

**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.*

Stories about how people somehow know when they are being watched have been going around for years. However, few (1)\_\_\_\_\_ have been made to investigate the phenomenon scientifically. Now, with the completion of the largest ever study of the so-called “staring effect”, there is impressive evidence that this is a recognisable and (2)\_\_\_\_\_ sixth sense. The study (3)\_\_\_\_\_ hundreds of children. For the experiments, they sat with their eyes (4)\_\_\_\_\_ so they could not see, and with their backs to other children, who were told to either stare at them or look away. Time and time again the results showed that the children who could not see were able to (5)\_\_\_\_\_ when they were being stared at. In a total of more than 18,000 trials (6)\_\_\_\_\_ worldwide, the children (7)\_\_\_\_\_ sensed when they were being watched almost 70% of the time.

The experiment was subsequently repeated with the (8)\_\_\_\_\_ precaution of putting the children who were being watched outside the room, (9)\_\_\_\_\_ from those staring at them by some windows. This was done just in case there was some (10)\_\_\_\_\_ going on with the children telling each other whether they were looking or not. This eliminated the possibility of sounds being (11)\_\_\_\_\_ between the children. The results of this second study, though less impressive, were more or less the same as those of the first. Dr Sheldrake, the biologist who designed the research, believes that the results are (12)\_\_\_\_\_ enough to find out through further experiments precisely how the staring effect might actually come about.

**Questions for Reading Passage I**

- |              |                |                |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| (1)          | (5)            | (9)            |
| a) tries     | a) find        | a) separated   |
| b) tests     | b) notice      | b) parted      |
| c) attempts  | c) tell        | c) split       |
| d) aims      | d) reveal      | d) divided     |
| (2)          | (6)            | (10)           |
| a) genuine   | a) worked over | a) pretending  |
| b) desired   | b) taken on    | b) lying       |
| c) received  | c) carried on  | c) cheating    |
| d) sure      | d) carried out | d) deceiving   |
| (3)          | (7)            | (11)           |
| a) involved  | a) correctly   | a) delivered   |
| b) contained | b) exactly     | b) transported |
| c) comprised | c) thoroughly  | c) transmitted |
| d) enclosed  | d) perfectly   | d) distributed |
| (4)          | (8)            | (12)           |
| a) shaded    | a) attached    | a) satisfying  |
| b) wrapped   | b) added       | b) convincing  |
| c) masked    | c) connected   | c) concluding  |
| d) covered   | d) increased   | d) persuading  |

**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.*

People come to the small northern country of Scotland for many reasons, lured, perhaps, by the promise of spectacular (13)\_\_\_\_\_, friendly natives, and a vibrant arts scene. Some are searching for their family (14)\_\_\_\_\_ and others just want to get away from it all and, digging (15)\_\_\_\_\_ old memories from their English Literature classes of gallant heroes engaging in larger-than-life struggles, their (16)\_\_\_\_\_ wander to faraway lands, to somehow familiar yet different destinations. But what do they need to know about the country?

Scotland (17)\_\_\_\_\_ of an area of 30,418 square miles – so it's a fairly compact and "doable" country – with a population of about five million people – not too small, not too big. It is one of three countries that form the political (18)\_\_\_\_\_ called Great Britain, the other two being England and Wales, which, along with their fourth partner, Northern Ireland, becomes the United Kingdom (UK). However, the creation of an independent Scottish state is a (19)\_\_\_\_\_ political issue. In 2014, the Scottish electorate voted on whether or not to become independent, but ultimately opted to stay as part of the UK. Scotland is (20)\_\_\_\_\_ on three sides by water and on its fourth by England, which has had both advantages and disadvantages. Geographically speaking, the country can be (21)\_\_\_\_\_ into three broad areas, the Southern Uplands, the Central Lowlands, and the Highlands. Although the rugged Highlands (22)\_\_\_\_\_ about two-thirds of the land area, the (23)\_\_\_\_\_ majority of the population lives in the Central Belt between Glasgow, Scotland's largest city, and Edinburgh, Scotland's capital.

**Questions for Reading Passage II**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>(13)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) scene</li> <li>b) scenery</li> <li>c) view</li> <li>d) panorama</li> </ul> | <p>(17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) consists</li> <li>b) includes</li> <li>c) embraces</li> <li>d) comprises</li> </ul> | <p>(21)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) moved</li> <li>b) divided</li> <li>c) set</li> <li>d) reviewed</li> </ul>        |
| <p>(14)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) roots</li> <li>b) race</li> <li>c) basis</li> <li>d) source</li> </ul>     | <p>(18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) entirety</li> <li>b) entitle</li> <li>c) entry</li> <li>d) entity</li> </ul>        | <p>(22)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) take out</li> <li>b) take in</li> <li>c) take up</li> <li>d) take off</li> </ul> |
| <p>(15)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) off</li> <li>b) down</li> <li>c) on</li> <li>d) up</li> </ul>              | <p>(19)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) prominent</li> <li>b) stale</li> <li>c) antiquated</li> <li>d) neglected</li> </ul> | <p>(23)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) expansive</li> <li>b) vast</li> <li>c) expanding</li> <li>d) spacious</li> </ul> |
| <p>(16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) head</li> <li>b) brains</li> <li>c) spirits</li> <li>d) minds</li> </ul>   | <p>(20)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) bordered</li> <li>b) covered</li> <li>c) flooded</li> <li>d) met</li> </ul>         |  |

### **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.*

The US Articles of Confederation formed a war-time confederation of states with an extremely limited central government. The document was used by Congress to conduct business, direct the American Revolutionary War, conduct diplomacy with foreign nations, and deal with territorial issues and Native American relations.

At the time, the Continental Congress was a single chamber with a delegate from all of the thirteen original states. Yet the adoption of the Articles made few perceptible changes in the federal government, because it did little more than legalize what the Continental Congress had already been doing. That body was renamed the Congress of the Confederation, but Americans continued to call it the Continental Congress, since its organization remained the same.

The Articles envisioned a permanent confederation, but granted to the Congress—the only federal institution—little power to finance itself or to ensure that its resolutions were enforced. There was no president, no executive agencies, no judiciary and no tax base. The absence of a tax base meant that there was no way to pay off state and national debts from the war years except by requesting money from the states, which seldom arrived.

As the Confederation Congress attempted to govern the continually growing American states, delegates discovered that the limitations placed upon the central government rendered it ineffective at doing so. As the government's weaknesses became apparent, individuals began asking for changes to the Articles. Their hope was to create a stronger national government.

Initially, some states met to deal with their trade and economic problems. However, as more states became interested in changing the Articles, a meeting was set in Philadelphia on 25 May 1787. This became the Constitutional Convention. At the meeting it was quickly realized that changes would not work, and instead the entire Articles needed to be replaced. On 4 March 1789, the government under the Articles was replaced with the federal government under the Constitution. The new Constitution provided for a much stronger federal government by establishing a chief executive (the President), courts, and taxing powers, although the practice of states organizing part-time military forces rather than a regular army was maintained.

#### **Questions for Reading Passage III**

- (24) The Articles of Confederation were aimed at
- a) providing the American colonies with a strong, central government
  - b) loosely joining the states together
  - c) dictating fair and equal tax policies for each of the thirteen states
  - d) expanding the territory of the American colonists with the help of foreign powers
- (25) The Articles of Confederation were not used by Congress to
- a) govern military matters
  - b) direct foreign policy
  - c) dictate taxing powers
  - d) manage relations with indigenous peoples

- (26) The Articles made few changes in the federal government because
- a) they only changed the name of the Continental Congress
  - b) the thirteen states still refused to pay taxes
  - c) the country was still struggling with its economy
  - d) they only wrote into law the actions of the federal government
- (27) In this early form of American government, state and national debts were paid off by
- a) increasing taxes
  - b) demanding that states pay money to the government
  - c) borrowing money from state governments
  - d) borrowing money from foreign powers
- (28) The government struggled to control the country because
- a) limitations were placed upon it by the Articles
  - b) the country was growing too quickly
  - c) too many people were demanding changes
  - d) taxes were too low
- (29) At the meeting in Philadelphia, discussions were originally supposed to result in the Articles being
- a) replaced
  - b) disbanded
  - c) amended
  - d) abandoned
- (30) The new Constitution did not provide
- a) a judicial system
  - b) executive leadership
  - c) tax regulations
  - d) the formation of a professional army

### **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.*

The Liberal Party of Canada, colloquially known as the Grits, is the oldest federal political party in Canada. The party espouses the principles of liberalism and generally sits at the centre of the Canadian political spectrum. The Liberal Party is traditionally positioned to the left of the Conservative Party of Canada and to the right of the New Democratic Party (NDP).

The party has dominated federal politics for much of Canada's history, holding power for almost 69 years in the 20th century – more than any other party in a developed country – and as a result, it is sometimes referred to as Canada's "natural governing party".

During the beginning of the 21st century, the party lost a significant amount of support, to the benefit of both the Conservatives and the NDP. In the 2011 federal election, the Liberal Party had the worst showing in its history, capturing only 19 percent of the popular vote and 34 seats – becoming the third-place party in the House of Commons for the first time. In the 2015 federal election, the Liberal Party under Justin Trudeau returned to prominence with its best performance since the 2000 election, winning 39.5 percent of the popular vote and 184 seats, thus regaining a majority of seats in the House of Commons.

The principles of the Liberal Party are based on liberalism as defined by various liberal theorists and include individual freedom for present and future generations, responsibility and human dignity. When it formed the government from 1993 to 2006, it championed balanced budgets, and eliminated the budget deficit completely from the federal budget in 1995.

#### **Questions for Reading Passage IV**

- (31) The word 'colloquially' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) officially
  - b) also
  - c) informally
  - d) often
- (32) The word 'espouses' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) supports
  - b) rejects
  - c) likes
  - d) is married to
- (33) The word 'dominated' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) undermined
  - b) overpowered
  - c) controlled
  - d) buttressed

- (34) The phrase 'referred to as' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) called
  - b) compared to
  - c) reflected in
  - d) dismissed as
- (35) The word 'significant' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) indicative
  - b) reverent
  - c) relevant
  - d) large
- (36) The word 'showing' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) record
  - b) production
  - c) time
  - d) result
- (37) The word 'prominence' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) obscurity
  - b) focus
  - c) importance
  - d) control
- (38) The word 'defined' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) conjectured
  - b) known
  - c) expounded
  - d) inferred
- (39) The word 'championed' in the passage is closest in meaning to
- a) won
  - b) advocated
  - c) defeated
  - d) referenced

### 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.*

Chinese and Canadian scientists working in the Gobi Desert have stumbled across a series of 80-million-year-old dinosaur colonies – including one with a dozen 150-centimetre-long babies, and another with five tiny embryos. These perfectly preserved, uncrushed skeletons are now helping experts study the range of facial and other physical differences displayed by dinosaurs within a single species. Because all the babies are of the same colony, they are certain to be of the same species and must therefore have a common gene pool. Detailed examination is revealing marked differences between individual colony members, with some of them having broader or larger faces than others.

The new data emerging from this and related research have serious implications for dinosaur studies in general. In the past, differences in head size and shape have often led palaeontologists to conclude that they had discovered new species. But now that it is known that great physical variations can occur within a single dinosaur colony, experts fear that many of the 500 listed dinosaur species on the fossil record may not be separate species after all.

The Gobi Desert colony discovered is of a species of a vegetarian armoured dinosaur known as an ankylosaur. Finds so far include a large number of eggs, the babies, some adults and a group of embryos – each only 36 centimetres long. Excavations have provided snapshots of daily life in an ankylosaur colony, including what appears to have been an attack by a carnivorous dinosaur on the ankylosaur nest full of eggs. The fossilised predator is preserved lying on top of the egg-filled nest, and seems to have perished as a result of a sand storm which buried both the hunter and its prey.

The Sino-Canadian team excavating several Gobi sites has unearthed eggs belonging to numerous dinosaur species. Some appear to have produced the strangest of eggs in the strangest of ways. Ankylosaur eggs for example were neither round nor oval, but long and thin – around 180 centimetres long and 60 centimetres in diameter. Ankylosaur females seem to have laid them with great efficiency, two at a time. One extraordinary nest, containing thirty of these eggs, has yielded some clues about laying techniques. The eggs were arranged in the nest in a multi-layer spiral, resembling a pyramid. It seems that the female dug the nest with her hind legs, then laid pairs of eggs as she proceeded around it.

The team has also unearthed the skull and vertebrae of what seems to be the Old World's largest dinosaur. From the remains unearthed, palaeontologists have been able to calculate that the creature was 31 metres from head to tail – ten per cent longer than any other Old World dinosaur found so far. Related to a dinosaur called mamenchisaurus – but as yet unnamed in its own right – it lived around 140 million years ago, was vegetarian, weighed up to forty tonnes and would probably have walked at less than sixteen kilometres per hour.

China's dinosaur discoveries cover the entire epoch of dinosaur prevalence on Earth - from around 225 million to 65 million years ago. In the end they were wiped out by a natural disaster, possibly caused by meteorite impact. Detailed study from fossil material found in China, and in North America, is helping to prove that many of the later dinosaurs had comparatively large brains, mammal-style binocular vision and more complex behaviour than previously thought. They were not, it seems, always the dumb giants they are normally portrayed as being.

**Questions for Reading Passage V**

(40) The dinosaur findings mentioned in the first paragraph are yielding new information as

- a) they contain baby dinosaurs
- b) the skeletons are undamaged
- c) they are 80 million years old
- d) the dinosaurs are exceptionally large

(41) According to the second paragraph, what are the implications of dinosaur research?

- a) For the first time, head sizes and shapes can be studied.
- b) A new species has been identified.
- c) The estimated number of dinosaur species will need to be modified.
- d) The idea of how dinosaurs looked is being changed.

(42) Which of the following is true of the ankylosaur?

- a) It ate eggs as the basic part of its diet.
- b) It produced eggs of an unusual shape.
- c) Males and females incubated the eggs.
- d) It defended its eggs against attack.

(43) What did the ankylosaur do when producing its young?

- a) It improved on a nest already made by other dinosaur species.
- b) It used its back legs to produce a hole in the ground.
- c) It positioned its eggs carefully with the use of its front legs.
- d) It laid each egg on top of another.

(44) Scientists have discovered a large dinosaur which is

- a) about to be given a new name
- b) the biggest ever found outside America
- c) complete except for the head and tail
- d) not related to any other known dinosaur

(45) What do the recent Chinese discoveries of dinosaurs show?

- a) They lived for longer than had previously been thought.
- b) Their eyesight was different from what had been believed.
- c) Their large brains allowed them to move quickly.
- d) They declined gradually over a period of several centuries.

### **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.*

Since the end of the Second World War, international air travel has become increasingly widespread and available to people of all nations, this is a result of globalization, and tickets now being comparatively cheap and easy to buy thanks to widespread use of the internet. **It** is also far safer than it was as recently as three decades ago, thanks to improved regulations, better crew training and modern safety measures implemented by aircraft designers. **They** have made strident progress to all but eliminate the risk of fatal aviation accidents occurring. However, since 2001, terrorist activity has also become a deadly factor. The determination of terrorists to fulfil their heinous objectives to cause harm to airlines and their passengers can thwart even the most meticulous and safety-conscious engineer, **who** can often do little in the face of this new threat.

As part of a US government-directed initiative, some American airlines now have air marshals (armed law enforcement officers) serving alongside the pilots and crew aboard **their** aircraft, due to fears of the kind of hijacking attempts that were used on 9/11. The air marshals, who often have to fly thousands of miles per day with regular passengers, flight crew and pilots (although **these people** often travel in plain clothes), are part of a US federal law enforcement agency that has been praised as having the highest standards of pistol marksmanship.

#### **Questions for Reading Passage VI**

- (46) The highlighted word 'It' in the passage refers to
- a) the process of buying flight tickets
  - b) air travel
  - c) use of the internet
  - d) globalization
- (47) The highlighted word 'They' refers to
- a) aircraft engineers
  - b) better trained crews
  - c) modern safety measures
  - d) improved regulations
- (48) The highlighted word 'who' refers to
- a) terrorists
  - b) aircraft engineers
  - c) airlines
  - d) passengers

- (49) The highlighted word 'their' refers to
- a) the US government
  - b) the air marshals
  - c) airlines
  - d) pilots
- (50) The highlighted words 'these people' refers to
- a) air marshals
  - b) passengers
  - c) flight crew and pilots
  - d) hijackers