 1830, there were under 100 miles of public railway in Britain. Yet within 20 years, this (13) _____ had grown to more than 5,000 miles. By the end of the century, almost enough rail track to (14) _____ the world covered this small island, altering the nature of travel for ever and contributing to the industrial revolution that changed the (15) _____ of history in many parts of the world.

Wherever railways were introduced, economic and social progress quickly (16) _____. In a single day, rail passengers could travel hundreds of miles, (17) _____ previous journey times by huge margins and bringing rapid travel within the (18) _____ of ordinary people. Previously, many people had never ventured (19) _____ the outskirts of their towns and villages. The railway brought them freedom and enlightenment.

In the 19th century, the railway in Britain (20) _____ something more than just the business of carrying goods and passengers. Trains were associated with romance, adventure and, frequently, (21) _____ luxury. The great steam locomotives that thundered across the land were the jet airliners of their (22) _____, carrying passengers in comfort over vast distances in unimaginably short times.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| (13)
a) level
b) figure
c) sum
d) quantity | (17)
a) cancelling
b) subtracting
c) cutting
d) abolishing | (21)
a) considerable
b) generous
c) plentiful
d) sizeable |
| (14)
a) revolve
b) enclose
c) encircle
d) orbit | (18)
a) reach
b) capacity
c) facility
d) hold | (22)
a) date
b) stage
c) day
d) phase |
| (15)
a) route
b) way
c) line
d) course | (19)
a) further
b) over
c) beyond
d) above | |
| (16)
a) pursued
b) followed
c) succeeded
d) chased | (20)
a) worked
b) functioned
c) represented
d) performed | |

Reading Passage III

Directions: Read the text below. Then answer the questions for Reading Passage III. Choose the best answer for each question. Be sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet.

Mesa Verde is the centre of the prehistoric Anasazi culture. It is located in the high plateau lands near Four Corners in the U.S. Southwest, where Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona come together. The climate in this region is dry, but at the bottom of deeply cut canyons, seeps, springs, and tiny streams can be found. These provided the water for the Anasazi crops of corn, beans, squash, tobacco, and cotton. Farming was the main business of these people, but the Anasazi domesticated the wild turkey, hunted deer, rabbits, and mountain sheep, and gathered wild plants.

For a thousand years the Anasazi lived at Mesa Verde. These Native Americans were not related to the Navajos, who came to the area long after the Anasazi. However, because no one knows what the Anasazi actually called themselves, they are commonly called by their Navajo name, which means "the ancient ones" in the Navajo language.

The first Anasazi people, who are called the Basket Makers by archaeologists, came to the area around 550. This formerly nomadic group began to live a more settled life. They built underground dwellings called pit houses. These were clustered into small villages, mostly on top of mesas but occasionally on ledges on the walls of the cliffs that formed the Mesa.

Over the next 300 years, the Anasazi made rapid technological progress, including the refinement of basket making, pottery making, jewellery making, leather working, and weaving. This period of development was known as the Early Pueblo Period. In about 850, they began building houses above ground. At first these houses were made of poles and mud, but later they were made of sandstone.

The Great Pueblo Period (1100-1300) was Mesa Verde's classic age. The population grew to about 5,000. The Anasazi's level of technology continued to rise. Around 1200, there was another major population shift. The Anasazi moved from the mesa tops to the ledges on the steep sides of cliffs where some of their ancestors had lived centuries earlier.

On these ledges, the Anasazi built two- and three-story dwellings made of sandstone blocks held together with mortar made of mud. There were no doors on the first floors, and people had to use ladders to get into the buildings. Rooms averaged about six feet by nine feet (two meters by three meters). Smaller, isolated rooms were used for crop storage. The largest village (Cliff Palace) had 217 rooms. Winding paths, ladders, and steps cut in the stone led from the villages to the valley below. One might surmise that these settlements were built on the cliffs for protection, but the Anasazi had no known enemies, and there is no sign of warfare.

A bigger mystery is why the Anasazi occupied their villages for such a short time. By 1300 Mesa Verde was deserted. It is generally thought that the Anasazi abandoned their settlements because of a prolonged drought, overpopulation, crop failure, or some combination of these. They probably moved southward and were incorporated into the pueblo villages that the Spanish explorers encountered two hundred years later. Their descendants may still live in the Southwest.

Questions for Reading Passage III

- (23) The passage does NOT mention that the Anasazi hunted
- a) sheep
 - b) turkeys
 - c) deer
 - d) rabbit
- (24) The name that the Anasazi used for themselves
- a) means "Basket Maker" in the language of the Navajo
 - b) was given to them by archaeologists
 - c) is unknown today
 - d) means "Ancient Ones" in the Anasazis' own language
- (25) How long did the Early Pueblo Period last?
- a) 200 years
 - b) 300 years
 - c) 550 years
 - d) 1,000 years
- (26) Where did the Anasazi move during the Great Pueblo Period?
- a) To pueblo villages in the south
 - b) Onto the tops of the mesa
 - c) Onto the floors of the canyon
 - d) To settlements on the ledges of cliff walls
- (27) During the Great Pueblo Period, Anasazi houses were mainly made of
- a) wood
 - b) mud
 - c) sandstone
 - d) plaster
- (28) According to the passage, the Anasazi entered their buildings
- a) by means of ladders
 - b) from underground chambers
 - c) by means of stone stairways
 - d) through doors on the first floor
- (29) According to the passage, the LEAST likely reason that the Anasazi abandoned Mesa Verde was
- a) drought
 - b) overpopulation
 - c) war
 - d) crop failure

Reading Passage IV

Directions: Read the text below. Then answer the questions for Reading Passage IV. Choose the best answer for each question. Be sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet.

Manufactured in the tranquil New England town of Concord, New Hampshire, the famous Concord Coach came to symbolize the Old West. Its rugged body and a suspension system made of leather straps could handle the hard jolts from rough roads. A journalist describing a railroad shipment of thirty coaches bound for Wells, Fargo and Company wrote, "They are superbly decorated ... the bodies red and the running parts yellow. Each door is painted, mostly with landscapes, and no two coaches are exactly alike."

Wells, Fargo and Company was founded in 1852 to provide mail and banking services for the gold camps of California and later won a monopoly on express services west of the Mississippi. A Wells, Fargo Concord Coach carried nine to fourteen passengers as well as baggage and mail. The accommodations were by no means plush. However, while conditions may have been primitive and service not always prompt, the stagecoach was still the fastest method of travel through much of the Far West.

Questions for Reading Passage IV

- (30) The word "tranquil" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) busy
 - b) industrial
 - c) peaceful
 - d) tiny
- (31) The word "symbolize" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) fulfil
 - b) represent
 - c) deny
 - d) transform
- (32) Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word "rugged" in the passage?
- a) streamlined
 - b) roomy
 - c) sturdy
 - d) dangerous
- (33) In the passage, the word "jolts" is closest in meaning to
- a) shocks
 - b) injuries
 - c) signs
 - d) accidents
- (34) The phrase "bound for" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) belonged to
 - b) headed for
 - c) built by
 - d) owned by

- (35) In the passage, the word “superbly” is closest in meaning to
- a) occasionally
 - b) surprisingly
 - c) professionally
 - d) wonderfully
- (36) In the passage, the word “plush” is closest in meaning to
- a) inexpensive
 - b) clean
 - c) convenient
 - d) luxurious
- (37) In the passage, the word “primitive” is closest in meaning to
- a) costly
 - b) dusty
 - c) dirty
 - d) basic
- (38) The word or phrase closest in meaning to “prompt” in the passage is
- a) polite
 - b) on time
 - c) available
 - d) at risk

Reading Passage V

Directions: Read the text below. Then answer the questions for Reading Passage V. Choose the best answer for each question. Be sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet.

Probably the world's most famous geyser is Old Faithful, located in the Upper Geyser Basin in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. There are over 300 geysers in the Basin, the largest concentration of geysers in the world, and over 700 in Yellowstone Park. Before the earthquake of 1959, Old Faithful's eruptions came almost like clockwork, every 60 to 65 minutes. Since that earthquake, eruptions have been as few as 30 minutes apart or as long as 120 minutes apart.

An eruption of Old Faithful is a spectacular sight, one which has been drawing tourists to Yellowstone since the 1870's. The geyser usually gives a warning: a short burst of steam. Then a graceful jet of steam and boiling water rises up to 180 feet (60 meters) in the air, unfurling in the sunlight with the colours of the rainbow playing across it. Each eruption lasts from one and a half to five minutes. When it erupts, it sprays up to 8,400 gallons (32,000 litres) of water in the air.

The eruption is only the visible part of the spectacle. In order for a geyser to erupt, there are four necessary conditions that must exist. First, there must be an abundant supply of water. Old Faithful is supplied with water from ground-water and rainfall, but other geysers in Yellowstone are partly supplied from creeks and rivers.

Second, there must be a heat source. All geyser fields are located over recently active volcanic areas. In the Upper Geyser Basin, a steady supply of heat is provided by hot spots of molten lava as little as two miles (5 kilometres) below the surface. When water trickles down to the hot spots, it heats up.

However, the water would never be ejected from the geysers with such tremendous force if it were not for geyserite, a material that is mainly composed of the mineral silicon dioxide. The presence of geyserite is the third necessary condition. Geyserite is dissolved from the rocks and deposited on the walls of the geyser's plumbing system and around the surface of the geyser. These deposits make the plumbing system pressure-tight. This allows the water to be carried all the way to the surface rather than leaking out into the loose rock, sand, and soil that surrounds the plumbing system.

The final condition is a special underground plumbing system. Geysers have various types of plumbing systems, but all have a narrow spot, a constriction point near the surface. The water in this narrow spot acts like a valve or a lid that allows pressure to build up in the water below, causing the eruption. A geological feature that has water, geyserite, and heat but no special plumbing will be a hot spring, not a geyser. Geologists studying Old Faithful theorized that, unlike many other geysers, it had a relatively simple plumbing system composed of an underground reservoir connected to the surface by a long, narrow tube that grows even narrower near the surface. In 1992, a probe equipped with a video camera and heat sensors was lowered into the geyser and confirmed the existence of a constriction, a narrow shaft, and a cavern about the size of a large automobile 45 feet (15 meters) beneath the surface.

Questions for Reading Passage V

- (39) The author implies in paragraph 1 that the earthquake of 1959 made Old Faithful geyser erupt
- a) more violently
 - b) less regularly
 - c) more often
 - d) less spectacularly
- (40) It can be inferred from the information in paragraph 1 that
- a) there are some geysers in Yellowstone Park that are not in Upper Geyser Basin
 - b) geysers are always found in groups, never individually
 - c) some of the geysers in Upper Geyser Basin are not actually in Yellowstone Park
 - d) the most spectacular geysers are not located in Yellowstone Park
- (41) What can be inferred about the material geyserite?
- a) Water does not pass through it easily.
 - b) It is found in geysers, but not in any other formations.
 - c) Yellowstone Park is the only place where it is found.
 - d) It is found only deep in the Earth.
- (42) The passage implies that Old Faithful would not erupt at all if
- a) there had not been an earthquake in 1959
 - b) the plumbing system were not surrounded by loose rock, sand, and soil
 - c) the level of the streams and rivers in Yellowstone Park suddenly dropped
 - d) there were not a narrow point in its plumbing system
- (43) We can infer from paragraph 6 that, compared to Faithful, many other geysers
- a) are more famous
 - b) shoot water much higher in the air
 - c) have more complicated plumbing systems
 - d) have much smaller reservoirs
- (44) The author implies that the probe that was lowered into Old Faithful in 1992 showed that
- a) it was very difficult to investigate geysers
 - b) confirmed that the geologists' theory about Old Faithful was correct
 - c) indicated that Old Faithful's plumbing system was more complex than was thought
 - d) made some very surprising discoveries

Reading Passage VI

Directions: Read the text below. Then answer the questions for Reading Passage VI. Choose the best answer for each question. Be sure to mark your answers on the answer sheet.

The principles of visual art are the rules, tools and techniques that artists use to organize the elements of art in an artwork. When successfully combined with the elements of art **they** aid in creating an aesthetically pleasing or interesting work of art.

Design is the arrangement of materials to produce artistic or functional effects. Design plays a role in visual arts as well as in the creation of commercial products. Designers are concerned with the direction of lines, the size of shapes, and the shading of colours. **They** arrange these patterns in ways that are satisfying to viewers. Various elements are involved in creating a pleasing design.

Harmony, or balance, can be obtained in a number of ways. It may be either symmetrical (in balance) or asymmetrical (out of balance, but still pleasing to the eye). Or a small area may balance a large area if it has an importance to the eye (because of bright colour, for example) which equals **that** of the larger area.

Contrast is the opposite of harmony. The colours red and orange harmonize, since orange contains red. A circle and an oval harmonize because **both** are made up of curved lines. But a short line does not harmonize with a long line. **It** is in contrast.

Unity occurs when all the elements in a design combine to form a consistent whole. Unity resembles balance. A design has balance if its masses are balanced, or if its tones and colours harmonize. But unity differs from balance because **it** implies that balanced elements work together to form harmony in the design as a whole.

Questions for Reading Passage VI

- (45) The word “they” in paragraph 1 refers to
- a) the artists
 - b) the techniques
 - c) the principles of visual art
 - d) the tools
- (46) The word “They” in the second paragraph of the passage refers to
- a) lines, shapes, and colours
 - b) commercial products
 - c) designers
 - d) visual arts
- (47) The word “that” in the passage refers to
- a) a colour
 - b) an area
 - c) importance
 - d) balance
- (48) The word “both” in the passage is a reference to
- a) contrast and harmony
 - b) orange and red
 - c) a curved line and a straight line
 - d) an oval and a circle
- (49) The word “It” in paragraph 4 refers to
- a) a short line
 - b) the colour red
 - c) a long line
 - d) a curved line
- (50) The word “it” in paragraph 5 refers to
- a) balance
 - b) unity
 - c) a design
 - d) a consistent whole