

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.

There are only eight species of sea turtles (1)_____ the world. Turtles rank high among the world's most (2)_____ species and, unfortunately, their continued existence is very much (3)_____. In many areas, people consume turtle meat and eggs, and their oil is used in the cosmetics industry. Their shells are in much (4)_____, in particular to make combs and spectacle frames. Moreover, many turtles also drown accidentally because they get (5)_____ in fishing nets set out by deep-sea trawlers or fishing boats. Bits of plastic are often (6)_____ for their favourite food, jellyfish, and they (7)_____ the turtle's breathing and digestive passages when swallowed.

Most species of sea turtles are much larger than their land relatives. Sea or marine turtles, unlike land turtles, cannot retract their heads completely (8)_____ their shells. They have a compressed streamlined shell and broad flattened forelimbs for paddling. They usually (9)_____ over 500 kilograms and the span of their forelimbs is over three meters.

Turtles are found all around the world. Most migrate over long (10)_____ to reach their favoured breeding sites. Turtles can dive down to depths of over 1,500 meters. Turtles breathe air, but they can spend as much as three hours (11)_____. They prefer open water, but are occasionally (12)_____ close to reefs. Sea turtles are mainly carnivores and mostly feed on jellyfish, sponges, soft corals, crabs, squids and fish.

Questions for Reading Passage I

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| (1)
a) over
b) throughout
c) existing
d) present | (5)
a) merged
b) engaged
c) mixed
d) entangled | (9)
a) carry
b) weigh
c) measure
d) mass |
| (2)
a) extinct
b) famous
c) endangered
d) oldest | (6)
a) understood
b) tricked
c) eaten
d) mistaken | (10)
a) time
b) areas
c) periods
d) distances |
| (3)
a) threatened
b) secured
c) helpless
d) destitute | (7)
a) overpower
b) smother
c) subjugate
d) obstruct | (11)
a) swimming
b) breathing
c) submerged
d) waterlogged |
| (4)
a) need
b) demand
c) desired
d) wanted | (8)
a) into
b) from
c) within
d) over | (12)
a) conspicuous
b) encountered
c) exposed
d) situated |

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.

The earliest lighthouses were simply bonfires built on hillsides to (13)_____ ships. The first lighthouse, (14)_____ on the ancient island of Pharos, served the ancient city of Alexandria in 285 BC. Of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Lighthouse of Alexandria was the only one that had a practical (15)_____ in addition to its architectural elegance. For sailors, it ensured a safe return to the Great Harbour. For architects, it was the tallest building on earth at its time. And for scientists, it was the mysterious mirror that (16)_____ them most. The (17)_____ of the sun's rays could be seen 50 kilometres offshore. Legend has it that the mirror was also used to detect and burn enemy ships before they could (18)_____ ashore.

Shortly after the death of Alexander the Great, his commander Ptolemy Soter assumed power and established his capital in Alexandria. Off the city's coast lay the small island of Pharos. Due to the dangerous sailing conditions, the construction of a lighthouse was seen as being (19)_____.

The project was begun by Ptolemy Soter around 290 B.C. but was only completed (20)_____ his death, during the reign of his son, Ptolemy Philadelphus. For centuries, the Lighthouse of Alexandria was used to mark the harbour, using fire at night and the sun's rays during the day. It was even shown on Roman coins, just as (21)_____ monuments are depicted on currency today. Although the Lighthouse of Alexandria did not (22)_____ to this present day, it left behind its influence. From an architectural standpoint, the monument has been used as a (23)_____ for many prototypes along the Mediterranean.

Questions for Reading Passage II

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| (13)
a) sail
b) navigate
c) guide
d) illuminate | (17)
a) shining
b) reflection
c) image
d) sight | (21)
a) infamous
b) famous
c) traditional
d) notorious |
| (14)
a) sited
b) cited
c) sighted
d) sight | (18)
a) come
b) reach
c) land
d) make | (22)
a) survive
b) exist
c) persevere
d) persist |
| (15)
a) idea
b) need
c) function
d) requirement | (19)
a) difficult
b) necessary
c) laborious
d) coherent | (23)
a) hypothesis
b) test
c) model
d) sample |
| (16)
a) taught
b) wondered
c) fascinated
d) marvelled | (20)
a) before
b) upon
c) after
d) causing | |

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.

Most people can remember a phone number for up to thirty seconds. When this short amount of time elapses, however, the numbers are erased from the memory. How did the information get there in the first place? Information that makes its way to the short-term memory (STM) does so via the sensory storage area. The brain has a filter which only allows stimuli that is of immediate interest to pass on to the STM, also known as the working memory.

There is much debate about the capacity and duration of short-term memory. The most accepted theory comes from George A. Miller, a cognitive psychologist who suggested that humans can remember approximately seven chunks of information. A chunk is defined as a meaningful unit of information, such as a word or name rather than just a letter or number. Modern theorists suggest that one can increase the capacity of the short-term memory by 'chunking' or classifying similar information together. By organizing information, one can optimize the STM, and improve the chances of a memory being passed on to long term storage.

When making a conscious effort to memorize something, such as information for an exam, many people engage in "rote rehearsal". By repeating something over and over again, one is able to keep a memory alive. Unfortunately, this type of memory maintenance only succeeds if there are no interruptions. As soon as a person stops rehearsing the information, it has the tendency to disappear. When a pen and paper are not handy, people often attempt to remember a phone number by repeating it aloud. If the doorbell rings or the dog barks to come in before a person has the opportunity to make a phone call, he will likely forget the number instantly. Therefore, rote rehearsal is not an efficient way to pass information from the short-term to long-term memory. A better way is to practice "elaborate rehearsal". This involves assigning semantic meaning to a piece of information so that it can be filed along with other pre-existing long-term memories.

Encoding information semantically also makes it more retrievable. Retrieving information can be done by recognition or recall. Humans can easily recall memories that are stored in the long-term memory and used often; however, if a memory seems to be forgotten, it may eventually be retrieved by prompting. The more cues a person is given (such as pictures), the more likely a memory can be retrieved. This is why multiple-choice tests are often used for subjects that require a lot of memorization.

Questions for Reading Passage III

(24) According to the passage, how do memories get transferred to the STM?

- a) They revert from the long-term memory.
- b) They are filtered from the sensory storage area.
- c) They get chunked when they enter the brain.
- d) They enter via the nervous system.

(25) All of the following are mentioned as places in which memories are stored except the:

- a) STM
- b) Long-term memory
- c) sensory storage area
- d) maintenance area

(26) Why does the author mention a dog's bark?

- a) To give an example of a type of memory.
- b) To provide an example of a type of interruption.
- c) To prove that dogs have better memories than humans.
- d) To compare it to another sound that is loud like a doorbell.

(27) How do theorists believe a person can remember more information in a short time?

- a) By organizing it.
- b) By repeating it.
- c) By giving it a name.
- d) By drawing it an example of a type of memory.

(28) The author believes that rote rotation is:

- a) the best way to remember something.
- b) more efficient than chunking.
- c) ineffective in the long run.
- d) an unnecessary interruption.

(29) Which of the following is not supported by the passage?

- a) The working memory is the same as the short-term memory.
- b) A memory is kept alive through constant repetition.
- c) Cues help people to recognize information.
- d) Multiple-choice exams are the most difficult.

(30) Which of the following is not true about memorising phone numbers?

- a) Most people can only remember a phone number for thirty seconds.
- b) Most people can remember only seven digits at a time.
- c) People often repeat phone numbers out loud when there is no pen and paper available.
- d) Distractions can cause people to forget numbers learned by rote rehearsal.

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.

Conservatism is a political and social philosophy promoting traditional social institutions in the context of culture and civilization. The central tenets of conservatism include tradition, human imperfection, organic society, hierarchy, authority, and property rights. Conservatives seek to preserve a range of institutions such as religion, parliamentary government, and property rights, with the aim of emphasizing social stability and continuity. The more traditional elements – reactionaries – oppose modernism and seek a return to "the way things were".

The first established use of the term in a political context originated in 1818 with François-René de Chateaubriand during the period of Bourbon Restoration that sought to roll back the policies of the French Revolution. Historically associated with right-wing politics, the term has since been used to describe a wide range of views. There is no single set of policies regarded as conservative because the meaning of conservatism depends on what is considered traditional in a given place and time. Thus conservatives from different parts of the world – each upholding their respective traditions – may disagree on a wide range of issues. Edmund Burke, an 18th-century politician who opposed the French Revolution but supported the American Revolution, is credited as one of the main theorists of conservatism in Great Britain in the 1790s.

Questions for Reading Passage IV

(31) The word ‘promoting’ in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) opposing
- b) supporting
- c) rejecting
- d) applying

(32) The word ‘tenets’ in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) proposals
- b) suggestions
- c) beliefs
- d) distribution

(33) The word ‘seek’ in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) search
- b) equalise
- c) desire
- d) aim

(34) The word ‘range’ in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) variety
- b) distance
- c) choice
- d) item

(35) The word 'established' in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) unofficial
- b) definite
- c) common
- d) regular

(36) The phrase 'roll back' in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) undo
- b) advance
- c) improve
- d) destroy

(37) The phrase 'associated with' in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) opposite to
- b) connected with
- c) joined with
- d) taken from

(38) The word 'regarded' in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) known
- b) considered
- c) disavowed
- d) assumed

(39) The word 'upholding' in the passage is closest in meaning to

- a) accepting
- b) preserving
- c) spreading
- d) enforcing

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.

The Asian carp fish was introduced to American waters during the 1970s. Southern fish farmers began importing them to help clean their ponds. Asian carp are phenomenal cleaners. Unfortunately, it didn't take too long for them to escape from these ponds, perhaps from flooding, and get into the Mississippi River. From there they have followed their natural tendency to swim upstream. This tendency may lead them into the Great Lakes and Canada, a nightmare scenario for fisherman.

Asian carp are large fish. One species, the silver carp, can grow to be 100 pounds. But despite their size, they feed from the bottom of the food chain. That means that they eat plankton and algae. A one-hundred-pound fish can eat an awful lot of sea scum, and some of it is toxic. The carp are resistant to the toxins, but we aren't. Some Asian carp are hazardous to eat because they have so many algal toxins in their systems. They also have lots of tiny bones in their meat, which makes them difficult to prepare. Asian carp is not a popular delicacy.

Introducing the Asian carp into waters that have not known them can be devastating. Beneath the surface of the water is a unique ecosystem. This system rests delicately on a balance that has evolved over millions of years. Then along come these big, hungry bottom feeders to mess up everything. They breed rapidly and densely populate the waters. Worse still, they compete with the native bottom feeders. The native bottom feeders are smaller. Larger, tastier fish like salmon eat them. The native bottom feeders are an important part of the ecosystem. When the Asian carp outperform them, the whole food chain suffers, all the way up to the people.

In 2007, the U.S. Department of the Interior declared all silver carp to be an injurious species. In 2010, the State of Michigan passed the \$30 million CARPACT. In 2012, Congress approved the "Stop Invasive Species" Act, which was legislation written solely to protect the Great Lakes from Asian carp. The government has been on the offensive against these large-bellied invaders.

But Asian carp are difficult to catch. Since they eat from the bottom, they do not go for lures or baits like most large fish. The best way to stop them is to keep them out. The Great Lakes are connected to the Mississippi River through the 28-mile Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. For Chicagoans, it is the final point of resistance.

A series of multimillion-dollar electrical barriers have been built along the canal. The barriers are effective at keeping adult carp at bay, but some fear that baby carp may pass through. The United States Army Corps of Engineers has even been deployed. In 2009, they poisoned the entire canal with rotenone, a chemical that kills fish. This \$3 million operation netted over 90 tons of dead fish, but just a single carp.

Some think that Great Lakes must be cut off from the Mississippi River. The Michigan Attorney General has sued to have the canal closed. The Ontario government and some Great Lake states have also taken legal action. But the courts have been persuaded by the value of the canal as a shipping conduit thus far. In the meantime, the barriers continue to hold, but how long can they? The carp have the Great Lakes under siege. Is this a war we are destined to lose?

Questions for Reading Passage V

- (40) Which statement best expresses the main idea of the first paragraph?
- a) Asian carp were brought to America during the 1970s to assist Southern fish farmers.
 - b) Asian carp are remarkable cleaners, which makes them highly desirable fish to have.
 - c) Asian carp were supposed to clean ponds, but they escaped and are headed north.
 - d) Asian carp are excellent at swimming upstream and cleaning up plankton.
- (41) Which is not a reason why Asian carp is an unpopular menu item?
- a) It is hard to prepare because of all the little bones.
 - b) They are a very fattening fish.
 - c) Some of them are toxic and unsafe to eat.
 - d) They are bottom feeders.
- (42) Which statement would the author most likely disagree with?
- a) Asian carp outperform many native bottom feeders.
 - b) Asian carp could disrupt the ecosystem in Lake Michigan.
 - c) One species of Asian carp is the silver carp.
 - d) Asian carp are disliked because they eat salmon.
- (43) What does this article suggest might be the best technique for dealing with adult Asian carp?
- a) Using poison.
 - b) Using bait and lures to catch them.
 - c) Using electrical barriers.
 - d) Using nets.
- (44) According to information in the article, which event happened last?
- a) Asian carp started moving up the Mississippi River.
 - b) The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal was poisoned with rotenone.
 - c) Asian carp were introduced to southern fish farms.
 - d) Congress approved the "Stop Invasive Species" Act.
- (45) Which statement would the author most likely agree with?
- a) The electric barriers will keep the Asian carp out of the Great Lakes forever.
 - b) The Great Lake states agree fully on a solution to the Asian carp problem.
 - c) Closing the Chicago Sanitary and Ship canal would have little economic impact.
 - d) It would be best for the fishing industry if the canal were closed permanently.

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.

There are many different types of flamingo, despite appearances that may initially seem similar; for example, the American flamingo exhibits a more reddish hue, unlike its cousins elsewhere in the world – such as the greater flamingo or Chilean flamingo – which are generally pinker. **They** develop this somewhat different colour due to a mild variety in their diet.

Flamingos have become popular amongst people all over the world due to their attractive appearance and unique living habits, as well as for ornithologists who have a scientific interest in the birds. **The group** is not, however, unique in its practice of standing in water for significant amounts of time.

Despite their famous plumage, the pink and red colour is not something the birds are born with, unlike in the cases of other species; **this** is actually achieved through food sources. It is commonly believed that the grey colour of baby flamingos was simply due to immaturity and they then changed colour with age, but experts have found it is actually due to the copious amounts of shrimp that they eat, which contains carotenoid. **It** is, in fact, also responsible for the colour of carrots.

Flamingos have become a popular choice for artwork, toys and ornaments – indeed, plastic flamingos became an icon for the American garden decorations of the 1950s. **These** are now considered somewhat unsightly due to their bright pink colour, but mugs, pillows and toys remain a common sight in households all over the world.

Questions for Reading Passage VI

(46) The highlighted word ‘They’ in the passage refers to

- a) flamingos
- b) the Chilean flamingo
- c) the American flamingo
- d) the greater flamingo

(47) The highlighted words ‘The group’ refers to

- a) ornithologists
- b) flamingo enthusiasts
- c) flamingos
- d) scientists

(48) The highlighted word ‘this’ refers to

- a) the birth of flamingos
- b) the colour of flamingos
- c) the colour of other birds
- d) the finding of food for flamingos

(49) The highlighted word 'It' refers to

- a) the diet of flamingos
- b) the plumage of baby flamingos
- c) shrimp
- d) carotenoid

(50) The highlighted word 'These' refers to

- a) plastic flamingos
- b) garden decorations
- c) artwork
- d) toys and ornaments