[PDF + Audio] Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Ebook with Answers

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Reading Test 1

PASSAGE 1

The kéképé

The kakapo is a nocturnal, flightless parrot that is critically endangered and one of New Zealand ‘s unique treasures.

The kakapo, also known as the owl parrot, is a large, forest-dwelling bird, with a pale owl-like face. Up to 64 cm in length, it has predominantly yellow-green feathers, forward-facing eyes, a large grey beak, large blue feet, and relatively short wings and tail. It is the world’s only flightless parrot, and is also possibly one of the world’s longest-living birds, with a reported lifespan of up to 100 years.

Kakapo are solitary birds and tend to occupy the same home range for many years. They forage on the ground and climb high into trees. They often leap from trees and flap their wings, but at best manage a controlled descent to the ground. They are entirely vegetarian, with their diet including the leaves, roots and bark of trees as well as bulbs, and fern fronds.

Kakapo breed in summer and autumn, but only in years when food is plentiful. Males play no part in incubation or chick-rearing - females alone incubate eggs and feed the chicks. The 1-4 eggs are laid in soil, which is repeatedly turned over before and during incubation. The female kakapo has to spend long periods away from the nest searching for food, which leaves the unattended eggs and chicks particularly vulnerable to predators.

Before humans arrived, kakapo were common throughout New Zealand’s forests. However, this all changed with the arrival of the first Polynesian settlers about 700 years ago. For the early settlers, the flightless kakapo was easy prey. They ate its meat and used its feathers to make soft cloaks. With them came the Polynesian dog and rat, which also preyed on kakapo. By the time European colonisers arrived in the early 1800s, kakapo had become confined to the central North Island and forested parts of the South Island. The fall in kakapo numbers was accelerated by European colonisation. A great deal of habitat was lost through forest clearance, and introduced species such as deer depleted the remaining forests of food. Other predators such as cats, stoats and two more species of rat were also introduced. The kakapo were in serious trouble.

In 1894, the New Zealand government launched its first attempt to save the kakapo. Conservationist Richard Henry led an effort to relocate several hundred of the birds to predator-free Resolution Island in Fiordland. Unfortunately, the island didn’t remain predator free – stoats arrived within six years, eventually destroying the kakapo population. By the mid-1900s, the kakapo was practically a lost species. Only a few clung to life in the most isolated parts of New Zealand.

From 1949 to 1973, the newly formed New Zealand Wildlife Service made over 60 expeditions to find kakapo, focusing mainly on Fiordland. Six were caught, but there were no females

amongst them and all but one died within a few months of captivity.

In 1974, a new initiative was launched, and by 1977, 18 more kakapo were found in Fiordland. However, there were still no females. In 1977, a large population of males was spotted in Rakiura – a large island free from stoats, ferrets and weasels. There were about 200 individuals, and in 1980 it was confirmed females were also present. These birds have been the foundation of all subsequent work in managing the species.

Unfortunately, predation by feral cats on Rakiura Island led to a rapid decline in kakapo numbers. As a result, during 1980-97, the surviving population was evacuated to three island sanctuaries: Codfish Island, Maud Island and Little Barrier Island. However, breeding success was hard to achieve. Rats were found to be a major predator of kakapo chicks, and an insufficient number of chicks survived to offset adult mortality. By 1995, although at least 12 chicks had been produced on the islands, only three had survived.

The kakapo population had dropped to 51 birds.

The critical situation prompted an urgent review of kakapo management in New Zealand. In 1996, a new Recovery Plan was launched, together with a specialist advisory group called the Kakapo Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee and a higher amount of funding. Renewed steps were taken to control predators on the three islands. Cats were eradicated from Little Barrier Island in 1980, and possums were eradicated from Codfish Island by 1986. However, the population did not start to increase until rats were removed from all three islands, and the birds were more intensively managed. This involved moving the birds between islands, supplementary feeding of adults, and rescuing and hand-raising any failing chicks.

After the first five years of the Recovery Plan, the population was on target. By 2000, five new females had been produced, and the total population had grown to 62 birds. For the first time, there was cautious optimism for the filture of kakapo, and by June 2020, a total of 210 birds was recorded.

Today, kakapo management continues to be guided by the kakapo Recovery Plan. Its key goals are: minimise the loss of genetic diversity in the kakapo population, restore or maintain sufficient habitat to accommodate the expected increase in the kakapo population, and ensure stakeholders continue to be fully engaged in the preservation of the species.

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Questions 1-6

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?

in boxes on your answer sheet, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

1 There are other parrots that share the kakapos inability to fly.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

2 Adult kakapo produce chicks every year.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

3 Adult male kakapo bring food back to nesting females.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

4 The Polynesian rat was a greater threat to the kakapo than Polynesian settlers.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

5 Kakapo were transferred from Rakiura Island to other locations because they were at risk from feral cats.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

6 One Recovery Plan initiative that helped increase the kakapo population size was caring for struggling young birds.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

Questions 7-13

Complete the notes below.

Choose **ONE WORD AND/OR NUMBER ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes on your answer sheet.

New Zealand's kakapo

A Type of parrot:

Diet consists of fern fronds, various parts of a tree and **7** _____

Nests are created in **8** _____ . where eggs are laid.

Arrival of Polynesian settlers

The **9** _____ of the kakapo were used to make clothes.

Arrival of European colonisers

10 _____ were an animal which they introduced that ate the kakapo's food sources.

Protecting kakapo

Richard Henry, a conservationist, tried to protect the kakapo.

A definite sighting of female kakapo on Rakiura Island was reported in the year

11 _____

The Recovery Plan included an increase in **12** _____

A current goal of the Recovery Plan is to maintain the involvement of **13** _____ in kakapo protection.

PASSAGE 2

To Britain

Mark Rowe investigates attempts to reintroduce elms to Britain

A. Around 25 million elms, accounting for 90% of all elm trees in the UK, died during the 1960s and ’70s of Dutch elm disease. In the aftermath, the elm, once so dominant in the British landscape, was largely forgotten. However, there’s now hope the elm may be reintroduced to the countryside of central and southern England. Any reintroduction will start from a very low base. ‘The impact of the disease is difficult to picture if you hadn’t seen what was there before,’ says Matt Elliot of the Woodland Trust. ‘You look at old photographs from the 1960s and it’s only then that you realise the impact [elms had]. They were significant, large trees then they were gone.’

B. The disease is caused by a fungus that blocks the elms’ vascular (water, nutrient and food transport) system, causing branches to wilt and die. A first epidemic, which occurred in the 1920s, gradually died down, but in the '70s a second epidemic was triggered by shipments of elm from Canada. The wood came in the form of logs destined for boat building and its intact bark was perfect for the elm bark beetles that spread the deadly fungus. This time, the beetles carried a much more virulent strain that destroyed the vast majority of British elms.

C. Today, elms still exist in the southern English countryside but mostly only in low hedgerows between fields. ‘We have millions of small elms in hedgerows but they get targeted by the beetle as soon as they reach a certain size,’ says Karen Russell, co-author of the report Where we are with elm. Once the trunk of the elm reaches 10-15 centimetres or so in diameter, it becomes a perfect size for beetles to lay eggs and for the fungus to take hold. Yet mature specimens have been identified, in counties such as Cambridgeshire, that are hundreds of years old, and have mysteriously escaped the epidemic.

The key, Russell says, is to identify and study those trees that have survived and work out why they stood tall when millions of others succumbed. Nevertheless, opportunities are limited as the number of these mature survivors is relatively small. 'What are the reasons for their survival?' asks Russell. 'Avoidance, tolerance, resistance? We don't know where the balance lies between the three. I don't see how it can be entirely down to luck.'

D. For centuries, elm ran a close second to oak as the hardwood tree of choice in Britain and was in many instances the most prominent tree in the landscape. Not only was elm common in European forests, it became a key component of birch, ash and hazel woodlands. The use of elm is thought to go back to the Bronze Age, when it was widely used for tools. Elm was also the preferred material for shields and early swords. In the 18th century, it was planted more widely and its wood was used for items such as storage crates and flooring. It was also suitable for items that experienced high levels of impact and was used to build the keel of the l9th-century sailing ship Cutty Sark as well as mining equipment.

E. Given how ingrained elm is in British culture, it's unsurprising the tree has many advocates. Amongst them is Peter Bourne of the National Elm Collection in Brighton. 'I saw Dutch elm disease unfold as a small boy,' he says. 'The elm seemed to be part of rural England, but I remember watching trees just lose their leaves and that really stayed with me.' Today, the city of Brighton's elms total about 17,000. Local factors appear to have contributed to their survival. Strong winds from the sea make it difficult for the determined elm bark beetle to attack this coastal city's elm population. However, the situation is precarious. 'The beetles can just march in if we're not careful, as the threat is right on our doorstep,' says Bourne.

F. Any prospect of the elm returning relies heavily on trees being either resistant to, or tolerant of, the disease. This means a widespread reintroduction would involve existing or new hybrid strains derived from resistant, generally non-native elm species. A new generation of seedlings have been bred and tested to see if they can withstand the fungus by cutting a small slit on the bark and in ecting a tiny amount of the pathogen. 'The effects are very quick,' says Russell. 'You return in four to six weeks and trees that are resistant show no symptoms, whereas those that are susceptible show leaf loss and may even have died completely.'

G. All of this raises questions of social acceptance, acknowledges Russell. 'If we're putting elm back into the landscape, a small element of it is not native - are we bothered about that?' For her, the environmental case for reintroducing elm is strong. 'They will host wildlife, which is a good thing.' Others are more wary. 'On the face of it, it seems like a good idea,' says Elliot. The problem, he suggests, is that, 'You're replacing a native species with a horticultural analogue. You're effectively cloning.' There's also the risk of introducing new diseases. Rather than plant new elms, the Woodland Trust emphasises providing space to those elms that have survived independently. 'Sometimes the best thing you can do is just give nature time to recover over time, you might get resistance,' says Elliot.

*horticultural analogue: a cultivated plant species that is genetically similar to an existing species.

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Questions 14-18

Reading Passage has seven paragraphs, **A–G.**

Which section contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, **A-G**, in boxes on your answer sheet.

NB You may use any letter more than once.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
14 Reference to the research problems that arise from there being only a few surviving large elms	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
15 Details of a difference of opinion about the value of reintroducing elms to Britain	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
16 Reference to how Dutch elm disease was brought into Britain	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
17 A description of the conditions that have enabled a location in Britain to escape Dutch elm disease	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
18 Reference to the stage at which young elms become vulnerable to Dutch elm disease	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Questions 19-23

Look at the following statements and the list of people below.

Match each statement with the correct person, **A, B, or C.**

NB You may use any letter more than once.

List of People:

A. Matt Elliot

B. Karen Russell

C. Peter Bourne

	A	B	C
19 If a tree gets infected with Dutch elm disease, the damage rapidly becomes visible	○	○	○
20 It may be better to wait and see if the mature elms that have survived continue to flourish	○	○	○
21 There must be an explanation for the survival of some mature elms	○	○	○
22 We need to be aware that insects carrying Dutch elm disease are not very far away	○	○	○
23 You understand the effect Dutch elm disease has had when you see evidence of how prominent the tree once was	○	○	○

Questions 24-26

Complete the summary below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Uses of a Popular Tree

For hundreds of years, the only tree that was more popular in Britain than elm was **24** _____. Starting in the Bronze Age, many tools were made from elm, and people also used it to make weapons. In the 18th century, it was grown to provide wood for boxes and **25** _____. Due to its strength, elm was often used for mining equipment, and the Cutty Sark's **26** _____ was also constructed from elm.

PASSAGE 3

How Stress Affects Our Judgement

Some of the most important decisions of our lives occur while we're feeling stressed and anxious. From medical decisions to financial and professional ones, we are all sometimes required to weigh up information under stressful conditions. But do we become better or worse at processing and using information under such circumstances?

My colleague and I, both neuroscientists, wanted to investigate how the mind operates under stress, so we visited some local fire stations. Firefighters' workdays vary quite a bit. Some are pretty relaxed, they'll spend their time washing the truck, cleaning equipment, cooking meals and reading. Other days can be hectic, with numerous life-threatening incidents to attend to, they'll enter burning homes to rescue trapped residents, and assist with medical emergencies. These ups and downs presented the perfect setting for an experiment on how people's ability to use information changes when they feel under pressure.

We found that perceived threat acted as a trigger for a stress reaction that made the task of processing information easier for the firefighters – but only as long as it conveyed bad news.

This is how we arrived at these results. We asked the firefighters to estimate their likelihood of experiencing 40 different adverse events in their life, such as being involved in an accident or becoming a victim of card fraud. We then gave them either good news (that their likelihood of experiencing these events was lower than they'd thought) or bad news (that it was higher) and asked them to provide new estimates.

People are normally quite optimistic -they will ignore bad news and embrace the good. This is what happened when the firefighters were relaxed, but when they were under stress, a different pattern emerged. Under these conditions, they became hyper-vigilant to bad news, even when it had nothing to do with their job (such as learning that the likelihood of card fraud was higher than they'd thought), and altered their beliefs in response. In contrast, stress didn't change how they responded to good news (such as learning that the likelihood of card fraud was lower than they'd thought).

Back in our lab, we observed the same pattern in students who were told they had to give a surprise public speech, which would be judged by a panel, recorded and posted online. Sure enough, their cortisol levels spiked, their heart rates went up and they suddenly became better at processing unrelated, yet alarming, information about rates of disease and violence.

When we experience stressful events, a physiological change is triggered that causes us to take in warnings and focus on what might go wrong. Brain imaging reveals that this 'switch' is related to a sudden boost in a neural signal important for learning, specifically in response to unexpected warning signs, such as faces expressing fear.

Such neural engineering could have helped prehistoric humans to survive. When our ancestors found themselves surrounded by hungry animals, they would have benefited from an increased ability to team about hazards. In a safe environment, however, it would have been wasteful to be

on high alert constantly. So, a neural switch that automatically increases or decreases our ability to process warnings in response to changes in our environment could have been useful. In fact, people with clinical depression and anxiety seem unable to switch away from a state in which they absorb all the negative messages around them.

It is also important to realise that stress travels rapidly from one person to the next. If a co-worker is stressed, we are more likely to tense up and feel stressed ourselves. We don't even need to be in the same room with someone for their emotions to influence our behaviour. Studies show that if we observe positive feeds on social media, such as images of a pink sunset, we are more likely to post uplifting messages ourselves. If we observe negative posts, such as complaints about a long queue at the coffee shop, we will in turn create more negative posts.

In some ways, many of us now live as if we are in danger, constantly ready to tackle demanding emails and text messages, and respond to news alerts and comments on social media. Repeatedly checking your phone, according to a survey conducted by the American Psychological Association, is related to stress. In other words, a pre-programmed physiological reaction, which evolution has equipped us with to help us avoid famished predators, is now being triggered by an online post. Social media posting, according to one study, raises your pulse, makes you sweat, and enlarges your pupils more than most daily activities.

The fact that stress increases the likelihood that we will focus more on alarming messages, together with the fact that it spreads extremely rapidly, can create collective fear that is not always justified. After a stressful public event, such as a natural disaster or major financial crash, there is often a wave of alarming information in traditional and social media, which individuals become very aware of. But that has the effect of exaggerating existing danger. And so, a reliable pattern emerges – stress is triggered, spreading from one person to the next, which temporarily enhances the likelihood that people will take in negative reports, which increases stress further. As a result, trips are cancelled, even if the disaster took place across the globe, stocks are sold, even when holding on is the best thing to do.

The good news, however, is that positive emotions, such as hope, are contagious too, and are powerful in inducing people to act to find solutions. Being aware of the close relationship between people's emotional state and how they process information can help us frame our messages more effectively and become conscientious agents of change.

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Questions 27-30

Choose the correct letter, **A, B, C or D.**

Write the correct letter in boxes on your answer sheet.

27 In the first paragraph, the writer introduces the topic of the text by

- **A** ○ defining some commonly used terms.
- **B** ○ questioning a widely held assumption.
- **C** ○ mentioning a challenge faced by everyone.
- **D** ○ specifying a situation which makes us most anxious.

28 What point does the writer make about firefighters in the second paragraph?

- **A** ○ The regular changes of stress levels in their working lives make them ideal study subjects.
- **B** ○ The strategies they use to handle stress are of particular interest to researchers.
- **C** ○ The stressful nature of their job is typical of many public service professions.
- **D** ○ Their personalities make them especially well-suited to working under stress.

29 What is the writer doing in the fourth paragraph?

- **A** ○ Explaining their findings
- **B** ○ Justifying their approach
- **C** ○ Setting out their objectives
- **D** ○ Describing their methodology

30 In the seventh paragraph, the writer describes a mechanism in the brain which

- **A** ○ Enables people to respond more quickly to stressful situations.
- **B** ○ Results in increased ability to control our levels of anxiety.
- **C** ○ Produces heightened sensitivity to indications of external threats.

D ○ Is activated when there is a need to communicate a sense of danger.

Questions 31-35

Complete each sentence with the correct ending, **A-G**, below.

• At times when they were relaxed, the firefighters usually **31** _____

• The researchers noted that when the firefighters were stressed, they **32** _____

• When the firefighters were told good news, they always **33** _____

• The students' cortisol levels and heart rates were affected when the researchers **34** _____

• In both experiments, negative information was processed better when the subjects **35** _____

A. **made them feel optimistic.**

B. **took relatively little notice of bad news.**

C. **responded to negative and positive information in the same way.**

D. **were feeling under stress.**

E. **put them in a stressful situation.**

F. **behaved in a similar manner, regardless of the circumstances.**

G. **thought it more likely that they would experience something bad.**

Questions 36-40

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?

In boxes on your answer sheet, write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

36 The tone of the content we post on social media tends to reflect the nature of the posts in our feeds.

A ○ YES

B ○ NO

C ○ NOT GIVEN

37 Phones have a greater impact on our stress levels than other electronic media devices.

A ○ YES

B ○ NO

C ○ NOT GIVEN

38 The more we read about a stressful public event on social media, the less able we are to take the information in.

A ○ YES

B ○ NO

C ○ NOT GIVEN

39 Stress created by social media posts can lead us to take unnecessary precautions.

A ○ YES

B ○ NO

C ○ NOT GIVEN

40 Our tendency to be affected by other people's moods can be used in a positive way.

A ○ YES

B ○ NO

C ○ NOT GIVEN

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**FALSE**	It is the world's only flightless parrot
2	**FALSE**	Kakapo breed in summer and autumn, but only in years when food is plentiful
3	**FALSE**	Males play no part in incubation or chick-rearing – females alone incubate eggs and feed the chicks
4	**NOT GIVEN**	For the early settlers, the flightless kakapo was easy prey. They ate its meat and used its feathers to make soft cloaks. With them came the Polynesian dog and rat, which also preyed on kakapo
5	**TRUE**	Unfortunately, predation by feral cats on Rakiura Island led to a rapid decline in kakapo numbers. As a result, during 1980-97, the surviving population was evacuated to three island sanctuaries: Codfish Island, Maud Island and Little Barrier Island
6	**TRUE**	This involved moving the birds between islands, supplementary feeding of adults, and rescuing and hand-raising any failing chicks
7	**bulbs**	they are entirely vegetarian, with their diet including the leaves, roots and bark of trees as well as bulbs, and fern fronds
8	**soil**	The 1-4 eggs are laid in soil, which is repeatedly turned over before and during incubation
9	**feathers**	For the early settlers, the flightless kakapo was easy prey. They ate its meat and used its feathers to make soft cloaks
10	**deer**	A great deal of habitat was lost through forest clearance, and introduced species such as deer depleted the remaining forests of food
11	**1980**	In 1980 it was confirmed females were also present
12	**funding**	In 1996, a new Recovery Plan was launched, together with a specialist advisory group called the Kakapo Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee and a higher amount of funding
13	**stakeholders**	its key goals are: minimise the loss of genetic diversity in the kakapo population, restore or maintain sufficient habitat to accommodate the expected increase in the kakapo population, and ensure stakeholders continue to be fully engaged in the preservation of the species

#	Answer	Explanation
14	**C**	Nevertheless, opportunities are limited as the number of these mature survivors is relatively small
15	**G**	All of this raises questions of social acceptance, acknowledges Russell. ‘If we’re putting elm back into the landscape, a small element of it is not native – are we bothered about that?’ For her, the environmental case for reintroducing elm is strong. ‘They will host wildlife, which is a good thing.’ Others are more wary
16	**B**	A first epidemic, which occurred in the 1920s, gradually died down, but in the ’70s a second epidemic was triggered by shipments of elm from Canada
17	**E**	Strong winds from the sea make it difficult for the determined elm bark beetle to attack this coastal city’s elm population
18	**C**	‘We have millions of small elms in hedgerows but they get targeted by the beetle as soon as they reach a certain size,’ says Karen Russell
19	**B**	‘The effects are very quick,’ says Russell. ‘You return in four to six weeks and trees that are resistant show no symptoms, whereas those that are susceptible show leaf loss and may even have died completely.’
20	**A**	Rather than plant new elms, the Woodland Trust emphasises providing space to those elms that have survived independently. ‘Sometimes the best thing you can do is just give nature time to recover over time, you might get resistance,’ says Elliot
21	**B**	‘What are the reasons for their survival?’ asks Russell. ‘Avoidance, tolerance, resistance? We don’t know where the balance lies between the three. I don’t see how it can be entirely down to luck.’
22	**C**	‘The beetles can just march in if we’re not careful, as the threat is right on our doorstep,’ says Bourne
23	**A**	‘The impact of the disease is difficult to picture if you hadn’t seen what was there before,’ says Matt Elliot of the Woodland Trust. ‘You look at old photographs from the 1960s and it’s only then that you realise the impact [elms had]. They were significant, large trees then they were gone.’
24	**oak**	For centuries, elm ran a close second to oak as the hardwood tree of choice in Britain
25	**flooring**	In the 18th century, it was planted more widely and its wood was used for items such as storage crates and flooring

#	Answer	Explanation
26	**keel**	It was also suitable for items that experienced high levels of impact and was used to build the keel of the l9th-century sailing ship Cutty Sark as well as mining equipment
27	**C**	From medical decisions to financial and professional ones, we are all sometimes required to weigh up information under stressful conditions.
28	**A**	These ups and downs presented the perfect setting for an experiment on how people's ability to use information changes when they feel under pressure
29	**D**	We asked the firefighters to estimate their likelihood of experiencing 40 different adverse events in their life, such as being involved in an accident or becoming a victim of card fraud. We then gave them either good news (that their likelihood of experiencing these events was lower than they'd thought) or bad news (that it was higher) and asked them to provide new estimates
30	**C**	When we experience stressful events, a physiological change is triggered that causes us to take in warnings and focus on what might go wrong
31	**B**	People are normally quite optimistic -they will ignore bad news and embrace the good. This is what happened when the firefighters were relaxed
32	**G**	Under these conditions, they became hyper-vigilant to bad news, even when it had nothing to do with their job
33	**F**	In contrast, stress didn't change how they responded to good news
34	**E**	students who were told they had to give a surprise public speech, which would be judged by a panel, recorded and posted online. Sure enough, their cortisol levels spiked, their heart rates went up
35	**D**	they suddenly became better at processing unrelated, yet alarming, information about rates of disease and violence.
36	**YES**	If we observe positive feeds on social media, such as images of a pink sunset, we are more likely to post uplifting messages ourselves. If we observe negative posts, such as complaints about a long queue at the coffee shop, we will in turn create more negative posts
37	**NOT GIVEN**	Repeatedly checking your phone, according to a survey conducted by the American Psychological Association, is related to stress

#	Answer	Explanation
38	**NO**	And so, a reliable pattern emerges – stress is triggered, spreading from one person to the next, which temporarily enhances the likelihood that people will take in negative reports, which increases stress further
39	**YES**	As a result, trips are cancelled, even if the disaster took place across the globe, stocks are sold, even when holding on is the best thing to do.
40	**YES**	The good news, however, is that positive emotions, such as hope, are contagious too, and are powerful in inducing people to act to find solutions

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Reading Test 2

PASSAGE 1

Manatees

Manatees, also known as sea cows, are aquatic mammals that belong to a group of animals called Sirenia. This group also contains dugongs. Dugongs and manatees look quite alike - they are similar in size, colour and shape, and both have flexible flippers for forelimbs. However, the manatee has a broad, rounded tail, whereas the dugongs is fluked, like that of a whale. There are three species of manatees: the West Indian manatee (Trichechus manatus), the African manatee (Trichechus senegalensis) and the Amazonian manatee (Trichechus inunguis).

Unlike most mammals, manatees have only six bones in their neck – most others, including humans and giraffes, have seven. This short neck allows a manatee to move its head up and down, but not side to side. To see something on its left or its right, a manatee must turn its entire body, steering with its flippers. Manatees have pectoral flippers but no back limbs, only a tail for propulsion. They do have pelvic bones, however – a leftover from their evolution from a four-legged to a fully aquatic animal. Manatees share some visual similarities to elephants. Like elephants, manatees have thick, wrinkled skin. They also have some hairs covering their bodies which help them sense vibrations in the water around them.

Seagrasses and other marine plants make up most of a manatee's diet. Manatees spend about eight hours each day grazing and uprooting plants. They eat up to 15% of their weight in food each day. African manatees are omnivorous – studies have shown that molluscs and fish make up a small part of their diets. West Indian and Amazonian manatees are both herbivores.

Manatees' teeth are all molars - flat, rounded teeth for grinding food. Due to manatees' abrasive aquatic plant diet, these teeth get worn down and they eventually fall out, so they continually grow new teeth that get pushed forward to replace the ones they lose. Instead of having incisors to grasp their food, manatees have lips which function like a pair of hands to help tear food away from the seafloor.

Manatees are fully aquatic, but as mammals, they need to come up to the surface to breathe. When awake, they typically surface every two to four minutes, but they can hold their breath for much longer. Adult manatees sleep underwater for 10-12 hours a day, but they come up for air every 15-20 minutes. Active manatees need to breathe more frequently. It's thought that manatees use their muscular diaphragm and breathing to adjust their buoyancy. They may use diaphragm contractions to compress and store gas in folds in their large intestine to help them float.

The West Indian manatee reaches about 3.5 metros long and weighs on average around 500 kilo grammes. It moves between fresh water and salt water, taking advantage of coastal mangroves and coral reefs, rivers, lakes and inland lagoons. There are two subspecies of West Indian manatee: the Antillean manatee is found in waters from the Bahamas to Brazil, whereas

the Florida manatee is found in US waters, although some individuals have been recorded in the Bahamas. In winter, the Florida manatee is typically restricted to Florida. When the ambient water temperature drops below 20°C, it takes refuge in naturally and artificially warmed water, such as at the warm-water outfalls from powerplants.

The African manatee is also about 3.5 metros long and found in the sea along the west coast of Africa, from Mauritania down to Angola. The species also makes use of rivers, with the mammals seen in landlocked countries such as Mali and Niger. The Amazonian manatee is the smallest species, though it is still a big animal. It grows to about 2.5 metros long and 350 kilo grammes. Amazonian manatees favour calm, shallow waters that are above 23°C This species is found in fresh water in the Amazon Basin in Brazil, as well as in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

All three manatee species are endangered or at a heightened risk of extinction. The African manatee and Amazonian manatee are both listed as Vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). It is estimated that 140,000 Amazonian manatees were killed between 1935 and 1954 for their meat, fat and skin, with the latter used to make leather. In more recent years, African manatee decline has been tied to incidental capture in fishing nets and hunting. Manatee hunting is now illegal in every country the African species is found in.

The two subspecies of West Indian manatee are listed as Endangered by the IUCN. Both are also expected to undergo a decline of 20% over the next 40 years. A review of almost 1,800 cases of entanglement in fishing nets and of plastic consumption among marine mammals in US waters from 2009 to 2020 found that at least 700 cases involved manatees. The chief cause of death in Florida manatees is boat strikes. However, laws in certain parts of Florida now limit boat speeds during winter, allowing slow-moving manatees more time to respond.

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Questions 1-6

Complete the notes below.

Choose **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.

Appearance

- look similar to dugongs, but with a differently shaped [1] _____

Movement

- have fewer neck bones than most mammals

- need to use their [2] _____ to help to turn their bodies around in order to look sideways

- sense vibrations in the water by means of [3] _____ on their skin

Feeding

- eat mainly aquatic vegetation, such as [4] _____

- grasp and pull up plants with their [5] _____

Breathing

- come to the surface for air every 2-4 minutes when awake and every 15-20 while sleeping

- may regulate the [6] _____ of their bodies by using muscles of diaphragm to store air internally

Questions 7-13

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?

in boxes on your answer sheet, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

7 West Indian manatees can be found in a variety of different aquatic habitats.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

8 The Florida manatee lives in warmer waters than the Antillean manatee.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

9 The African manatee's range is limited to coastal waters between the West African countries of Mauritania and Angola.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

10 The extent of the loss of Amazonian manatees in the mid-twentieth century was only revealed many years later.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

11 It is predicted that West Indian manatee populations will fall in the coming decades.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

12 The risk to manatees from entanglement and plastic consumption increased significantly in the period 2009-2020.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

13 There is some legislation in place which aims to reduce the likelihood of boat strikes on manatees in Florida.

- **A** ○ TRUE
- **B** ○ FALSE
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

PASSAGE 2

Procrastination

A psychologist explains why we put off important tasks and how we can break this habit

A Procrastination is the habit of delaying a necessary task, usually by focusing on less urgent, more enjoyable, and easier activities instead. We all do it from time to time. We might be composing a message to a friend who we have to let down, or putting together an important report for college or work, we're doing our best to avoid doing the job at hand, but deep down we know that we should just be getting on with it. Unfortunately, berating ourselves won't stop us procrastinating again. In fact, it's one of the worst things we can do. This matters because, as my research shows, procrastination doesn't just waste time, but is actually linked to other problems, too.

B Contrary to popular belief, procrastination is not due to laziness or poor time management. Scientific studies suggest procrastination is, in fact, caused by poor mood management. This makes sense if we consider that people are more likely to put off starting or completing tasks that they are really not keen to do. If just thinking about the task threatens our sense of self-worth or makes us anxious, we will be more likely to put it off. Research involving brain imaging has found that areas of the brain linked to detection of threats and emotion regulation are actually different in people who chronically procrastinate compared to those who don't procrastinate frequently.

C Tasks that are emotionally loaded or difficult, such as preparing for exams, are prime candidates for procrastination. People with low self-esteem are more likely to procrastinate. Another group of people who tend to procrastinate are perfectionists, who worry their work will be judged harshly by others. We know that if we don't finish that report or complete those home repairs, then what we did can't be evaluated. When we avoid such tasks, we also avoid the negative emotions associated with them. This is rewarding, and it conditions us to use procrastination to repair our mood. If we engage in more enjoyable tasks instead, we get another mood boost. In the long run, however, procrastination isn't an effective way of managing emotions. The 'mood repair' we experience is temporary. Afterwards, people tend to be left with a sense of guilt that not only increases their negative mood, but also reinforces their tendency to procrastinate.

D So why is this such a problem? When most people think of the costs of procrastination, they think of the toll on productivity. For example, studies have shown that procrastination negatively impacts on student performance. But putting off reading textbooks and writing essays may affect other areas of students' lives. In one study of over 3,000 German students over a six-month period, those who reported procrastinating over their university work were also more likely to engage in study-related misconduct, such as cheating and plagiarism. But the behaviour that procrastination was most closely linked with was using fraudulent excuses to get deadline extensions. Other research shows that employees on average spend almost a quarter of their workday procrastinating, and again this is linked with negative outcomes. In fact, in one US survey of over 22,000 employees, participants who said they regularly procrastinated had

less annual income and less employment stability. For every one-point increase on a measure of chronic procrastination, annual income decreased by US$15,000.

E Procrastination also correlates with serious health and well-being problems. A tendency to procrastinate is linked to poor mental health, including higher levels of depression and anxiety. Across numerous studies, I've found people who regularly procrastinate report a greater number of health issues, such as headaches, flu and colds, and digestive issues. They also experience higher levels of stress and poor sleep quality. They are less likely to practise healthy behaviours, such as eating a healthy diet and regularly exercising, and use destructive coping strategies to manage their stress. In one study of over 700 people, I found people prone to procrastination had a 63% greater risk ofpoor heart health after accounting for other personality traits and demographics.

F Finding better ways of managing our emotions is one route out of the vicious cycle of procrastination. An important first step is to manage our environment and how we view the task. There are a number of evidence-based strategies that can help us fend off distractions that can occupy our minds when we should be focusing on the thing we should be getting on with. For example, reminding ourselves about why the task is important and valuable can increase positive feelings towards it. Forgiving ourselves and feeling compassion when we procrastinate can help break the procrastination cycle. We should admit that we feel bad, but not be overly critical of ourselves. We should remind ourselves that we're not the first person to procrastinate, nor the last. Doing this can take the edge off the negative feelings we have about ourselves when we procrastinate. This can all make it easier to get back on track.

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Questions 14-16

Reading Passage has six paragraphs,

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, **A-F,** in boxes on your answer sheet.

NB You may use any letter more than once.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
14 mention of false assumptions about why people procrastinate	○	○	○	○	○	○
15 reference to the realisation that others also procrastinate	○	○	○	○	○	○
16 neurological evidence of a link between procrastination and emotion	○	○	○	○	○	○

Questions 17-22

Complete the summary below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes on your answer sheet.

What makes us procrastinate?

Many people think that procrastination is the result of **17** _____

Others believe it to be the result of an inability to organise time efficiently.

But scientific studies suggest that procrastination is actually due to poor mood management. The tasks we are most likely to put off are those that could damage our self-esteem or cause us to feel **18** _____. when we think about them. Research comparing chronic procrastinators with other people even found differences in the brain regions associated with regulating emotions and identifying **19** _____.

Emotionally loaded and difficult tasks often cause us to procrastinate.

Getting ready to take **20** _____ might be a typical example of one such task.

People who are likely to procrastinate tend to be either **21** _____ or those with low self-esteem.

Procrastination is only a short-term measure for managing emotions. It's often followed by a feeling of **22** _____, which worsens our mood and leads to more procrastination.

Questions 23-24

Choose **TWO** letters**, A-E**

Write the correct letters in boxes on your answer sheet.

23 **24** Which **TWO** comparisons between employees who often procrastinate and those who do not are mentioned in the text?

- **A** ☐ Their salaries are lower.
- **B** ☐ The quality of their work is inferior.
- **C** ☐ They don't keep their jobs for as long.
- **D** ☐ They don't enjoy their working lives as much.
- **E** ☐ They have poorer relationships with colleagues.

Questions 25-26

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**

Write the correct letters in boxes on your answer sheet.

25 **26** Which **TWO** recommendations for getting out of a cycle of procrastination does the writer give?

- **A** ☐ not judging ourselves harshly
- **B** ☐ setting ourselves manageable aims
- **C** ☐ rewarding ourselves for tasks achieved
- **D** ☐ prioritising tasks according to their importance

E ☐ avoiding things that stop us concentrating on our tasks

PASSAGE 3

Invasion of the Robot Umpires

A few years ago, Fred DeJesus from Brooklyn, New York became the first umpire in a minor league baseball game to use something called the Automated Ball-Strike System (ABS), often referred to as the 'rob-umpire'. Instead of making any judgments himself about a strike*, DeJesus had decisions fed to him through an earpiece, connected to a modified missile-tracking system. The contraption looked like a large black pizza box with one glowing green eye, it was mounted above the press stand.

Major League Baseball (MLB), who had commissioned the system, wanted human umpires to announce the calls, just as they would have done in the past. When the first pitch came in, a recorded voice told DeJesus it was a strike. Previously, calling a strike was a judgment call on the part of the umpire. Even if the batter does not hit the ball, a pitch that passes through the 'strike zone' (an imaginary zone about seventeen inches wide, stretching from the batter's knees to the middle of his chest) is considered a strike. During that first game, when DeJesus announced calls, there was no heckling and no shouted disagreement. Nobody said a word.

For a hundred and fifty years or so, the strike zone has been the game's animating force - countless arguments between a team's manager and the umpire have taken place over its boundaries and whether a ball had crossed through it. The rules of play have evolved in various stages. Today, everyone knows that you may scream your disagreement in an umpire's face, but you must never shout personal abuse at them or touch them. That's a no-no. When the robe-umpires came, however, the arguments stopped.

During the first robe-umpire season, players complained about some strange calls. In response, MLB decided to tweak the dimensions of the zone, and the following year the consensus was that ABS is profoundly consistent. MLB says the device is near-perfect, precise to within fractions of an inch. "It'll reduce controversy in the game, and be good for the game," says Rob Manfred, who is Commissioner for MLB. But the question is whether controversy is worth reducing, or whether it is the sign of a human hand.

A human, at least, yells back. When I spoke with Frank Viola, a coach for a North Carolina team, he said that ABS works as designed, but that it was also unforgiving and pedantic, almost legalistic. "Manfred is a lawyer," Viola noted. Some pitchers have complained that, compared with a humans, the robot's strike zone seems too precise. Viola was once a major-league player himself. When he was pitching, he explained, umpires rewarded skill. "Throw it where you aimed, and it would be a strike, even if it was an inch or two outside. There was a dialogue between pitcher and umpire."

The executive tasked with running the experiment for MLB is Morgan Sword, who's in charge of baseball operations. According to Sword, ABS was part of a larger project to make baseball more exciting since executives are terrified of losing younger fans, as has been the case with horse racing and boxing. He explains how they began the process by asking fans what version of baseball they found most exciting. The results showed that everyone wanted more action:

more hits, more defense, more baserunning. This type of baseball essentially hasn't existed since the 1960s, when the hundred-mile-an-hour fastball, which is difficult to hit and control, entered the game. It flattened the game into strikeouts, walks, and home runs - a type of play lacking much action.

Sword's team brainstormed potential fixes. Any rule that existed, they talked about changing - from changing the bats to changing the geometry of the field. But while all of these were ruled out as potential fixes, ABS was seen as a perfect vehicle for change. According to Sword, once you get the technology right, you can load any strike zone you want into the system. "It might be a triangle, or a blob, or something shaped like Texas. Over time, as baseball evolves, ABS can allow the zone to change with it."

"In the past twenty years, sports have moved away from judgment calls. Soccer has Video Assistant Referees (for offside decisions, for example). Tennis has Hawk-Eye (for line calls, for example). For almost a decade, baseball has used instant replay on the base paths. This is widely liked, even if the precision can sometimes cause problems. But these applications deal with something physical: bases, lines, goals. The boundaries of action are precise, delineated like the keys of a piano. This is not the case with ABS and the strike zone. Historically, a certain discretion has been appreciated."

I decided to email Alva Noe, a professor at Berkeley University and a baseball fan, for his opinion. "Hardly a day goes by that I don't wake up and run through the reasons that this [robe-umpires] is such a terrible idea," he replied. He later told me, "This is part of a movement to use algorithms to take the hard choices of living out of life." Perhaps he's right. We watch baseball to kill time, not to maximize it. Some players I have met take a dissenting stance toward the robots too, believing that accuracy is not the answer.

According to Joe Russo, who plays for a New Jersey team, "With technology, people just want everything to be perfect. That's not reality. I think perfect would be weird. Your teams are always winning, work is always just great, there's always money in your pocket, your car never breaks down. What is there to talk about?"

*strike: a strike is when the batter swings at a ball and misses or when the batter does not swing at a ball that passes through the strike zone.

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Questions 27-32

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Reading Passage?

In boxes on your answer sheet, write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

27 When DeJesus first used ABS, he shared decision-making about strikes with it.

- **A** ○ YES
- **B** ○ NO
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

28 MLB considered it necessary to amend the size of the strike zone when criticisms were received from players.

- **A** ○ YES
- **B** ○ NO
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

29 MLB is keen to justify the money spent on improving the accuracy of ABS's calculations.

- **A** ○ YES
- **B** ○ NO
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

30 The hundred-mile-an-hour fastball led to a more exciting style of play.

- **A** ○ YES
- **B** ○ NO
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

31 The differing proposals for alterations to the baseball bat led to fierce debate on Sword's team.

- **A** ○ YES
- **B** ○ NO
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

32 ABS makes changes to the shape of the strike zone feasible.

- **A** ○ YES
- **B** ○ NO
- **C** ○ NOT GIVEN

Questions 33-37

Complete the summary using the list ofphrases, **A-H,** below.

Write the correct letter, **A-H**, in boxes on your answer sheet.

Calls by the umpire

Even after ABS was developed, MLB still wanted human umpires to shout out decisions as they had in their **33** _____ . The umpire's job had, at one time, required a **34** _____ about whether a ball was a strike. A ball is considered a strike when the batter does not hit it and it crosses through a **35** _____ extending approximately from the batter's knee to his chest.

In the past, **36** _____ over strike calls were not uncommon, but today everyone accepts the complete ban on pushing or shoving the umpire. One difference, however, is that during the first game DeJesus used ABS, strike calls were met with **37** _____

A. **pitch boundary** B. **numerous disputes** C. **team tactics**

D. **subjective assessment** E. **widespread approval** F. **former roles**

G. **total silence** H. **perceived area**

Questions 38-40

Choose the correct letter, **A, B, C or D.**

38 What does the writer suggest about ABS in the fifth paragraph?

- **A** ○ It is bound to make key decisions that are wrong.
- **B** ○ It may reduce some of the appeal of the game.
- **C** ○ It will lead to the disappearance of human umpires.
- **D** ○ It may increase calls for the rules of baseball to be changed.

39 Morgan Sword says that the introduction of ABS

- **A** ○ was regarded as an experiment without a guaranteed outcome.
- **B** ○ was intended to keep up with developments in other sports.
- **C** ○ was a response to changing attitudes about the role of sport.
- **D** ○ was an attempt to ensure baseball retained a young audience.

40 Why does the writer include the views of Not and Russo?

- **A** ○ to show that attitudes to technology vary widely
- **B** ○ to argue that people have unrealistic expectations of sport
- **C** ○ to indicate that accuracy is not the same thing as enjoyment
- **D** ○ to suggest that the number of baseball fans needs to increase

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**Tail**	However, the manatee has a broad, rounded tail, whereas the dugongs is fluked, like that of a whale
2	**Flippers**	a manatee must turn its entire body, steering with its flippers
3	**Hairs**	They also have some hairs covering their bodies which help them sense vibrations in the water around them
4	**Seagrasses**	Seagrasses and other marine plants make up most of a manatee's diet
5	**Lips**	Instead of having incisors to grasp their food, manatees have lips which function like a pair of hands to help tear food away from the seafloor
6	**Buoyancy**	It's thought that manatees use their muscular diaphragm and breathing to adjust their buoyancy
7	**TRUE**	It moves between fresh water and salt water, taking advantage of coastal mangroves and coral reefs, rivers, lakes and inland lagoons
8	**NOT GIVEN**	In winter, the Florida manatee is typically restricted to Florida. When the ambient water temperature drops below 20°C, it takes refuge in naturally and artificially warmed water, such as at the warm-water outfalls from powerplants
9	**FALSE**	The African manatee is also about 3.5 metros long and found in the sea along the west coast of Africa, from Mauritania down to Angola. The species also makes use of rivers, with the mammals seen in landlocked countries such as Mali and Niger
10	**NOT GIVEN**	It is estimated that 140,000 Amazonian manatees were killed between 1935 and 1954 for their meat, fat and skin
11	**TRUE**	Both are also expected to undergo a decline of 20% over the next 40 years
12	**NOT GIVEN**	A review of almost 1,800 cases of entanglement in fishing nets and of plastic consumption among marine mammals in US waters from 2009 to 2020 found that at least 700 cases involved manatees
13	**TRUE**	However, laws in certain parts of Florida now limit boat speeds during winter, allowing slow-moving manatees more time to respond

#	Answer	Explanation
14	**B**	Contrary to popular belief, procrastination is not due to laziness or poor time management. Scientific studies suggest procrastination is, in fact, caused by poor mood management
15	**F**	We should admit that we feel bad, but not be overly critical of ourselves. We should remind ourselves that we're not the first person to procrastinate, nor the last
16	**B**	Research involving brain imaging has found that areas of the brain linked to detection of threats and emotion regulation are actually different in people who chronically procrastinate compared to those who don't procrastinate frequently
17	**Laziness**	Contrary to popular belief, procrastination is not due to laziness or poor time management
18	**Anxious**	If just thinking about the task threatens our sense of self-worth or makes us anxious, we will be more likely to put it off
19	**Threats**	Research involving brain imaging has found that areas of the brain linked to detection of threats and emotion regulation are actually different in people who chronically procrastinate compared to those who don't procrastinate frequently
20	**Exams**	Tasks that are emotionally loaded or difficult, such as preparing for exams, are prime candidates for procrastination
21	**Perfectionists**	Another group of people who tend to procrastinate are perfectionists, who worry their work will be judged harshly by others
22	**Guilt**	The 'mood repair' we experience is temporary. Afterwards, people tend to be left with a sense of guilt that not only increases their negative mood, but also reinforces their tendency to procrastinate
23	**A / C**	In fact, in one US survey of over 22,000 employees, participants who said they regularly procrastinated had less annual income and less employment stability
24	**A / C**	In fact, in one US survey of over 22,000 employees, participants who said they regularly procrastinated had less annual income and less employment stability
25	**A / E**	There are a number of evidence-based strategies that can help us fend off distractions that can occupy our minds when we should be focusing on the thing we should be getting on with. For example, reminding ourselves about why the task is important and valuable can increase positive feelings towards it. Forgiving ourselves and feeling compassion when we procrastinate can help break the procrastination cycle.

#	Answer	Explanation
26	A / E	There are a number of evidence-based strategies that can help us fend off distractions that can occupy our minds when we should be focusing on the thing we should be getting on with. For example, reminding ourselves about why the task is important and valuable can increase positive feelings towards it. Forgiving ourselves and feeling compassion when we procrastinate can help break the procrastination cycle.
27	NO	DeJesus had decisions fed to him through an earpiece
28	YES	In response, MLB decided to tweak the dimensions of the zone
29	NOT GIVEN	But the question is whether controversy is worth reducing, or whether it is the sign of a human hand
30	NO	a type of play lacking much action
31	NOT GIVEN	Sword's team brainstormed potential fixes. Any rule that existed, they talked about changing – from changing the bats to changing the geometry of the field. But while all of these were ruled out as potential fixes, ABS was seen as a perfect vehicle for change
32	YES	According to Sword, once you get the technology right, you can load any strike zone you want into the system. "It might be a triangle, or a blob, or something shaped like Texas. Over time, as baseball evolves, ABS can allow the zone to change with it."
33	F	Major League Baseball (MLB), who had commissioned the system, wanted human umpires to announce the calls, just as they would have done in the past
34	D	Previously, calling a strike was a judgment call on the part of the umpire
35	H	a pitch that passes through the 'strike zone' (an imaginary zone about seventeen inches wide, stretching from the batter's knees to the middle of his chest) is considered a strike
36	B	For a hundred and fifty years or so, the strike zone has been the game's animating force-countless arguments between a team's manager and the umpire have taken place over its boundaries
37	G	During that first game, when DeJesus announced calls, there was no heckling and no shouted disagreement. Nobody said a word
38	B	When he was pitching, he explained, umpires rewarded skill. "Throw it where you aimed, and it would be a strike, even if it was an inch or two outside. There was a dialogue between pitcher and umpire."
39	D	According to Sword, ABS was part of a larger project to make baseball more exciting since executives are terrified of losing

#	Answer	Explanation
		younger fans
40	**C**	Some players I have met take a dissenting stance toward the robots too, believing that accuracy is not the answer

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Reading Test 3

PASSAGE 1

Frozen Food

A US perspective on the development of the frozen food industry

At some point in history, humans discovered that ice preserved food. There is evidence that winter ice was stored to preserve food in the summer as far back as 10,000 years ago. Two thousand years ago, the inhabitants of South America's Andean mountains had a unique means of conserving potatoes for later consumption. They froze them overnight, then trampled them to squeeze out the moisture, then dried them in the sun. This preserved their nutritional value - if not their aesthetic appeal.

Natural ice remained the main form of refrigeration until late in the 19th century. In the early 1800s, ship owners from Boston, USA, had enormous blocks of Arctic ice towed all over the Atlantic for the purpose of food preservation. In 1851, railroads first began putting blocks of ice in insulated rail cars to send butter from Ogdensburg, New York, to Boston.

Finally, in 1870, Australian inventors found a way to make 'mechanical ice'. They used a compressor to force a gas-ammonia at first and later Freon-through a condenser. The compressed gas gave up some of its heat as it moved through the condenser. Then the gas was released quickly into a low-pressure evaporator coil where it became liquid and cold. Air was blown over the evaporator coil and then this cooled air passed into an insulated compartment, lowering its temperature to freezing point.

Initially, this process was invented to keep Australian beer cool even in hot weather. But Australian cattlemen were quick to realize that, if they could put this new invention on a ship, they could export meat across the oceans. In 1880, a shipment of Australian beef and mutton was sent, frozen, to England. While the food frozen this way was still palatable, there was some deterioration. During the freezing process, crystals formed within the cells of the food, and when the ice expanded and the cells burst, this spoilt the flavor and texture of the food.

The modern frozen food industry began with the indigenous Inuit people of Canada. In 1912, a biology student in Massachusetts, USA, named Clarence Birdseye, ran out of money and went to Labrador in Canada to trap and trade furs. While he was there, he became fascinated with how the Inuit would quickly freeze fish in the Arctic air. The fish looked and tasted fresh even months later.

Birdseye returned to the USA in 1917 and began developing mechanical freezers capable of quick-freezing food. Birdseye methodically kept inventing better freezers and gradually built a business selling frozen fish from Gloucester, Massachusetts. In 1929, his business was sold and became General Foods, but he stayed with the company as director of research, and his division continued to innovate.

Birdseye was responsible for several key innovations that made the frozen food industry possible. He developed quick-freezing techniques that reduced the damage that crystals caused, as well as the technique of freezing the product in the package it was to be sold in. He also introduced the use of cellophane, the first transparent material for food packaging, which allowed consumers to see the quality of the product. Birdseye products also came in convenient size packages that could be prepared with a minimum of effort.

But there were still obstacles. In the 1930s, few grocery stores could afford to buy freezers for a market that wasn't established yet. So, Birdseye leased inexpensive freezer cases to them. He also leased insulated railroad cars so that he could ship his products nationwide. However, few consumers had freezers large

enough or efficient enough to take advantage of the products.

Sales increased in the early 1940s, when World War II gave a boost to the frozen food industry because tin was being used for munitions. Canned foods were rationed to save tin for the war effort, while frozen foods were abundant and cheap. Finally, by the 1950s, refrigerator technology had developed far enough to make these appliances affordable for the average family. By 1953, 33 million US families owned a refrigerator, and manufacturers were gradually increasing the size of the freezer compartments in them.

1950s families were also looking for convenience at mealtimes, so the moment was right for the arrival of the 'TV Dinner'. Swanson Foods was a large, nationally recognized producer of canned and frozen poultry. In 1954, the company adapted some of Birdseye's freezing techniques, and with the help of a clever name and a huge advertising budget, it launched the first 'TV Dinner'. This consisted of frozen turkey, potatoes and vegetables served in the same segmented aluminum tray that was used by airlines. The product was an instant success. Within a year, Swanson had sold 13 million TV dinners. American consumers couldn't resist the combination of a trusted brand name, a single-serving package and the convenience of a meal that could be ready after only 25 minutes in a hot oven. By 1959, Americans were spending $2.7 billion annually on frozen foods, and half a billion of that was spent on ready-prepared meals such as the TV Dinner.

Today, the US frozen food industry has a turnover of over $67 billion annually, with $26.6 billion of that sold to consumers for home consumption. The remaining $40 billion in frozen food sales come through restaurants, cafeterias, hospitals and schools, and that represents a third of the total food service sales.

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Questions 1-7

Complete the notes below.
Choose ONE WORD ONLY from the passage for each answer.

The history of frozen food

2,000 years ago, South America

- People conserved the nutritional value of [1] _____, using a method of freezing then drying.

1851, USA

- [2] _____ was kept cool by ice during transportation in specially adapted trains.

1880, Australia

- Two kinds of [3] _____ were the first frozen food shipped to England.

1917 onwards, USA

- Clarence Birdseye introduced innovations including:

  - quick-freezing methods, so that [4] _____ did not spoil the food.
  - packaging products with [5] _____, so the product was visible.

Early 1940s, USA

- Frozen food became popular because of a shortage of [6] _____.

1950s, USA

- A large number of homes now had a [7] _____.

Questions 8-13

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?
TRUE if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

[8] The ice transportation business made some Boston ship owners very wealthy in the early 1800s.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

9 A disadvantage of the freezing process invented in Australia was that it affected the taste of food.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

10 Clarence Birdseye travelled to Labrador in order to learn how the Inuit people froze fish.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

11 Swanson Foods invested a great deal of money in the promotion of the TV Dinner.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

12 Swanson Foods developed a new style of container for the launch of the TV Dinner.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

13 The US frozen food industry is currently the largest in the world.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

PASSAGE 2

Can the planet’s coral reefs be saved?

14

A. Conservationists have put the final touches to a giant artificial reef they have been assembling at the world-renowned Zoological Society of London (London Zoo). Samples of the planet’s most spectacular corals – vivid green branching coral, yellow scroll, blue ridge and many more species – have been added to the giant tank along with fish that thrive in their presence: blue tang, clownfish and many others. The reef is in the zoo’s new gallery, Tiny Giants, which is dedicated to the minuscule invertebrate creatures that sustain life across the planet. The coral reef tank and its seven-metre-wide window form the core of the exhibition.

‘Coral reefs are the most diverse ecosystems on Earth and we want to show people how wonderful they are,’ said Paul Pearce-Kelly, senior curator of invertebrates and fish at the Zoological Society of London. ‘However, we also want to highlight the research and conservation efforts that are now being carried out to try to save them from the threat of global warming.’ They want people to see what is being done to try to save these wonders.

15

B. Corals are composed of tiny animals, known as polyps, with tentacles for capturing small marine creatures in the sea water. These polyps are transparent but get their brilliant tones of pink, orange, blue, green, etc. from algae that live within them, which in turn get protection, while their photosynthesising of the sun’s rays provides nutrients for the polyps. This comfortable symbiotic relationship has led to the growth of coral reefs that cover 0.1% of the planet’s ocean bed while providing homes for more than 25% of marine species, including fish, molluscs, sponges and shellfish.

16

C. As a result, coral reefs are often described as the ‘rainforests of the sea’, though the comparison is dismissed by some naturalists, including David Attenborough. ‘People say you cannot beat the rainforest,’ Attenborough has stated. ‘But that is simply not true. You go there and the first thing you think is: where are the birds? Where are the animals? They are hiding in the trees, of course. No, if you want beauty and wildlife, you want a coral reef. Put on a mask and stick your head under the water. The sight is mindblowing.’

17

D. Unfortunately, these majestic sights are now under very serious threat, with the most immediate problem coming in the form of thermal stress. Rising ocean temperatures are

triggering bleaching events that strip reefs of their colour and eventually kill them. And that is just the start. Other menaces include ocean acidification, sea level increase, pollution by humans, deoxygenation and ocean current changes, while the climate crisis is also increasing habitat destruction. As a result, vast areas – including massive chunks of Australia's Great Barrier Reef – have already been destroyed, and scientists advise that more than 90% of reefs could be lost by 2050 unless urgent action is taken to tackle global heating and greenhouse gas emissions.

Pearce-Kelly says that coral reefs have to survive really harsh conditions – wave erosion and other factors. And 'when things start to go wrong in the oceans, then corals will be the first to react. And that is exactly what we are seeing now. Coral reefs are dying and they are telling us that all is not well with our planet.'

18

E. However, scientists are trying to pinpoint hardy types of coral that could survive our overheated oceans, and some of this research will be carried out at London Zoo. 'Behind our … coral reef tank we have built laboratories where scientists will be studying coral species,' said Pearce-Kelly. One aim will be to carry out research on species to find those that can survive best in warm, acidic waters. Another will be to try to increase coral breeding rates. 'Coral spawn just once a year,' he added. 'However, aquarium-based research has enabled some corals to spawn artificially, which can assist coral reef restoration efforts. And if this can be extended for all species, we could consider the launching of coral-spawning programmes several times a year. That would be a big help in restoring blighted reefs.'

19

F. Research in these fields is being conducted in laboratories around the world, with the London Zoo centre linked to this global network. Studies carried out in one centre can then be tested in others. The resulting young coral can then be displayed in the tank in Tiny Giants. 'The crucial point is that the progress we make in making coral better able to survive in a warming world can be shown to the public and encourage them to believe that we can do something to save the planet's reefs,' said Pearce-Kelly. 'Saving our coral reefs is now a critically important ecological goal.'

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Questions 14-19

Choose the correct heading for each section from the list of headings below.
i. Tried and tested solutions
ii. Cooperation beneath the waves
iii. Working to lessen the problems
iv. Disagreement about the accuracy of a certain phrase
v. Two clear educational goals
vi. Promoting hope
vii. A warning of further trouble ahead

i. **Tried and tested solutions**

ii. **Cooperation beneath the waves**

iii. **Working to lessen the problems**

iv. **Disagreement about the accuracy of a certain phrase**

v. **Two clear educational goals**

vi. **Promoting hope**

vii. **A warning of further trouble ahead**

Questions 20-21

Choose **TWO** letters, **A–E**.

20 **21** Which **TWO** of these causes of damage to coral reefs are mentioned by the writer of the text?

- **A** ☐ a rising number of extreme storms
- **B** ☐ the removal of too many fish from the sea
- **C** ☐ the contamination of the sea from waste
- **D** ☐ increased disease among marine species
- **E** ☐ alterations in the usual flow of water in the seas

Questions 22-23

Choose **TWO** letters, **A–E**.

22 **23** Which **TWO** of the following statements are true of the researchers at London Zoo?

- **A** ☐ They are hoping to expand the numbers of different corals being bred in laboratories.
- **B** ☐ They want to identify corals that can cope well with the changed sea conditions.
- **C** ☐ They are looking at ways of creating artificial reefs that corals could grow on.
- **D** ☐ They are trying out methods that would speed up reproduction in some corals.
- **E** ☐ They are investigating materials that might protect reefs from higher temperatures.

Questions 24-26

Complete the sentences below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

- Corals have a number of **24** _____ which they use to collect their food.
- Algae gain **25** _____ from being inside the coral.
- Increases in the warmth of the sea water can remove the **26** _____ from coral.

PASSAGE 3

Robots and us

Three leaders in their fields answer questions about our relationships with robot

When asked ‘Should robots be used to colonise other planets?’, cosmology and astrophysics Professor Martin Rees said he believed the solar system would be mapped by robotic craft by the end of the century. ‘The next step would be mining of asteroids, enabling fabrication of large structures in space without having to bring all the raw materials from Earth.... I think this is more realistic and benign than the ... “terraforming”* of planets.’ He maintains that colonised planets ‘should be preserved with a status that is analogous to Antarctica here on Earth.’

On the question of using robots to colonise other planets and exploit mineral resources, engineering Professor Daniel Wolpert replied, ‘I don’t see a pressing need to colonise other planets unless we can bring [these] resources back to Earth. The vast majority of Earth is currently inaccessible to us. Using robots to gather resources nearer to home would seem to be a better use of our robotic tools.’

Meanwhile, for anthropology Professor Kathleen Richardson, the idea of ‘colonisation’ of other planets seemed morally dubious: ‘I think whether we do something on Earth or on Mars we should always do it in the spirit of a genuine interest in “the Other”, not to impose a particular model, but to meet “the Other”.'

In response to the second question, ‘How soon will machine intelligence outstrip human intelligence?’, Rees mentions robots that are advanced enough to beat humans at chess, but then goes on to say, ‘Robots are still limited in their ability to sense their environment: they can’t yet recognise and move the pieces on a real chessboard as cleverly as a child can. Later this century, however, their more advanced successors may relate to their surroundings, and to people, as adeptly as we do. Moral questions then arise. ... Should we feel guilty about exploiting [sophisticated robots]? Should we fret if they are underemployed, frustrated, or bored?’

Wolpert’s response to the question about machine intelligence outstripping human intelligence was this: ‘In a limited sense it already has. Machines can already navigate, remember and search for items with an ability that far outstrips humans. However, there is no machine that can identify visual objects or speech with the

reliability and flexibility of humans.... Expecting a machine close to the creative intelligence of a human within the next 50 years would be highly ambitious.’

Richardson believes that our fear of machines becoming too advanced has more to do with human nature than anything intrinsic to the machines themselves. In her view, it stems from humans’ tendency to personify inanimate objects: we create machines based on representations of ourselves, imagine that machines think and behave as we do, and therefore see them as an autonomous threat. ‘One of the consequences of thinking that the problem lies

with machines is that we tend to imagine they are greater and more powerful than they really are and subsequently they become so.'

This led on to the third question, 'Should we be scared by advances in artificial intelligence?' To this question, Rees replied, 'Those who should be worried are the futurologists who believe in the so-called "singularity".** ... And another worry is that we are increasingly dependent on computer networks, and that these could behave like a single "brain" with a mind of its own, and with goals that may be contrary to human welfare. I think we should ensure that robots remain as no more than "idiot savants" lacking the capacity to outwit us, even though they may greatly surpass us in the ability to calculate and process information.'

Wolpert's response was to say that we have already seen the damaging effects of artificial intelligence in the form of computer viruses. 'But in this case,' he says, 'the real intelligence is the malicious designer. Critically, the benefits of computers outweigh the damage that computer viruses cause. Similarly, while there may be misuses of robotics in the near future, the benefits that they will bring are likely to outweigh these negative aspects.'

Richardson's response to this question was this: 'We need to ask why fears of artificial intelligence and robots persist; none have in fact risen up and challenged human supremacy.' She believes that as robots have never shown themselves to be a threat to humans, it seems unlikely that they ever will. In fact, she went on, 'Not all fear [robots]; many people welcome machine intelligence.'

In answer to the fourth question, What can science fiction tell us about robotics?', Rees replied, 'I sometimes advise students that it's better to read first-rate science fiction than second-rate science - more stimulating, and perhaps no more likely to be wrong.'

As his response, Wolpert commented, 'Science fiction has often been remarkable at predicting the future. Science fiction has painted a vivid spectrum of possible futures, from cute and helpful robots to dystopian robotic societies. Interestingly, almost no science fiction envisages a future without robots.' Finally, on the question of science fiction, Richardson pointed out that in modern society, people tend to think there is reality on the one hand, and fiction and fantasy on the other. She then explained that the division did not always exist, and that scientists and technologists made this separation because they wanted to carve out the sphere of their work. 'But the divide is not so clear cut, and that is why the worlds seem to collide at times,' she said. 'In some cases, we need to bring these different understandings together to get a whole perspective. Perhaps then, we won't be so frightened that something we create as a copy of ourselves will be a [threat] to us.'

*terraforming: modifying a planet's atmosphere to suit human needs

** singularity: the point when robots will be able to start creating ever more sophisticated versions of themselves

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Questions 27-33

Match each statement with the correct expert, **A**, **B** or **C**.
NB You may use any letter more than once.

List of Experts
A. Martin Rees
B. Daniel Wolpert
C. Kathleen Richardson

	A	B	C
27 For our own safety, humans will need to restrict the abilities of robots.	○	○	○
28 The risk of robots harming us is less serious than humans believe it to be.	○	○	○
29 It will take many decades for robot intelligence to be as imaginative as human intelligence.	○	○	○
30 We may have to start considering whether we are treating robots fairly.	○	○	○
31 Robots are probably of more help to us on Earth than in space.	○	○	○
32 The ideas in high-quality science fiction may prove to be just as accurate as those found in the work of mediocre scientists.	○	○	○
33 There are those who look forward to robots developing greater intelligence.	○	○	○

Questions 34-36

Complete each sentence with the correct ending, **A–D**, below.

• Richardson and Rees express similar views regarding the ethical aspect of **34** _____

• Rees and Wolpert share an opinion about the extent of **35** _____

• Wolpert disagrees with Richardson on the question of **36** _____

A. **robots to explore outer space.**

B. **advances made in machine intelligence so far.**

C. **changes made to other planets for our own benefit.**

D. **the harm already done by artificial intelligence.**

Questions 37-40

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

37

What point does Richardson make about fear of machines?

A ○ It has grown alongside the development of ever more advanced robots.

B ○ It is the result of our inclination to attribute human characteristics to non-human entities.

C ○ It has its origins in basic misunderstandings about how inanimate objects function.

D ○ It demonstrates a key difference between human intelligence and machine intelligence.

38 What potential advance does Rees see as a cause for concern?

A ○ robots outnumbering people

B ○ robots having abilities which humans do not

C ○ artificial intelligence developing independent thought

D ○ artificial intelligence taking over every aspect of our lives

39 What does Wolpert emphasize in his response to the question about science fiction?

A ○ how science fiction influences our attitudes to robots

B ○ how fundamental robots are to the science fiction genre

C ○ how the image of robots in science fiction has changed over time

D ○ how reactions to similar portrayals of robots in science fiction may vary

40 What is Richardson doing in her comment about reality and fantasy?

A ○ warning people not to confuse one with the other

B ○ outlining ways in which one has impacted on the other

C ○ recommending a change of approach in how people view them

D ○ explaining why scientists have a different perspective on them from other people

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**potatoes**	they froze them overnight, then trampled them to squeeze out the moisture, then dried them in the sun. This preserved their nutritional value – if not their aesthetic appeal
2	**butter**	In 1851, railroads first began putting blocks of ice in insulated rail cars to send butter from Ogdensburg, New York, to Boston
3	**meat**	they could export meat across the oceans. In 1880, a shipment of Australian beef and mutton was sent, frozen, to England
4	**crystals**	During the freezing process, crystals formed within the cells of the food, and when the ice expanded and the cells burst, this spoilt the flavor and texture of the food
5	**cellophane**	He also introduced the use of cellophane, the first transparent material for food packaging, which allowed consumers to see the quality of the product
6	**tin**	Canned foods were rationed to save tin for the war effort, while frozen foods were abundant and cheap
7	**refrigerator**	By the 1950s, refrigerator technology had developed far enough to make these appliances affordable for the average family
8	**NOT GIVEN**	In the early 1800s, ship owners from Boston, USA, had enormous blocks of Arctic ice towed all over the Atlantic for the purpose of food preservation
9	**TRUE**	While the food frozen this way was still palatable, there was some deterioration. During the freezing process, crystals formed within the cells of the food, and when the ice expanded and the cells burst, this spoilt the flavor and texture of the food
10	**FALSE**	In 1912, a biology student in Massachusetts, USA, named Clarence Birdseye, ran out of money and went to Labrador in Canada to trap and trade furs
11	**TRUE**	In 1954, the company adapted some of Birdseye's freezing techniques, and with the help of a clever name and a huge advertising budget, it launched the first 'TV Dinner'
12	**FALSE**	This consisted of frozen turkey, potatoes and vegetables served in the same segmented aluminum tray that was used by airlines
13	**NOT GIVEN**	Today, the US frozen food industry has a turnover of over $67 billion annually, with $26.6 billion of that sold to consumers for

#	Answer	Explanation
		home consumption
14	**v**	‘Coral reefs are the most diverse ecosystems on Earth and we want to show people how wonderful they are,’ said Paul Pearce-Kelly, senior curator of invertebrates and fish at the Zoological Society of London. ‘However, we also want to highlight the research and conservation efforts that are now being carried out to try to save them from the threat of global warming.’
15	**ii**	These polyps are transparent but get their brilliant tones of pink, orange, blue, green, etc. from algae that live within them, which in turn get protection, while their photosynthesising of the sun’s rays provides nutrients for the polyps
16	**iv**	‘People say you cannot beat the rainforest,’ Attenborough has stated. ‘But that is simply not true.
17	**vii**	Unfortunately, these majestic sights are now under very serious threat, with the most immediate problem coming in the form of thermal stress. Rising ocean temperatures are triggering bleaching events that strip reefs of their colour and eventually kill them
18	**iii**	However, scientists are trying to pinpoint hardy types of coral that could survive our overheated oceans
19	**vi**	The crucial point is that the progress we make in making coral better able to survive in a warming world can be shown to the public and encourage them to believe that we can do something to save the planet’s reefs
20	**C / E**	Other menaces include ocean acidification, sea level increase, pollution by humans, deoxygenation and ocean current changes
21	**C / E**	Other menaces include ocean acidification, sea level increase, pollution by humans, deoxygenation and ocean current changes
22	**B / D**	One aim will be to carry out research on species to find those that can survive best in warm, acidic waters. Another will be to try to increase coral breeding rates.
23	**B / D**	One aim will be to carry out research on species to find those that can survive best in warm, acidic waters. Another will be to try to increase coral breeding rates.
24	**tentacles**	Corals are composed of tiny animals, known as polyps, with tentacles for capturing small marine creatures in the sea water
25	**protection**	These polyps are transparent but get their brilliant tones of pink, orange, blue, green, etc. from algae that live within them, which in turn get protection

#	Answer	Explanation
26	**colour / color**	Rising ocean temperatures are triggering bleaching events that strip reefs of their colour and eventually kill them
27	**A**	I think we should ensure that robots remain as no more than “idiot savants” lacking the capacity to outwit us
28	**C**	She believes that as robots have never shown themselves to be a threat to humans, it seems unlikely that they ever will
29	**B**	Expecting a machine close to the creative intelligence of a human within the next 50 years would be highly ambitious
30	**A**	Moral questions then arise. … Should we feel guilty about exploiting [sophisticated robots]
31	**B**	Using robots to gather resources nearer to home would seem to be a better use of our robotic tools.
32	**A**	I sometimes advise students that it’s better to read first-rate science fiction than second-rate science more stimulating, and perhaps no more likely to be wrong
33	**C**	Not all fear [robots]; many people welcome machine intelligence
34	**C**	I think whether we do something on Earth or on Mars we should always do it in the spirit of a genuine interest in “the Other”, not to impose a particular model, but to meet “the Other”.
35	**B**	machines can already navigate, remember and search for items with an ability that far outstrips humans
36	**D**	Wolpert’s response was to say that we have already seen the damaging effects of artificial intelligence in the form of computer viruses.
37	**B**	Richardson believes that our fear of machines becoming too advanced has more to do with human nature than anything intrinsic to the machines themselves. In her view, it stems from humans’ tendency to personify inanimate objects: we create machines based on representations of ourselves, imagine that machines think and behave as we do, and therefore see them as an autonomous threat
38	**C**	Moral questions then arise. … Should we feel guilty about exploiting [sophisticated robots]? Should we fret if they are underemployed, frustrated, or bored
39	**B**	Interestingly, almost no science fiction envisages a future without robots
40	**C**	She then explained that the division did not always exist, and that scientists and technologists made this separation because they

#	Answer	Explanation
		wanted to carve out the sphere of their work. ‘But the divide is not so clear cut, and that is why the worlds seem to collide at times,’ she said. ‘In some cases, we need to bring these different understandings together to get a whole perspective.

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Reading Test 4

PASSAGE 1

Georgia O'Keeffe

For seven decades, Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986) was a major figure in American art. Remarkably, she remained independent from shifting art trends and her work stayed true to her own vision, which was based on finding the essential, abstract forms in nature. With exceptionally keen powers of observation and great finesse with a paintbrush, she recorded subtle nuances of colour, shape, and light that enlivened her paintings and attracted a wide audience.

Born in 1887 near Sun Prairie, Wisconsin to cattle breeders Francis and Ida O'Keeffe, Georgia was raised on their farm along with her six siblings. By the time she graduated from high school in 1905, she had determined to make her way as an artist. She studied the techniques of traditional painting at the Art Institute of Chicago school (1905) and the Art Students League of New York (1907-8). After attending university and then training college, she became an art teacher and taught in elementary schools, high schools, and colleges in Virginia, Texas, and South Carolina from 1911 to 1918.

During this period, O'Keeffe began to experiment with creating abstract compositions in charcoal, and produced a series of innovative drawings that led her art in a new direction. She sent some of these drawings to a friend in New York, who showed them to art collector and photographer Alfred Stieglitz in January 1916. Stieglitz was impressed, and exhibited the drawings later that year at his gallery on Fifth Avenue, New York City, where the works of many avant-garde artists and photographers were introduced to the American public.

With Stieglitz's encouragement and promise of financial support, O'Keeffe arrived in New York in June 1918 to begin a career as an artist. For the next three decades, Stieglitz vigorously promoted her work in twenty-two solo exhibitions and numerous group installations. The two were married in 1924. The ups and downs of their personal and professional relationship were recorded in Stieglitz's celebrated black-and-white portraits of O'Keeffe, taken over the course of twenty years (1917-37).

By the mid-1920s, O'Keeffe was recognized as one of America's most important and successful artists, widely known for the architectural pictures that dramatically depict the soaring skyscrapers of New York. But most often, she painted botanical subjects, inspired by annual trips to the Stieglitz family summer home. In her magnified images depicting flowers, begun in 1924, O'Keeffe brings the viewer right into the picture.

Enlarging the tiniest details to fill an entire metre-wide canvas emphasized their shapes and lines and made them appear abstract. Such daring compositions helped establish O'Keeffe's reputation as an innovative modernist.

In 1929, O'Keeffe made her first extended trip to the state of New Mexico. It was a visit that had a lasting impact on her life, and an immediate effect on her work. Over the next two decades she made almost annual trips to New Mexico, staying up to six months there, painting in relative solitude, then returning to New York each winter to exhibit the new work at Stieglitz's gallery. This pattern continued until she moved permanently to New Mexico in 1949.

There, O'Keeffe found new inspiration: at first, it was the numerous sun-bleached bones she came across in the state's rugged terrain that sparked her imagination. Two of her earliest and most celebrated Southwestern paintings exquisitely reproduce a cow skull's weathered surfaces, jagged edges, and irregular openings. Later, she also explored another variation on this theme in her large series of Pelvis pictures, which focused on the contrasts between convex and concave surfaces, and solid and open spaces.

However, it was the region's spectacular landscape, with its unusual geological formations, vivid colours, clarity of light, and exotic vegetation, that held the artist's imagination for more than four decades. Often, she painted the rocks, cliffs, and mountains in striking close-up, just as she had done with her botanical subjects.

O'Keeffe eventually owned two homes in New Mexico – the first, her summer retreat at Ghost Ranch, was nestled beneath 200-metre cliffs, while the second, used as her winter residence, was in the small town of Abiquiú. While both locales provided a wealth of imagery for her paintings, one feature of the Abiquiú house – the large walled patio with its black door – was particularly inspirational. In more than thirty pictures between 1946 and 1960, she reinvented the patio into an abstract arrangement of geometric shapes.

From the 1950s into the 1970s, O'Keeffe travelled widely, making trips to Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Flying in planes inspired her last two major series – aerial views of rivers and expansive paintings of the sky viewed from just above clouds. In both series, O'Keeffe increased the size of her canvases, sometimes to mural proportions, reflecting perhaps her newly expanded view of the world. When in 1965 she successfully translated one of her cloud motifs to a monumental canvas measuring 6 metres in length (with the help of assistants), it was an enormous challenge and a special feat for an artist nearing eighty years of age.

The last two decades of the artist's life were relatively unproductive as ill health and blindness hindered her ability to work. O'Keeffe died in 1986 at the age of ninety-eight, but her rich legacy of some 900 paintings has continued to attract subsequent generations of artists and art lovers who derive inspiration from these very American images.

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Questions 1-7

Complete the notes below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes on your answer sheet.

The Life and Work of Georgia O'Keefe

- studied art, then worked as a [1] _____ in various places in the USA

- created drawings using [2] _____ which were exhibited in New York City

- moved to New York and became famous for her paintings of the city's [3] _____

- produced a series of innovative close-up paintings of [4] _____

- went to New Mexico and was initially inspired to paint the many [5] _____ that could be found there

- continued to paint various features that together formed the dramatic [6] _____ of New Mexico for over forty years

- travelled widely by plane in later years, and painted pictures of clouds and [7] _____ seen from above.

Questions 8-13

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?

in boxes on your answer sheet, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

[8] Georgia O'Keeffe's style was greatly influenced by the changing fashions in art over the seven decades of her career.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

9 When O'Keeffe finished high school, she had already made her mind up about the career that she wanted.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

10 Alfred Stieglitz first discovered O'Keeffe's work when she sent some abstract drawings to his gallery in New York City.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

11 O'Keeffe was the subject of Stieglitz's photographic work for many years.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

12 O'Keeffe's paintings of the patio of her house in Abiquiu were among the artist's favourite works.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

13 O'Keeffe produced a greater quantity of work during the 1950s to 1970s than at any other time in her life.

A ○ TRUE

B ○ FALSE

C ○ NOT GIVEN

PASSAGE 2

Adapting to the effects of climate change

A. All around the world, nations are already preparing for, and adapting to, climate change and its impacts. Even if we stopped all CO2 emissions tomorrow, we would continue to see the impact of the CO2 already released since industrial times, with scientists forecasting that global warming would continue for around 40 years. In the meantime, ice caps would continue to melt and sea levels rise. Some countries and regions will suffer more extreme impacts from these changes than others. It's in these places that innovation is thriving.

B. In Miami Beach, Florida, USA, seawater isn't just breaching the island city's walls, it's seeping up through the ground, so the only way to save the city is to lift it up above sea level. Starting in the lowest and most vulnerable neighbourhoods, roads have been raised by as much as 61 centimetres. The elevation work was carried out as part of Miami Beach's ambitious but much-needed stormwater-management programme. In addition to the road adaptations, the city has set up new pumps that can remove up to 75,000 litres of water per minute. In the face of floods, climate-mitigation strategies have often been overlooked, says Yanira Pineda, a senior sustainability coordinator. She knows that they're essential and that the job is far from over. 'We know that in 20, 30, 40 years, we'll need to go back in there and adjust to the changing environment,' she says.

C. Seawalls are a staple strategy for many coastal communities, but on the soft, muddy northern shores of Java, Indonesia, they frequently collapse, further exacerbating coastal erosion. There have been many attempts to restore the island's coastal mangroves: ecosystems of trees and shrubs that help defend coastal areas by trapping sediment in their net-like root systems, elevating the sea bed and dampening the energy of waves and tidal currents. But Susanna Tol of the not-for-profit organisation Wetlands International says that, while hugely popular, the majority of mangrove-planting projects fail. So, Wetlands International started out with a different approach, building semi-permeable dams, made from bamboo poles and brushwood, to mimic the role of mangrove roots and create favourable conditions for mangroves to grow back naturally. The programme has seen moderate success, mainly in areas with less subsidence. "Unfortunately, traditional infrastructure is often single-solution focused,' says Tol. 'For long-term success, it's critical that we transition towards multifunctional approaches that embed natural processes and that engage and benefit communities and local decision-makers."

D. As the floodwaters rose in the rice fields of the Mekong Delta in September 2018, four small houses rose with them. Homes in this part of Vietnam are traditionally built on stilts but these ones had been built to float. The modifications were made by the Buoyant Foundation Project, a not-for-profit organisation that has been researching and retrofitting amphibious houses since 2006. 'When I started this,' explains founder Elizabeth English, 'climate change was not on the tip of everybody's tongue,' but this technology is becoming necessary in places that didn't previously need it. It's much cheaper than permanently elevating houses, English explains – about a third of what it would cost to completely replace a building's foundations. It also avoids

the problem of taller houses being at greater risk from wind damage. Another plus comes from the fact that amphibious structures can be sensitively adapted to meet cultural needs and match the kind of houses that are already common in a community.

E. Bangladesh is especially vulnerable to climate change. Most of the country is less than a metre above sea level and 80 per cent of its land lies on floodplains. 'Almost 35 million people living on the coastal belt of Bangladesh are currently affected by soil and water salinity,' says Raisa Chowdhury of the international development organisation ICCO Cooperation. Rather than fighting against it, one project is helping communities adapt to salt-affected soils. ICCO Cooperation has been working with 10,000 farmers in Bangladesh to start cultivating naturally salt-tolerant crops in the region. Certain varieties of carrot, potato, kohlrabi, cabbage and beetroot have been found to be better suited to salty soil than the rice and wheat that is typically grown there. Chowdhury says that the results are very visible, comparing a barren plot of land to the 'beautiful, lush green vegetable garden' sitting beside it, in which he and his team have been working with the farmers. Since the project began, farmers trained in saline agriculture have reported increases of two to three more harvests per year.

F. Greg Spotts from Los Angeles (LA) in the USA is chief sustainability officer of the city's street services department. He leads the Cool Streets LA programme, a series of pilot projects, which include the planting of trees and the installation of a 'cool pavement' system, designed to help reach the city's goal of bringing down its average temperature by 1.5°C. 'Urban cooling is literally a matter of life and death for our future in LA,' says Spotts. Using a Geographic Information System data mapping tool, the programme identified streets with low tree canopy cover in three of the city's neighbourhoods and covered them with a light-grey, light-reflecting coating, which had already been shown to lower road surface temperature in Los Angeles by 6°C. Spotts says one of these streets, in the Winnetka neighbourhood of San Fernando Valley, can now be seen as a pale crescent, the only cool spot on an otherwise red thermal image, from the International Space Station.

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Questions 14-17

Reading Passage has six paragraphs, **A–F.**

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, **A–F,** in boxes on your answer sheet.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
14 how a type of plant functions as a natural protection for coastlines	○	○	○	○	○	○
15 a prediction about how long it could take to stop noticing the effects of climate change	○	○	○	○	○	○
16 a reference to the fact that a solution is particularly cost-effective	○	○	○	○	○	○
17 a mention of a technology used to locate areas most in need of intervention	○	○	○	○	○	○

Questions 18-22

Complete the sentences below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes on your answer sheet.

- The stormwater-management programme in Miami Beach has involved the installation of efficient **18** _____
- The construction of **19** _____ was the first stage of a project to ensure the success of mangroves in Indonesia.
- As a response to rising floodwaters in the Mekong Delta, a not-for-profit organisation has been building houses that can **20** _____.
- Rising sea levels in Bangladesh have made it necessary to introduce various **21** _____ that are suitable for areas of high salt content.

- A project in LA has increased the number of **22** _____ on the city's streets.

Questions 23-26

Look at the following statements and the list of people below.

Match each statement with the correct person,

Write the correct letter, **A E,** in boxes on your answer sheet.

List of People

A. Yanira Pineda

B. Susanna Tol

C. Elizabeth English

D. Raisa Chowdhury

E. Greg Spotts

	A	B	C	D	E
23 It is essential to adopt strategies which involve and help residents of the region.	○	○	○	○	○
24 Interventions which reduce heat are absolutely vital for our survival in this location.	○	○	○	○	○
25 More work will need to be done in future decades to deal with the impact of rising water levels.	○	○	○	○	○
26 The number of locations requiring action to adapt to flooding has grown in recent years.	○	○	○	○	○

PASSAGE 3

A new role for livestock guard dogs

Livestock guard dogs, traditionally used to protect farm animals from predators, are now being used to protect the predators themselves

A. For thousands of years, livestock guard dogs worked alongside shepherds to protect their sheep, goats and cattle from predators such as wolves and bears. But in the 19th and 20th centuries, when such predators were largely exterminated, most guard dogs lost their jobs. In recent years, however, as increased efforts have been made to protect wild animals, predators have become more widespread again. As a result, farmers once more need to protect their livestock, and guard dogs are enjoying an unexpected revival.

B. Today there are around 50 breeds of guard dogs on duty in various parts of the world. These dogs are raised from an early age with the animals they will be watching and eventually these animals become the dog's family. The dogs will place themselves between the livestock and any threat, barking loudly. If necessary, they will chase away predators, but often their mere presence is sufficient. 'Their initial training is to make them understand that livestock is going to be their life,' says Dan Macon, a shepherd with three guard dogs. 'A fluffy white puppy is fun to be around, but too much human affection makes it a great dog for guarding the front porch, rather than a great livestock guard dog.'

C. The evidence indicates that guard dogs are highly effective. For example, in Portugal, biologist Silvia Ribeiro has found that more than 90 per cent of the farmers participating in a programme to train and use guard dogs to protect their herds against attack from wolves rate the performance of the dogs as very good or excellent. In a study carried out in Australia by Linda van Bommel and Chris Johnson at the University of Tasmania, more than 65 per cent of herders reported that predation stopped completely after they got the dogs, and almost all the rest saw a decrease in attacks. 'If they are managed and used properly, livestock guard dogs are the most efficient control method that we have in terms of the amount of livestock that they save from predation,' says van Bommel.

D. But today's guard dogs also have a new role – to help preserve the predators. It is hoped that reductions in livestock losses can make farmers more tolerant of predators and less likely to kill them. In Namibia, more than 90 per cent of cheetahs live outside protected areas, close to humans raising livestock. As a result, the cheetahs are often held responsible for animal losses, and large numbers have been killed by farmers. When guard dogs were introduced, more than 90 per cent of farmers reported a dramatic reduction in livestock losses, and said that as a result they were less likely to kill predators. Julie Young, at Utah State University in the US, believes this result applies widely. "There is common ground from the livestock perspective and from the conservation perspective,' she says. 'If ranchers don't have a dead cow, they will not make a call to apply for a permit to kill a wolf.'

E. Looking at all the published evidence, Bethany Smith at Nottingham Trent University in the UK found that up to 88 per cent of farmers said they no longer killed predators after using dogs

– but warned that such self-reported results must be taken with a pinch of salt. What's more, it is possible that livestock guard dogs merely displace predators to unprotected neighbouring properties, where their fate isn't recorded. 'In some regions, we work with almost every farmer, but in others only one or two have dogs,' says Ribeiro. 'If we are not working with everybody, we are transferring the wolf pressure to the neighbour's herd and he can use poison and kill an entire pack of wolves.'

F. Another concern is whether there may be unintended ecological effects of using guard dogs. Studies suggest that reducing deaths of one type of predator may have a negative impact on other species. The extent of this problem isn't known, but the consequences are clear in Namibia. Cheetahs aren't the only species that cause sheep and goat losses there: other predators also attack livestock. In 2015, researchers reported that in spite of the impact farmers obtaining guard dogs had on cheetahs, the number of jackals killed by dogs and people actually increased. Guard dogs have other ecological impacts too. They have been found to spread diseases to wild animals, including endangered Ethiopian wolves. They may also compete with other carnivores for food. And by creating a 'landscape of fear', their mere presence can influence the behaviour of prey animals.

G. The evidence so far, however, indicates that these consequences aren't always negative. Guard dogs can deliver unexpected benefits by protecting vulnerable wildlife from predators. For example, their presence has been found to protect birds which build their nests on the ground in fields, where foxes would normally raid them. Indeed, Australian researchers are now using dogs to enhance biodiversity and create refuges for species threatened by predation. So if we can get this right, there may be a bright future for guard dogs in promoting harmonious coexistence between humans and wildlife.

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Questions 27-31

Which paragraph contains the following information ?

Write the correct letter, **A-G,** in boxes on your answer sheet.

NB You may use any letter more than once.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
27 An example of how one predator has been protected by the introduction of livestock guard dogs	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
28 An optimistic suggestion about the possible positive developments in the use of livestock guard dogs	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
29 A description of how the methods used by livestock guard dogs help to keep predators away	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
30 Claims by different academics that the use of livestock guard dogs is a successful way of protecting farmers' herds	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
31 A reference to how livestock guard dogs gain their skills	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Questions 32-36

Look at the following statements and the list of people below.

Match each statement with the correct person,

Write the correct letter, **A E,** in boxes on your answer sheet

List of People

A. Dan Macon

B. Silvia Ribeiro

C. Linda van Bommel

D. Julie Young

E. Bethany Smith

	A	B	C	D	E
32 The use of guard dogs may save the lives of both livestock and wild animals.	○	○	○	○	○
33 Claims of a change in behaviour from those using livestock guard dogs may not be totally accurate.	○	○	○	○	○
34 There may be negative results if the use of livestock guard dogs is not sufficiently widespread.	○	○	○	○	○
35 Livestock guard dogs are the best way of protecting farm animals, as long as the dogs are appropriately handled.	○	○	○	○	○
36 Teaching a livestock guard dog how to do its work needs a different focus from teaching a house guard dog.	○	○	○	○	○

Questions 37-40

Complete the summary below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes on your answer sheet.

Unintended Ecological Effects of Using Guard Dogs

In Namibia, livestock guard dogs have been used to protect domestic animals from attacks by cheetahs.

This has led to a rise in the deaths of other predators, particularly **37** _____. In addition, it has been suggested that the dogs could have **38** _____ which may affect other species, and that they may reduce the amount of **39** _____ available to certain wild animals.

On the other hand, these dogs may help birds by protecting their nests. These might otherwise be threatened by predators such as **40** _____.

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**Teacher**	she became an art teacher and taught in elementary schools, high schools, and colleges in Virginia, Texas, and South Carolina from 1911 to 1918
2	**Charcoal**	During this period, O'Keeffe began to experiment with creating abstract compositions in charcoal, and produced a series of innovative drawings that led her art in a new direction
3	**skyscrapers**	By the mid-1920s, O'Keeffe was recognized as one of America's most important and successful artists, widely known for the architectural pictures that dramatically depict the soaring skyscrapers of New York
4	**Flowers**	In her magnified images depicting flowers, begun in 1924, O'Keeffe brings the viewer right into the picture.
5	**Bones**	at first, it was the numerous sun-bleached bones she came across in the state's rugged terrain that sparked her imagination
6	**Landscape**	However, it was the region's spectacular landscape, with its unusual geological formations, vivid colours, clarity of light, and exotic vegetation, that held the artist's imagination for more than four decades
7	**Rivers**	Flying in planes inspired her last two major series – aerial views of rivers and expansive paintings of the sky viewed from just above clouds.
8	**FALSE**	Remarkably, she remained independent from shifting art trends and her work stayed true to her own vision
9	**TRUE**	By the time she graduated from high school in 1905, she had determined to make her way as an artist
10	**FALSE**	She sent some of these drawings to a friend in New York, who showed them to art collector and photographer Alfred Stieglitz in January 1916
11	**TRUE**	The ups and downs of their personal and professional relationship were recorded in Stieglitz's celebrated black-and-white portraits of O'Keeffe, taken over the course of twenty years (1917-37)
12	**NOT GIVEN**	one feature of the Abiquiú house – the large walled patio with its black door – was particularly inspirational. In more than thirty pictures between 1946 and 1960, she reinvented the patio into an abstract arrangement of geometric shapes

#	Answer	Explanation
13	**NOT GIVEN**	The last two decades of the artist's life were relatively unproductive as ill health and blindness hindered her ability to work
14	**C**	There have been many attempts to restore the island's coastal mangroves: ecosystems of trees and shrubs that help defend coastal areas by trapping sediment in their net-like root systems, elevating the sea bed and dampening the energy of waves and tidal currents
15	**A**	Even if we stopped all CO2 emissions tomorrow, we would continue to see the impact of the CO2 already released since industrial times, with scientists forecasting that global warming would continue for around 40 years
16	**D**	It's much cheaper than permanently elevating houses, English explains – about a third of what it would cost to completely replace a building's foundations
17	**F**	Using a Geographic Information System data mapping tool, the programme identified streets with low tree canopy cover in three of the city's neighbourhoods
18	**Pumps**	In addition to the road adaptations, the city has set up new pumps that can remove up to 75,000 litres of water per minute
19	**Dams**	So, Wetlands International started out with a different approach, building semi-permeable dams, made from bamboo poles and brushwood, to mimic the role of mangrove roots and create favourable conditions for mangroves to grow back naturally
20	**Float**	As the floodwaters rose in the rice fields of the Mekong Delta in September 2018, four small houses rose with them. Homes in this part of Vietnam are traditionally built on stilts but these ones had been built to float.
21	**Crops**	'Almost 35 million people living on the coastal belt of Bangladesh are currently affected by soil and water salinity,' says Raisa Chowdhury of the international development organisation ICCO Cooperation. Rather than fighting against it, one project is helping communities adapt to salt-affected soils. ICCO Cooperation has been working with 10,000 farmers in Bangladesh to start cultivating naturally salt-tolerant crops in the region
22	**Trees**	He leads the Cool Streets LA programme, a series of pilot projects, which include the planting of trees
23	**B**	For long-term success, it's critical that we transition towards multifunctional approaches that embed natural processes and that engage and benefit communities and local decision-makers

#	Answer	Explanation
24	**E**	‘Urban cooling is literally a matter of life and death for our future in LA,’ says Spotts
25	**A**	‘We know that in 20, 30, 40 years, we’ll need to go back in there and adjust to the changing environment,’ she says
26	**C**	but this technology is becoming necessary in places that didn’t previously need it
27	**D**	When guard dogs were introduced, more than 90 per cent of farmers reported a dramatic reduction in livestock losses, and said that as a result they were less likely to kill predators
28	**G**	So if we can get this right, there may be a bright future for guard dogs in promoting harmonious coexistence between humans and wildlife
29	**B**	The dogs will place themselves between the livestock and any threat, barking loudly. If necessary, they will chase away predators, but often their mere presence is sufficient
30	**C**	The evidence indicates that guard dogs are highly effective. For example, in Portugal, biologist Silvia Ribeiro has found that more than 90 per cent of the farmers participating in a programme to train and use guard dogs to protect their herds against attack from wolves rate the performance of the dogs as very good or excellent
31	**B**	These dogs are raised from an early age with the animals they will be watching and eventually these animals become the dog’s family
32	**D**	‘If ranchers don’t have a dead cow, they will not make a call to apply for a permit to kill a wolf.’
33	**E**	Looking at all the published evidence, Bethany Smith at Nottingham Trent University in the UK found that up to 88 per cent of farmers said they no longer killed predators after using dogs – but warned that such self-reported results must be taken with a pinch of salt
34	**B**	‘If we are not working with everybody, we are transferring the wolf pressure to the neighbour’s herd and he can use poison and kill an entire pack of wolves.’
35	**C**	‘If they are managed and used properly, livestock guard dogs are the most efficient control method that we have in terms of the amount of livestock that they save from predation,’ says van Bommel

#	Answer	Explanation
36	**A**	‘Their initial training is to make them understand that livestock is going to be their life,’ says Dan Macon, a shepherd with three guard dogs
37	**Jackals**	In 2015, researchers reported that in spite of the impact farmers obtaining guard dogs had on cheetahs, the number of jackals killed by dogs and people actually increased
38	**Diseases**	They have been found to spread diseases to wild animals, including endangered Ethiopian wolves
39	**Food**	They may also compete with other carnivores for food
40	**Foxes**	For example, their presence has been found to protect birds which build their nests on the ground in fields, where foxes would normally raid them.

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Listening Test 1

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Part 1 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1696216-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-1-audio-1.mp3

Questions 1-10

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Restaurant Recommendations

Name of restaurant	Location	Reason for recommendation	Other comments
The Junction	Greyson Street, near the station	Good for people who are especially keen on [1] _____	Quite expensive The [2] _____ is a good place for a drink
Paloma	In Bow Street next to the cinema	[3] _____ food, good for sharing	Staff are very friendly Need to pay £50 deposit A limited selection of [4] _____ food on the menu

The **5** _____	At the top of a **6** _____	A famous chef All the **7** _____ are very good Only uses **8** _____ ingredients	Set lunch costs £ **9** _____ per person Portions probably of **10** _____ size

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Part 2 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1696218-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-1-audio-2.mp3

Questions 11-16

Choose the correct letter, **A, B, or C.**

11 Heather says pottery differs from other art forms because

- **A** ○ It lasts longer in the ground.
- **B** ○ It is practised by more people.
- **C** ○ It can be repaired more easily.

12 Archaeologists sometimes identify the use of ancient pottery from

- **A** ○ The clay it was made with.
- **B** ○ The marks that are on it.
- **C** ○ The basic shape of it.

13 Some people join Heather's pottery class because they want to

- **A** ○ Create an item that looks very old.
- **B** ○ Find something that they are good at.
- **C** ○ Make something that will outlive them.

14 What does Heather value most about being a potter?

- **A** ○ Its calming effect
- **B** ○ Its messy nature
- **C** ○ Its physical benefits

15 Most of the visitors to Edelman Pottery

- **A** ○ Bring friends to join courses.
- **B** ○ Have never made a pot before.
- **C** ○ Try to learn techniques too quickly.

16 Heather reminds her visitors that they should

- **A** ○ Put on their aprons.
- **B** ○ Change their clothes.
- **C** ○ Take off their jewellery.

Questions 17-18

Choose **TWO** letters**, A–E.**

17 **18** Which **TWO** things does Heather explain about kilns?

- **A** ☐ What their function is
- **B** ☐ When they were invented
- **C** ☐ Ways of keeping them safe
- **D** ☐ Where to put one in your home
- **E** ☐ What some people use instead of one

Questions 19-20

Choose **TWO** letters**, A–E.**

19 **20** Which points does Heather make about a potter's tools?

- **A** ☐ Some are hard to hold.
- **B** ☐ Some are worth buying.
- **C** ☐ Some are essential items.
- **D** ☐ Some have memorable names.
- **E** ☐ Some are available for use by participants.

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Part 3 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1696219-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-1-audio-3.mp3

Questions 21-22

Choose **TWO** letters, **A E.**

21 **22** Which **TWO** things do the students both believe are responsible for the increase in loneliness?

- **A** ☐ Social media
- **B** ☐ Smaller nuclear families
- **C** ☐ Urban design
- **D** ☐ Longer lifespans
- **E** ☐ A mobile workforce

Questions 23-24

Choose **TWO** letters**, A–E.**

23 **24** Which **TWO** health risks associated with loneliness do the students agree are based on solid evidence?

- **A** ☐ A weakened immune system
- **B** ☐ Dementia
- **C** ☐ Cancer
- **D** ☐ Obesity
- **E** ☐ Cardiovascular disease

Questions 25-26

Choose **TWO** letters, **A–E.**

25 **26** Which **TWO** opinions do both the students express about the evolutionary theory of loneliness?

- **A** ☐ It has little practical relevance.
- **B** ☐ It needs further investigation.
- **C** ☐ It is misleading.
- **D** ☐ It should be more widely accepted.
- **E** ☐ It is difficult to understand.

Questions 27-30

Choose the correct letter, **A, B, or C.**

27 When comparing loneliness to depression, the students

- **A** ○ Doubt that there will ever be a medical cure for loneliness.
- **B** ○ Claim that the link between loneliness and mental health is overstated.
- **C** ○ Express frustration that loneliness is not taken more seriously.

28 Why do the students decide to start their presentation with an example from their own experience?

- **A** ○ To explain how difficult loneliness can be
- **B** ○ To highlight a situation that most students will recognise
- **C** ○ To emphasise that feeling lonely is more common for men than women

29 The students agree that talking to strangers is a good strategy for dealing with loneliness because

- **A** ○ It creates a sense of belonging.
- **B** ○ It builds self-confidence.
- **C** ○ It makes people feel more positive.

30 The students find it difficult to understand why solitude is considered to be

- **A** ○ Similar to loneliness.
- **B** ○ Necessary for mental health.
- **C** ○ An enjoyable experience.

PART 4 — QUESTIONS

Part 4 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1696220-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-1-audio-4.mp3

Questions 31-40

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD ONLY** for each answer.

Reclaiming Urban Rivers

Historical Background

Nearly all major cities were built on a river.

Rivers were traditionally used for transport, fishing, and recreation.

Industrial development and rising populations later led to:

-More sewage from houses being discharged into the river.

-Pollution from **31** _____ on the river bank.

In 1957, the River Thames in London was declared biologically **32** _____

Recent Improvements

Seals and even a **33** _____ have been seen in the River Thames.

Riverside warehouses are converted to restaurants and **34** _____

In Los Angeles, there are plans to:

Build a riverside **35** _____

Display **36** _____ projects.

In Paris, **37** _____ are created on the sides of the river every summer.

Transport Possibilities

Over 2 billion passengers already travel by **38** _____ in cities around the world.

Changes in shopping habits mean the number of deliveries that are made is increasing.

Instead of road transport, goods can be transported by large freight barges and electric **39** _____, or, in future, by **40** _____

Transcripts

Part 1

WOMAN: I've been meaning to ask you for some advice about restaurants. I need to book somewhere to celebrate my sister's 30th birthday, and I liked the sound of that place you went to for your mum's 50th.

MAN: The Junction. Yeah, I'd definitely recommend that for a special occasion. We had a great time there. Everyone really enjoyed it.

WOMAN: Where is it again? I can't remember.

MAN: It on Grayson Street only about a two walk from the station

WOMAN: Oh that good I prefer not to have to drive anywhere But I don want to have to walk too far either.

MAN: Yes, the location's perfect, but that's not necessarily why I'd recommend it. The food's amazing. If you like fish, it's probably the best restaurant in town for that. It's always really fresh and there are lots of interesting dishes to choose from But all the food is good there

WOMAN: Is it really expensive?

MAN: It's certainly not cheap, but for a special occasion I think it's fine It's got a great atmosphere and before dinner you can go up on the roof and have a drink It's really nice up there, but you need to book It's very popular as the views are spectacular.

WOMAN: Sounds good. So that's definitely a possibility then. Is there anywhere else you can think of?

MAN: If you want somewhere a bit less formal, then you could try Paloma.

WOMAN:Where's that? I haven't heard of it.

MAN: No, it's quite new. It's only been open a few months, but it's got a great reputation already. It's in a really beautiful old building on Bow Street.

WOMAN:Oh, I think I know where you mean. Right beside the cinema.

MAN: Yes, that's it. I've only been there a couple of times, but I was really impressed. The chef used to work at Don Felipe's, apparently. I was really sorry when that closed down.

WOMAN: So is all the food they serve Spanish, then?

MAN: Yeah. You can get lots of small dishes to share, which always works really well if you're in a group.

WOMAN: Hmm. Worth thinking about.

MAN: Yeah. There's a lively atmosphere and the waiters are really friendly. The only thing is that you need to pay a £50 deposit to book a table.

WOMAN: A lot of restaurants are doing that these days. I should have a look at the menu to check there a good choice of vegetarian dishes. A couple of my friends have stopped eating meat.

MAN: Not sure I say the selection of those would be quite limited.

MAN: I've just thought of another idea. Have you been to the Audley?

WOMAN: No, don't think I've heard of it. How's it spelt?

MAN: A-U-D-L-E-Y. You must have heard of it. There's been a lot about it in the press.

WOMAN: I don't tend to pay much attention to that kind of thing. So where is it exactly?

MAN: It's in that hotel near Baxter Bridge, on the top floor.

WOMAN: Oh, the views would be incredible from up there.

MAN: Yeah, I'd love to go. I can't think of the chef's name, but she was a judge on that TV cookery show recently. And she's written a couple of cookery books.

WOMAN: Oh, Angela Frayne.

MAN: That's the one. Anyway, it's had excellent reviews from all the newspapers.

WOMAN: That would be a memorable place for a celebration.

MAN: Definitely. Obviously it's worth going there just for the view, but the food is supposed to be really special.

WOMAN: She only likes cooking with local products doesn't she?

MAN: Yes. Everything at the restaurant has to be sourced within a short distance and absolutely nothing flown in from abroad.

WOMAN: I imagine it's really expensive, though.

MAN: Well, you could go for the set lunch. That's quite reasonable for a top-class restaurant. £30 a head. In the evening, I think it'd be more like £50.

WOMAN: At least that, I should think. But I'm sure everyone would enjoy it. It's not the kind of place you leave feeling hungry, though, is it? With tiny portions?

MAN: No, the reviews I've read didn't mention that. I imagine they'd be average.

WOMAN: Well, that's all great. Thanks so much.

Part 2

Hello and welcome. My name's Heather McCallum and I'm one of the potters who work here at Edelman Pottery. Before we go into the workshop, I just want to say a bit about the craft of pottery. Then we'll have a look at the equipment and you can try making a pot of your own. Like many people, I'm sure you

know that pottery as an art form is tens of thousands of years old. And we know this because it stands the test of time. Things like baskets and pictures don't survive in the earth in the same way that pots do. and even if ancient pots are found in small pieces they still provide a lot of information about the past. There no doubt that pottery has given archaeologists a fascinating insight into how ancient hls lived The shape of an artefact may have been lost but archaeologists can tell whether the pots were for, say, storage or cooking by examining the impressions on the clay, the scratches from tools, and the clay itself can reveal where the pots came from. When I ask people why they want to take a pottery class with me, they sometimes talk about these things. Like our ancestors, they hope that something they create will also last longer than they do, that their work, whether it is good or not, might say something about humanity many years after their death. Of course, you will all have your own reasons for coming here. As far as I'm concerned, what I love most is the concentration you need to make a good pot. That focus takes you away from the stresses of everyday life. If you're elderly, it's also good exercise for hands and wrists and helps with arthritis. And of course, it's a fun activity for children because it's so messy. Here at Edelman Pottery, we show you some of the basic pottery techniques so that you can use these to create whatever you wish. A gift for a friend, perhaps. Like nearly everyone who comes here, I'm sure this is the first time you will have tried the art So we'll keep things simple today Now, before we move on, can I just say a word about what you're wearing? As we said in our email please remove any watches necklaces etc and put them somewhere safe If you have long hair do tie it back now We provide aprons later but I trust your clothes are old but comfortable not your favourite T-shirt or jeans.

So now we're in the workshop. Have a look around. There's a lot going on. To make pottery that will last, you need a potter's wheel, a kiln, which is basically a very hot oven where you fire the pottery, and some tools. So, first, the kiln. If you look over in the far corner, you'll see one of ours. Since their invention, kilns have changed very little, though in the past 20 years a lot of progress has been made in temperature control. Basically, a kiln removes the water from clay at temperatures of around 1000 degrees Celsius. This allows anything you've made to set permanently in shape. It's a pretty ugly heavy object that's hard to keep in a house or flat, so most people don't have one.

You may think, can't I use my oven? Well, that's possible, but domestic ovens don't really get hot enough and eventually the clay will crack and fall apart. Some people fire pottery in a fire pit outside but bear in mind... that can be dangerous You also need to know about safety procedures for kilns as they release toxic compounds into the air Every potter needs a potter's wheel. This machine is used to shape the clay into an object with circular walls or sides, such as a bowl. Its invention revolutionised the pottery industry, allowing multiple items to be produced in a day. Lastly, there are a number of different tools that potters use, depending on what they want to make. When you start, your hands can make all kinds of shapes and curves without relying on a sculpting tool. However, there are some basic tools that you will need to handle the clay on the wheel. Some look very strange and have even odder names that you may find hard to remember. Rather than go through them all now, I'll just name a few tools as we go along. We can provide these and I wouldn't recommend spending money on them yet. So, let's try making a pot of your own. If you sit down...

Part 3

TAMARA Shall we go through the notes we've made from our research into loneliness now, Dev?

DEV OK, Tamara. It's been a real eye-opener. I had no idea that loneliness has been increasing steadily for the last 20 years.

TAMARA I know. And it's the same all over the world. The downside of a modern lifestyle, I guess.

DEV Did you come to any conclusions about what the reasons for the increase are?

TAMARA Well, I'd assumed it was mainly an issue for the elderly, but in fact it's something which affects young people just as much.

DEV So nothing really to do with longer lifespans. What about social media? In my case, far from

making me feel isolated, it actually does the opposite. it?

TAMARA It definitely does more good than harm. I'd say loneliness has a lot to do with the way cities are designed. People living in high flats with not much opportunity to speak to their neighbours

DEV I think you right

TAMARA Another possible reason is that people are having fewer children and don live in large extended family groups.

DEV But in this country anyway, that all changed decades ago. And yet loneliness is a more recent problem.

TAMARA I suppose so. A more plausible explanation is that people are having to move around for work and often end up living miles away from their family and friends.

DEV That's true.

TAMARA Looking at the studies on health risks and loneliness, there are claims that loneliness has as much impact as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

DEV Or similar to the risks caused by obesity. But I'm not sure there's enough evidence for some of these claims.

TAMARA Well, what about that one in Finland, which showed that loneliness increased the risk of cancer by about 10%? And those findings have been supported by other studies too.

DEV You're right about that one. I was actually thinking of the studies on dementia. Some found no association between loneliness and dementia, and others found the opposite.

TAMARA Not exactly reliable, then. There's been a lot of research on cardiovascular disease and whether loneliness contributes to that.

DEV Yes, I read that it was hard to reach a judgment, as the definition of loneliness varied quite a lot, and the responses from participants were too subjective. But there's no doubt that loneliness contributes to a weakened immune system.

TAMARA Unquestionably. The data on that is sound.

DEV What did you think about the evolutionary theory of loneliness?

TAMARA Well I thought the idea that loneliness evolved because it motivated people to be with other people is quite convincing. Survival often depended on group cooperation.

DEV But I don't think there is enough evidence to claim that there must be a group of neurons in our brains which influence social behaviour by making us feel bad when we're alone.

TAMARA There are a few studies which support the theory, but not conclusively enough. More evidence is needed.

DEV And anyway, this theory's not really useful when it comes to solving the problem of loneliness today.

TAMARA True.

DEV Should we look at the relationship between loneliness and mental health now?

TAMARA OK. So, loneliness and depression are clearly related and that's been recognised by various governments around the world. But unlike depression, loneliness has no recognised clinical form.

DEV There's no available diagnosis or effective treatment and that's not likely to change.

TAMARA I don't think so either I was thinking we should start our presentation with an example from our own experience. I like to talk about how lonely I was when I started university being away from home for the first time and all that

DEV Good idea. Everyone will be able to relate to that although a lot of students were probably too embarrassed to admit to it.

TAMARA Yeah. We could discuss ways of dealing with loneliness as well, like just talking to strangers.

DEV Loads of studies have shown that interactions with shop assistants and bar staff make people feel more optimistic and relaxed.

TAMARA I don't know about that, but it must make people feel more connected with their community.

DEV True, although you need to be a certain kind of person to be able to just strike up a conversation.

TAMARA Good point. We should say something about solitude and how being alone and being lonely aren't the same thing. It's strange the way some people can't stand being by themselves while others love it.

DEV Yeah, the research shows a certain amount of solitude is beneficial for wellbeing, which I appreciate, but being alone isn't something I actually like. I'd never choose to go on holiday alone, for example.

TAMARA Me neither.

DEV Well, let's not...

Part 4

It’s quite hard to think of a city that doesn’t have a big river running through it. If you think about the major cities in the world, Shanghai, New York, Mumbai, London, they’re nearly all built on rivers. When these cities were established hundreds or even thousands of years ago, the rivers were a big part of people’s lives. In 16th century London, the quickest way to get from one part of the city to another was by river. But people also used the river for fishing, as the water then was relatively clean, and they would also go on boat trips up and down the river just for pleasure, as a relaxing escape from the noise and bustle of the city streets But as industries developed and populations increased city rivers suffered The rising number of people meant there was a huge increase in the amount of sewage discharged into the rivers. Rivers had always been used for this purpose, but when the number of inhabitants was so small, that wasn’t such a problem. However, as cities grew to over a million inhabitants, the impact on the rivers became more serious. In addition, other types of pollution increased, as factories were built beside the river and discharged their waste materials into the water. This got worse over time. As recently as 1957, scientists at London’s Natural History Museum declared that the River Thames was dead in biological terms, as the water was too filthy to support any kind of life. But in recent years, as rivers lost their industrial function, cities have begun to recognise their true value and to take steps to clean them up. For example, the River Thames is now cleaner than it’s been for 150 years. These days you can see seals swimming in the water, and recently people had to try to rescue a whale, which had got lost and swum up the river from the sea by mistake. Unfortunately, they didn’t succeed, but the problem was disorientation rather than the quality of the water. Then, all around the world, riverside areas are now seen as prime sites for development. Warehouses that were once used for storing goods are now being converted into expensive restaurants and also into apartments with river views, which are in great demand and sell for astronomical prices. In Los Angeles, on the west coast of the USA, an architect has plans to revitalise the banks of the river and to make a park there which can provide facilities for sports as well as a natural environment for relaxing in It also hoped that the riverside can be used for other purposes It’s been proposed that facilities could be provided for displaying projects related to various kinds of art that have been produced by local people, for example. In the city of Paris, During the summer months of July and August, all the traffic is banned from the roads by the sides of the river, and the banks are transformed into beaches, where people can relax in deck chairs under potted palm trees, sunbathe or buy a drink or a snack while enjoying the view. But to make the most of our rivers in our increasingly crowded cities, we need to allow them to regain their original purpose and be used as a means of transport, reclaiming our streets from cars and lorries. To do this, we’ll have to shift more traffic back to the river, but this time cleanly and silently, making the most of modern technology. Already, more than two billion passengers use the ferry to travel in cities around the world, like Istanbul, San Francisco and New York, and these numbers are set to rise further. Admittedly, it’s not a fast way of travelling, but neither is a car when it’s stuck in traffic. Of course, passenger traffic on roads might decrease as more people start working from home, but another recent development, the huge rise in online shopping, has meant that another form of urban traffic just keeps on growing, and that’s deliveries. Trucks and vans in the city pollute and double-park while dropping off parcels. Imagine using the immense capacity of shipping to take these trucks off the road One freight barge can replace 44 large trucks uses far less energy and causes less pollution When the barge docks at the riverside the parcels could be taken the last few kilometres to their final destination on cargo bikes, electric ones of course. This is already happening in the Dutch city of Amsterdam, and in future the final stage could even be carried out by drone, although at present this isn’t allowed. Wouldn’t it be great to unblock our city centres in this way? Looking further ahead…

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**Fish**	The food's amazing. If you like fish, it's probably the best restaurant in town for that. It's always really fresh
2	**Roof**	It's got a great atmosphere and before dinner you can go up on the roof and have a drink
3	**Spanish**	So is all the food they serve Spanish, then?
4	**Vegetarian**	Not sure I say the selection of those would be quite limited
5	**Audley**	A-U-D-L-E-Y. You must have heard of it. There's been a lot about it in the press
6	**Hotel**	MAN: It's in that hotel near Baxter Bridge, on the top floor
7	**Reviews**	Anyway, it's had excellent reviews from all the newspapers
8	**Local**	Yes. Everything at the restaurant has to be sourced within a short distance and absolutely nothing flown in from abroad.
9	**30**	Well, you could go for the set lunch. That's quite reasonable for a top-class restaurant. £30 a head
10	**Average**	No, the reviews I've read didn't mention that. I imagine they'd be average
11	**A**	Things like baskets and pictures don't survive in the earth in the same way that pots do
12	**B**	Archaeologists can tell whether the pots were for, say, storage or cooking by examining the impressions on the clay, the scratches from tools, and the clay itself can reveal where the pots came from
13	**C**	Like our ancestors, they hope that something they create will also last longer than they do, that their work, whether it is good or not, might say something about humanity many years after their death
14	**A**	what I love most is the concentration you need to make a good pot. That focus takes you away from the stresses of everyday life
15	**B**	Like nearly everyone who comes here, I'm sure this is the first time you will have tried the art
16	**C**	Can I just say a word about what you're wearing? As we said in our email please remove any watches necklaces etc and put them somewhere safe

#	Answer	Explanation
17	**A / E**	To make pottery that will last, you need a potter’s wheel, a kiln, which is basically a very hot oven where you fire the pottery Some people fire pottery in a fire pit outside but bear in mind
18	**A / E**	To make pottery that will last, you need a potter’s wheel, a kiln, which is basically a very hot oven where you fire the pottery Some people fire pottery in a fire pit outside but bear in mind
19	**C / E**	However, there are some basic tools that you will need to handle the clay on the wheel We can provide these and I wouldn’t recommend spending money on them yet
20	**C / E**	However, there are some basic tools that you will need to handle the clay on the wheel We can provide these and I wouldn’t recommend spending money on them yet
21	**C / E**	I’d say loneliness has a lot to do with the way cities are designed. A more plausible explanation is that people are having to move around for work and often end up living miles away from their family and friends
22	**C / E**	I’d say loneliness has a lot to do with the way cities are designed. A more plausible explanation is that people are having to move around for work and often end up living miles away from their family and friends
23	**A / C**	But there’s no doubt that loneliness contributes to a weakened immune system. Well, what about that one in Finland, which showed that loneliness increased the risk of cancer by about 10%? And those findings have been supported by other studies too
24	**A / C**	But there’s no doubt that loneliness contributes to a weakened immune system. Well, what about that one in Finland, which showed that loneliness increased the risk of cancer by about 10%? And those findings have been supported by other studies too
25	**A / B**	There are a few studies which support the theory, but not conclusively enough. More evidence is needed. And anyway, this theory’s not really useful when it comes to solving the problem of loneliness today.
26	**A / B**	There are a few studies which support the theory, but not conclusively enough. More evidence is needed. And anyway, this theory’s not really useful when it comes to solving the problem of loneliness today.
27	**A**	There’s no available diagnosis or effective treatment and that’s not likely to change

#	Answer	Explanation
28	**B**	Good idea. Everyone will be able to relate to that although a lot of students were probably too embarrassed to admit to it.
29	**A**	but it must make people feel more connected with their community.
30	**C**	It’s strange the way some people can’t stand being by themselves while others love it
31	**Factories**	However, as cities grew to over a million inhabitants, the impact on the rivers became more serious. In addition, other types of pollution increased, as factories were built beside the river and discharged their waste materials into the water
32	**Dead**	As recently as 1957, scientists at London’s Natural History Museum declared that the River Thames was dead in biological terms, as the water was too filthy to support any kind of life
33	**Whale**	These days you can see seals swimming in the water, and recently people had to try to rescue a whale, which had got lost and swum up the river from the sea by mistake
34	**Apartments**	Warehouses that were once used for storing goods are now being converted into expensive restaurants and also into apartments with river views
35	**Park**	an architect has plans to revitalise the banks of the river and to make a park there which can provide facilities for sports as well as a natural environment for relaxing in
36	**Art**	It’s been proposed that facilities could be provided for displaying projects related to various kinds of art that have been produced by local people, for example
37	**Beaches**	In the city of Paris, During the summer months of July and August, all the traffic is banned from the roads by the sides of the river, and the banks are transformed into beaches
38	**Ferry**	Already, more than two billion passengers use the ferry to travel in cities around the world, like Istanbul, San Francisco and New York, and these numbers are set to rise further
39	**Bikes**	When the barge docks at the riverside the parcels could be taken the last few kilometres to their final destination on cargo bikes, electric ones of course
40	**Drone**	this is already happening in the Dutch city of Amsterdam, and in future the final stage could even be carried out by drone, although at present this isn’t allowed

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Listening Test 2

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Part 1 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1714876-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-2-audio1.mp3

Questions 1-10

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Local Councils can Arrange Practical Support to Help those Caring for Elderly people at Home.

This can give the carer:

– time for other responsibilities

– a [1] _____

Assessment of mother's needs

This may include discussion of:

– how much [2] _____ the caring involves

What types of tasks are involved, e.g.:

– help with dressing

– helping her have a [3] _____

– shopping

– helping with meals

– dealing with [4] _____

Any aspects of caring that are especially difficult, e.g.:

– loss of [5] _____

– [6] _____ her

– preventing a **7** _____

Types of support that may be offered to carers

– transport costs, e.g. cost of a **8** _____

– car-related costs, e.g. fuel and **9** _____

– help with housework

– help to reduce **10** _____

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Part 2 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715032-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-2-audio-part-2.mp3

Questions 11-16

What is the role of the volunteers in each of the following activities?

Choose **SIX** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A-I,** next to Questions

Community Volunteering and Local Festival Events

Information

A providing entertainment

B providing publicity about a council service

C contacting local businesses

D giving advice to visitors

E collecting feedback on events

F selling tickets

G introducing guest speakers at an event

H encouraging cooperation between local organisations

I helping people find their seats

11 walking around the town centre _____

12 helping at concerts _____

13 getting involved with community groups _____

14 helping with a magazine _____

15 participating at lunches for retired people _____

16 helping with the website _____

Questions 17-20

Choose the correct letter, **A, B or C.**

17 Which event requires the largest number of volunteers?

- **A** ○ the music festival
- **B** ○ the science festival
- **C** ○ the book festival

18 What is the most important requirement for volunteers at the festivals?

- **A** ○ interpersonal skills
- **B** ○ personal interest in the event
- **C** ○ flexibility

19 New volunteers will start working in the week beginning

- **A** ○ 2 September
- **B** ○ 9 September
- **C** ○ 23 September

20 What is the next annual event for volunteers?

- **A** ○ a boat trip
- **B** ○ a barbecue
- **C** ○ a party

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Part 3 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1703092-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-2-audio-3.mp3

Questions 21-25

What is Rosie and Colin's opinion about each of the following aspects of human geography?

Choose **FIVE** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A-G**, next to Questions

Urban Development and Human Geography Discussion

Opinion

A The information given about this was too vague.

B This may not be relevant to their course.

C This will involve only a small number of statistics.

D It will be easy to find facts about this.

E The facts about this may not be reliable.

F No useful research has been done on this.

G The information provided about this was interesting.

21 Population _____

22 Health _____

23 Economies _____

24 Culture _____

25 Poverty _____

Questions 26-30

Choose the correct letter, **A, B or C.**

26 Rosie says that in her own city the main problem is

- **A** ○ Crime
- **B** ○ Housing
- **C** ○ Unemployment

27 What recent additions to the outskirts of their cities are both students happy about?

- **A** ○ Conference centres
- **B** ○ Sports centres
- **C** ○ Retail centres

28 The students agree that developing disused industrial sites may

- **A** ○ Have unexpected costs
- **B** ○ Damage the urban environment
- **C** ○ Destroy valuable historical buildings

29 The students will mention Masdar City as an example of an attempt to achieve

- **A** ○ Daily collections for waste recycling
- **B** ○ Sustainable energy use
- **C** ○ Free transport for everyone

30 When discussing the ecotown of Greenhill Abbots, Colin is uncertain about

- **A** ○ What its objectives were
- **B** ○ Why there was opposition to it
- **C** ○ How much of it has actually been built

PART 4 — QUESTIONS

Part 4 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715033-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-2-audio-part-4.mp3

Questions 31-40

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD ONLY** for each answer.

Developing Food Trends

The growth in interest in food fashions started with **31** _____ of food being shared on social media.

The UK food industry is constantly developing products which are newor different.

Influencers on social media become 'ambassadors' for a brand.

Sales of **32** _____ food brands have grown rapidly this way.

Supermarkets track demand for ingredients on social media.

Famous **33** _____ are influential.

Marketing campaigns

The avocado:

— **34** _____ were invited to visit growers in South Africa.

— Advertising focused on its **35** _____ benefits.

Oat milk:

— A Swedish brand's media campaign received publicity by upsetting competitors.

— Promotion in the USA through **36** _____ shops reduced the need for advertising.

— It appealed to consumers who are concerned about the **37** _____

Norwegian skrei:

— has helped strengthen the **38** _____ of Norwegian seafood.

— Ethical concerns

Quinoa:

— Its success led to an increase in its **39** _____ .

— Overuse of resources resulted in poor quality **40** _____ .

Transcripts

Part 1

WOMAN It's really good to see you, Tom. Since I had to give up work, I feel I'm losing touch with my friends and colleagues.

MAN We really miss you in the office. We were all so sorry you had to leave. But you must be relieved to have more time to look after your mother. How is she?

WOMAN Well she is very cheerful, but she needs a lot of help.

MAN Have you tried to get any support from the local council?

WOMAN No, I didn't know I could.

MAN Yes, they offer different kinds of practical support. They realise that carers sometimes need time for all the other responsibilities they have, apart from the person they're caring for, and also that they sometimes need a break.

WOMAN Absolutely. OK, so tell me more. How do I go about getting this support?

MAN Well, you'd have to have an assessment of your mother's needs. That means someone would come round and talk to you about the situation and what you need. So, for a start, they'd want to know the amount of time you spend looking after your mother every day.

WOMAN OK.

MAN Then they'll probably ask you what sorts of tasks you do for your mother during the day. Things like if she needs help with getting dressed, for example.

WOMAN Right. I help her with that. And also I help her get into the shower in the morning.

MAN Yes, that sort of thing. They'll probably ask you if you do the shopping for her and help her at mealtimes, and whether she can cope using money.

WOMAN Yes, that's becoming a bit of a problem. She used to be very good at it, but not anymore.

MAN And be ready to tell them about anything you find particularly difficult about caring for your mother.

WOMAN So, recently I've noticed she's started to have quite bad problems with her memory. If I wasn't there, I think she'd forget to eat, for example. And often she doesn't seem quite sure what day it is.

MAN Yes, tell them about that. And are there any physical difficulties you have caring for her? Lifting her, for example?

WOMAN Yes, she's quite heavy and I'm afraid of hurting my back. I'd be in real trouble if that happened.

MAN They can give you advice about that and also about how to avoid the possibility of your mum having a fall.

WOMAN Great. So once they've done this assessment, if I'm eligible, what happens next?

MAN Well, they might support you financially. So they might help you with transport costs, like if you have to get a taxi to take your mother for an appointment, for example.

WOMAN I usually drive her myself, actually. So, could I claim the petrol?

MAN You could. And you can claim for the insurance too.

WOMAN Oh, right.

MAN And if you need help with the housework, they can arrange for someone to come along once or twice a week. And one other thing. I hope you don't mind me saying this, but it important you

look after yourself And it seems to me you under quite a bit of stress

WOMAN I am yes

MAN Well tell the council because they may be able to give you some advice on how to minimise it

WOMAN Really? Though, actually, I feel so much better having talked to you. I'll get in touch with the council straight away. Now, shall we go for coffee or something?

Part 2

Good morning everyone. I'm Steve Wainwright from Elmley Town Council and I organise the town's volunteer scheme. I'm delighted you're all interested in joining the scheme. Our volunteers help to create a sense of community among the many people who live in our historic town of Elmley and make residents and visitors feel welcome at local events. First, I'll mention just a few of the activities that volunteers carry out. One is to walk around the town centre streets wearing our volunteer T-shirt. Tourists often ask how to get to a particular shop, and they might also be grateful for recommendations about what to visit. The town holds a large number of concerts each year and part of the volunteers' role is to get everyone in the audience to the right place as smoothly as possible. You'd be surprised how many people buy tickets, then don't check them, and head for the wrong section of the hall. Volunteers may get involved with community groups, such as sports clubs or gardeners' associations. Here, the volunteers talk about how groups can help each other. For instance, a writing group might want to travel to another town to hear a talk by a well-known author, but may not know that another club has a coach they could travel in. The town produces a monthly magazine, and anyone who lives in the town can send in articles. It's free to residents and is paid for by local businesses. That's the responsibility of the council's advertising department. We depend on volunteers though to find out what people think of events they've attended and any suggestions they have for the future. The volunteers then send a summary to the editors. There are a number of clubs for retired people and every year the council arranges lunch for all the members. The volunteers welcome the guests and when everyone's sitting down and relaxing after the meal, some volunteers put on a show. Usually around half an hour of songs and short plays, the club members really welcome the chance to chat to the volunteers at these events. The town council has a website, of course, and volunteers are asked to help by making sure

residents know about it. It updated every day with information about future activities and we want as many people as possible to use it.

As you probably know, the town arranges three major festivals every year, and they all depend on a large number of volunteers. The book festival lasts three days, and uses several venues which all need volunteers. More are needed for the music festival because that lasts a whole week, and even more help is required for the science festival, even though it's only two days long. It involves quite a lot of venues, though. It's a good idea to help at the festival you're most interested in, because you can attend most of the events for free. We try to use volunteers who are flexible, though, because some festival events are held outdoors and the weather may affect the size of the audience and even whether the event can take place so there can be changes at short notice What essential though is being able to get on well with other people and also to deal with someone who's behaving badly, as occasionally happens. Our plan is to get you all working in September, after a week's training starting on the 2nd, so we'll be timetabling you for duties the following week from the 9th onward. Later in the week beginning September 23rd we have a chat with each of you to find out how you feel about being a volunteer and what extra support you need. As a thank you to the volunteers we arrange an annual event. In recent years we've had a party in the Town Hall and last year a barbecue in Chamber Park. Our forthcoming event is a trip along the canal from here to Dewhurst and back. It's on Saturday, September the 28th. And if you'd like to attend, you can sign up once you start work. Now, this is the Volunteer's T-shirt.

Part 3

ROSIE Colin, I'm really struggling to think of a topic for our human geography assignment.

COLIN Me too, Rosie. I'll tell you what, let's think about the different aspects of human geography and see if we can narrow the topic down a bit to help us decide.

ROSIE OK. So one aspect is population. That would be all about population density and migration and so on. Lots of facts and statistics. Maybe a bit boring?

COLIN Yeah, but quite straightforward to find on the internet.

ROSIE Suppose so. How about health? I'd never thought about the links between that and geography until Professor Lee gave us that lecture on cholera. How in the 19th century, a physician used street plans and plans of water supplies to find the source of a cholera epidemic.

COLIN Yes, fascinating, wasn't it? Or we could do something more general like economies

ROSIE So how financial and commercial factors are linked to the physical environment

COLIN Yeah

ROSIE I thought that had been taken off the syllabus for this year

COLIN Has it?

ROSIE I'm not sure but it might be best to avoid it

COLIN OK. Maybe we could do something on culture. We had that lecture about culture and geography last week.

ROSIE I didn't get much out of that. It was all so general and the lecturer didn't give any useful examples.

COLIN Yeah, I hardly took any notes. It didn't seem worth it.

ROSIE Me neither.

COLIN We could focus on poverty. That's something that's a global problem.

ROSIE The trouble is, Dr Lee was saying, that you have to be careful with some of the figures relating to poverty. They're sometimes deliberately manipulated.

COLIN You mean the information gets changed for political reasons?

ROSIE That sort of thing, yes.

ROSIE So what are we going to do our assignment on? I'll tell you what. One of the possibilities we have discussed is urbanisation and now over half the world population lives in cities. That really important

COLIN OK good idea Rosie Let do that

ROSIE I love living in a big city but of course there are problems

COLIN Things like theft and robbery?

ROSIE Yes, but where I come from, that's linked to another more serious issue, which is that a lot of people don't have jobs. That's getting worse and worse. And we also still have quite a lot of people who are homeless, though that's not quite so bad as it was.

COLIN It would be nice to talk about some positive developments, like some of the new developments on the outskirts of cities.

ROSIE Yeah, they've opened some massive new shopping centres outside my city.

COLIN Yeah, the same with mine, but it means a lot of the shops in the city centre are closing down. But the outskirts are ideal for buildings that need a lot of space, like for conferences. They've opened a couple of big ones.

ROSIE Yes, we've got some too. It'd be nicer to have more facilities for things like football too, but that's not happening where I live.

COLIN Same in my area.

ROSIE We could include something about developing disused industrial sites. It seems like a good idea because you're not doing any harm to the natural environment.

COLIN Yeah, but aren't the buildings architecturally significant?

ROSIE Not really. And what people forget is that they often used quite dangerous materials, chemicals and things, which haven't been properly cleared away, so the whole site has to be made safe.

COLIN Hmm, that can't be cheap. And I bet it's often not budgeted for.

ROSIE You're right.

COLIN Have you read about Masdar City?

ROSIE In Abu Dhabi? Yes. It was designed to be a green city, wasn't it? That might be a good example of a city which set out to depend entirely on renewable energy.

COLIN Yes. We should say something about that. It was designed to be totally pedestrianised too wasn't it with the transport underground

ROSIE Yes and they had big plans for recycling to reduce waste to the lowest possible level But let's stick to talking about power sources.

COLIN Then there's that ecotown in England, Greenhill Abbotts. It set out to conform to the usual principles, sustainability and so on. A lot of people were against it at first. They said the plans were unrealistic. I'm not sure how far they've got with it. I'll check.

ROSIE Right. So it looks as if we have a sort of plan.

Part 4

There are trends in food much as there are trends in clothing. Interest in food fashions has risen rapidly since the birth of the smartphone when people first began taking photos of their food and instantly sharing them with their friends. The food industry in the UK in particular is obsessed with finding and exploiting the next big food trend. Marketeers aim to create a huge demand for a food item which was previously unknown or not needed. One of the most effective ways of promoting a new food product is by using social media influencers as brand ambassadors In return for free samples many influencers will post content about a product although there are influencers with hundreds of thousands of followers who can command large fees for their services Companies which sell vegan produce were pioneers in being able to increase sales really quickly in this way. For a food item to become really popular, it has to be readily available. So supermarkets have a role to play in creating a new food trend. They have dedicated teams closely following which new products or ingredients are trending on social media and are particularly interested in what well-known chefs are putting on their menus. I'd like to look at a few examples of marketing campaigns which were really successful in launching a new fashion trend. Starting in the 1990s with the avocado. A British PR company was hired to raise its profile and stimulate demand. They paid for a group of journalists to travel out to South Africa to meet avocado farmers. Articles written following this visit helped to educate the British public about the avocado, which at this time was certainly not the daily staple it's since become. Advertisements were designed to promote the avocado as a superfood, rich in nutrients and therefore beneficial for health. Avocados became hugely fashionable, and within a few years UK avocado sales had grown from £13 million annually to around £150 million, making it one of the most successful fresh produce campaigns in UK history. Oat milk is a recent example of a new product which became fashionable very quickly. Now there are many brands available but one company which had early success was the Swedish brand Oatly They attracted a lot of attention with a media campaign which used provocation as a way of getting their message across

effectively. The fact that this campaign aggravated competitors producing milk from dairy cows was seen as a plus, as it helped to make oat milk seem cool. In the USA, the brand decided against a big retail launch in favour of getting the product into coffee chains, which removed the need for a big advertising budget. This proved far more effective than offering samples in supermarkets. Oat milk had an advantage over other alternative milk products, such as almond milk. Many consumers prefer it because it has less of an impact on the environment. It requires significantly less water to produce than other alternative milk products and it also has a relatively low carbon footprint. Norwegian scray, a rarely available seasonal fish delicacy, otherwise known as Arctic cod, is now found on the menus of Michelin-starred restaurants throughout Europe. The demand for Skre has been used by a food marketing agency to build the reputation of Norway's fisheries in general. Marketing surveys have shown that a significant number of shoppers now associate Norway with excellent seafood. Food trends can be considered a good thing in some ways, as they can benefit farmers and food producers enormously. The public can also be encouraged to buy things which are more sustainably produced. But ethical concerns have been raised about the effects a surge in demand can cause. Quinoa is a classic example. This plant is native to Peru and when demand peaked some years ago, the price soared, making it unaffordable for local people. While the popularity of quinoa has benefited farmers financially there have been other negative consequences. As demand grew, farmers began working the land all year round in order to produce more quinoa. One issue has been that the fertility of the soil decreased dramatically. which could potentially lead to desertification in some areas. Another example would be the case of...

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**Break**	They realise that carers sometimes need time for all the other responsibilities they have, apart from the person they're caring for, and also that they sometimes need a break
2	**Time**	they'd want to know the amount of time you spend looking after your mother every day.
3	**Shower**	I help her get into the shower in the morning
4	**Money**	They'll probably ask you if you do the shopping for her and help her at mealtimes, and whether she can cope using money.
5	**Memory**	So, recently I've noticed she's started to have quite bad problems with her memory. If I wasn't there, I think she'd forget to eat, for example. And often she doesn't seem quite sure what day it is
6	**Lifting**	And are there any physical difficulties you have caring for her? Lifting her, for example
7	**Fall**	They can give you advice about that and also about how to avoid the possibility of your mum having a fall
8	**Taxi**	they might help you with transport costs, like if you have to get a taxi to take your mother for an appointment, for example
9	**Insurance**	And you can claim for the insurance too
10	**Stress**	it seems to me you under quite a bit of stress
11	**D**	One is to walk around the town centre streets wearing our volunteer T-shirt. Tourists often ask how to get to a particular shop, and they might also be grateful for recommendations about what to visit
12	**I**	part of the volunteers' role is to get everyone in the audience to the right place as smoothly as possible
13	**H**	Volunteers may get involved with community groups, such as sports clubs or gardeners' associations. Here, the volunteers talk about how groups can help each other.
14	**E**	We depend on volunteers though to find out what people think of events they've attended and any suggestions they have for the future. The volunteers then send a summary to the editors

#	Answer	Explanation
15	**A**	some volunteers put on a show. Usually around half an hour of songs and short plays, the club members really welcome the chance to chat to the volunteers at these events
16	**B**	The town council has a website, of course, and volunteers are asked to help by making sure residents know about it
17	**B**	More are needed for the music festival because that lasts a whole week, and even more help is required for the science festival, even though it's only two days long
18	**A**	What essential though is being able to get on well with other people and also to deal with someone who's behaving badly, as occasionally happens
19	**B**	Our plan is to get you all working in September, after a week's training starting on the 2nd, so we'll be timetabling you for duties the following week from the 9th onward
20	**A**	Our forthcoming event is a trip along the canal from here to Dewhurst and back. It's on Saturday, September the 28th
21	**D**	Yeah, but quite straightforward to find on the internet
22	**G**	Yes, fascinating, wasn't it
23	**B**	I thought that had been taken off the syllabus for this year
24	**A**	I didn't get much out of that. It was all so general and the lecturer didn't give any useful examples
25	**E**	The trouble is, Dr Lee was saying, that you have to be careful with some of the figures relating to poverty. They're sometimes deliberately manipulated
26	**C**	Yes, but where I come from, that's linked to another more serious issue, which is that a lot of people don't have jobs.
27	**A**	But the outskirts are ideal for buildings that need a lot of space, like for conferences. They've opened a couple of big ones.
28	**A**	Hmm, that can't be cheap. And I bet it's often not budgeted for
29	**B**	It was designed to be a green city, wasn't it? That might be a good example of a city which set out to depend entirely on renewable energy
30	**C**	I'm not sure how far they've got with it
31	**Photos / Photographs / Pictures**	Interest in food fashions has risen rapidly since the birth of the smartphone when people first began taking photos of their food and instantly sharing them with their friends

#	Answer	Explanation
32	**Vegan**	Companies which sell vegan produce were pioneers in being able to increase sales really quickly in this way
33	**Chefs / Cooks**	particularly interested in what well-known chefs are putting on their menus
34	**Journalists / Reporters**	They paid for a group of journalists to travel out to South Africa to meet avocado farmers
35	**Health**	Advertisements were designed to promote the avocado as a superfood, rich in nutrients and therefore beneficial for health
36	**Coffee**	In the USA, the brand decided against a big retail launch in favour of getting the product into coffee chains, which removed the need for a big advertising budget
37	**Environment**	Oat milk had an advantage over other alternative milk products, such as almond milk. Many consumers prefer it because it has less of an impact on the environment
38	**Reputation**	The demand for Skre has been used by a food marketing agency to build the reputation of Norway's fisheries in general
39	**Price / Cost**	when demand peaked some years ago, the price soared, making it unaffordable for local people
40	**Soil**	One issue has been that the fertility of the soil decreased dramatically

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Listening Test 3

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Part 1 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1703303-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-3-audio-1.mp3

Questions 1-10

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Furniture Rental Companies

Name of company	Information about costs	Additional notes
Peak Rentals	Prices range from $105 to $ **1** _____ per room per month.	The furniture is very **2** _____ Delivers in 1-2 days Special offer: free **3** _____ with every living room set
4 _____ and Oliver	Mid-range prices 12% monthly free for **5** _____	Also offers a cleaning service
Larch Furniture	Offers cheapest prices for renting furniture and **6** _____ items	Must have own **7** _____ Minimum contract length: six months
8 _____ Rentals	See the **9** _____ for the most up-to-date prices	**10** _____ are allowed within 7 days of delivery

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Part 2 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715034-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-3-audio-part-2.mp3

Questions 11-16

Choose the correct letter, **A, B or C**

11 Who was responsible for starting the community project?

- **A** ○ The castle owners
- **B** ○ A national charity
- **C** ○ The local council

12 How was the gold coin found?

- **A** ○ Heavy rain had removed some of the soil
- **B** ○ The ground was dug up by wild rabbits
- **C** ○ A person with a metal detector searched the area

13 What led the archaeologists to believe there was an ancient village on this site?

- **A** ○ The lucky discovery of old records
- **B** ○ The bases of several structures visible in the grass
- **C** ○ The unusual stones found near the castle

14 What are the team still hoping to find?

- **A** ○ Everyday pottery
- **B** ○ Animal bones
- **C** ○ Pieces of jewellery

15 What was found on the other side of the river to the castle?

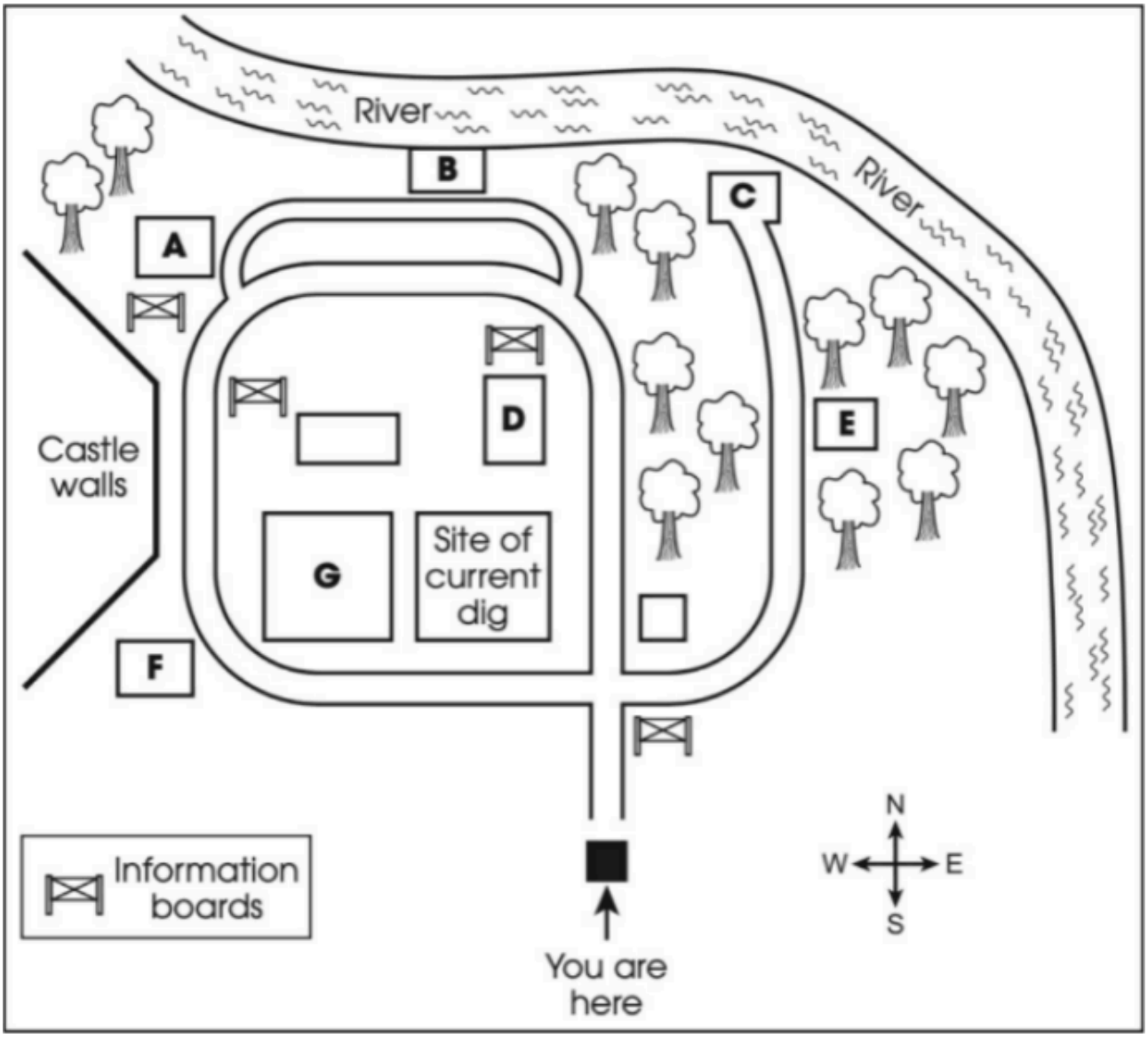
- **A** ○ The remains of a large palace
- **B** ○ The outline of fields
- **C** ○ A number of small huts

16 What do the team plan to do after work ends this summer?

- **A** ○ Prepare a display for a museum
- **B** ○ Take part in a television programme
- **C** ○ Start to organise school visits

Questions 17-20

Label the map below. Drag the correct letter, **A–G,** next to Questions



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
17 bridge foundations	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
18 rubbish pit	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
19 meeting hall	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
20 fish pond	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Part 3 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715035-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-3-audio-part-3.mp3

Questions 21-26

Choose the correct letter**, A, B or C**

21 Finn was pleased to discover that their topic

- **A** ○ was not familiar to their module leader.
- **B** ○ had not been chosen by other students.
- **C** ○ did not prove to be difficult to research.

22 Maya says a mistaken belief about theatre programmes is that

- **A** ○ theatres pay companies to produce them.
- **B** ○ few theatre-goers buy them nowadays.
- **C** ○ they contain far more adverts than previously.

23 Finn was surprised that, in early British theatre, programmes

- **A** ○ were difficult for audiences to obtain.
- **B** ○ were given out free of charge.
- **C** ○ were seen as a kind of contract.

24 Maya feels their project should include an explanation of why companies of actors

- **A** ○ promoted their own plays.
- **B** ○ performed plays outdoors.
- **C** ○ had to tour with their plays.

25 Finn and Maya both think that, compared to nineteenth-century programmes, those from the eighteenth century

- **A** ○ were more original.
- **B** ○ were more colourful.
- **C** ○ were more informative.

26 Maya doesn't fully understand why, in the twentieth century,

- **A** ○ very few theatre programmes were printed in the USA.
- **B** ○ British theatre programmes failed to develop for so long.
- **C** ○ theatre programmes in Britain copied fashions from the USA

Questions 27-30

What comment is made about the programme for each of the following shows?

Choose **FOUR** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A–F**, next to Questions

Comments about the programme

A. Its origin is somewhat controversial

B. It is historically significant for a country

C. It was effective at attracting audiences

D. It is included in a recent project

E. It contains insights into the show

F. It resembles an artwork

27 Ruy Blas _____

28 Man of La Mancha _____

29 The Tragedy of Jane Shore _____

30 The Sailors' Festival _____

PART 4 — QUESTIONS

Part 4 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715036-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-3-audio-part-4.mp3

Questions 31-40

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD ONLY** for each answer.

Inclusive Design

Definition

- Designing products that can be accessed by a diverse range of people without the need for any **31** _____

- Not the same as universal design: that is design for everyone, including catering for people with **32** _____ problems.

Examples of Inclusive Design

- **33** _____ which are adjustable, avoiding back or neck problems

- **34** _____ in public toilets which are easier to use

To assist the elderly:

- Designers avoid using **35** _____ in interfaces

- People can make commands using a mouse, keyboard, or their **36** _____

Impact of Non-Inclusive Designs

Access:

- Loss of independence for disabled people.

Safety:

- Seatbelts are especially problematic for **37** _____ women.

- PPE jackets are often unsuitable because of the size of women's **38** _____

- PPE for female **39** _____ officers dealing with emergencies is the worst.

Comfort in the Workplace:

- The **40** _____ in offices is often too low for women.

Transcripts

Part 1

MAN Good morning

WOMAN Hi, this is Michelin Meyer. I'm renting your house on Archwood Avenue. I'm due to move in next week.

MAN Oh, yes. Hello, Ms. Meyer. What can I do for you?

WOMAN When I viewed the house, I told you I'll most probably need to rent some furniture, at least until I know whether my temporary work contract is going to be made permanent.

MAN Yes, of course. I remember. And I said I could give you some information about furniture rental companies in the city.

WOMAN That's right.

MAN Well, the biggest company is called Peak Rentals. I've recommended them to other people and have always heard positive reports about them.

WOMAN Could you give me an idea of their costs?

MAN Sure. I actually have one of their brochures here. It says the monthly price per room starts at $105 and goes up to $239. That depends on which rooms you need furniture for, of course.

WOMAN Sure. It's just to get a general idea of how much it's going to cost. And you said you had some positive feedback about this company?

MAN Yes. People have mentioned that the furniture from Peak Rentals is more modern than any of the other companies. And also, once you place an order, the furniture will be delivered to you in just one or two days.

WOMAN That would be really helpful.

MAN Oh, and the brochure says that there's a special offer at the moment. If you rent living room furniture, I believe that's a set of chairs and a TV table, you'll also get a lamp at no extra cost.

WOMAN Okay, but you know, that price range you gave is more than I was hoping to pay.

MAN Then you could try Aaron and Oliver.

WOMAN Sorry, what and Oliver?

MAN Aaron, double A-R-O-N

WOMAN OK, are they cheaper

MAN I say they are a mid company. But if you chose them you need to be aware that they charge an extra 12% every month in case of damage

WOMAN Oh, I see. I'd have to do the math carefully then.

MAN Right. But one helpful thing is that they also do cleaning for customers.

WOMAN For the furniture?

MAN For the house.

WOMAN Oh, I see. I probably won't need that.

MAN There's another company called Larch Furniture. It's quite new, and it has the lowest prices in town. That's for both furniture and also electronic equipment.

WOMAN Well, that would be good. I'm not bringing much with me, and I won't have much time to go shopping after I start my job.

MAN There are two things you need to know about large furniture. First of all you have to take out insurance on the furniture and you need to organize that yourself

WOMAN That wouldn't be too hard.

MAN Also you can take out a contract for less than six months but I figure that might not be a problem for you. You're renting the house for 12 months after all, aren't you?

WOMAN Yes, okay. Well, I...

MAN Sorry to interrupt. I just thought of another furniture rental company. It's called Space Rentals, and it's located very near to the house.

WOMAN Okay.

MAN I don't have any information about their charges, so it's best to use their app to find out what it would cost you to use them.

WOMAN Okay, thanks. I'll do that.

MAN One good thing about that company is that if you don't like the furniture once it's delivered, you can request exchanges, as long as you do that within a week of receiving it.

WOMAN That sounds really great. Okay, well, thanks very much. That's so helpful

Part 2

Hello, I'm Hayden. I'm one of the archaeologists investigating the site here at Bidcuster. This is the third summer for this community project, and most of the people digging here are volunteers. I'm a full-time archaeologist for the town council, but I was asked to join the project by NHA, a charity which sets up

projects like this up and down the country. As you can see, we're next to Bidcaster Castle, which is great because the owners let us use their facilities. So, how did we get to where we are today?

Many archaeology projects happen when an ancient object is found, and in our case that object was a gold coin. Coins are often found by people using metal detectors to look for things buried in the ground or coins are uncovered when wild animals like rabbits have been digging tunnels. Here, a walker found it on the ground after a rainstorm washed away some of the earth and sand. When the story of the gold coin hit the news, Peter Swift, an amateur historian, contacted me to say he believed there had been a village on this site, centuries before the castle was built. Just by chance, the team found some old maps and documents in our library, which showed 500-year-old drawings of ruined buildings on the grassy area between the outer stone walls of the castle and the river. We knew then we were onto something. Over the three summers the team has been here, we've found the remains of several buildings, and more broken pots than you can count. Normally you'd expect to find brooches and other jewellery, but we're still waiting to uncover any such items. The people who once lived here were skilled at making tools from animal bones, as you'll see when you visit the exhibition. Besides the discovery of the village, we've also found evidence of human activity on the other side of the river. No other houses or huts so far, but we can see the borders of an ancient field system. At one point we found a long wall and thought it was an ancient palace, but it turned out to be a modern wall. This summer's work will end soon, but we'll be back next summer. In the meantime, we're putting on a series of guided tours for school groups this autumn. Oh, and maybe you saw the TV documentary about our project. That suggests the objects we've found are going to the town's museum, but we don't know that for sure yet.

When you enter the site, please make sure you keep to the paths at all times. There are a few other things, the highlights of the site if you like, that I want to mention. Take a look at the map. Our present location is marked at the bottom. This year, we've identified the foundations of an ancient bridge, and it's really exciting today because a team of divers are in the river searching for lost objects. To reach the bridge, take the main path ahead of you, go straight on, and keep going till the path bends to the left. You'll see a smaller track leading off to the right. Follow that to take you to the river, where the divers are. You might be interested to see the rubbish pit. This is very near the castle walls in the north-west corner of the site. It actually dates to the time of the castle and not the ancient village. We found oyster shells and fish bones, and we assumed they were thrown from the castle kitchen above. One area we excavated in the first summer uncovered the site of a meeting hall. We knew it was an important building because it had two rows of post holes, deep enough to support a large roof. It is the largest structure in the central area of the site next to the current excavation area. Last year we discovered a fish pond in the ancient village. Normally these were beside a river. The pond here is further away, but it's possible the river has moved slightly. Anyway, to get there from here, you turn right at the first information board you come to and follow the path into the trees. Before you come out of the trees, you'll see it on your right. If you reach the river, you've gone too far. So, does anyone have…

Part 3

MAYA So, Finn, I've done as much as I can for our project on theatre programmes. How's your research coming along?

FINN OK, Maya. I didn't know theatre programmes are called playbills in the USA till I started looking into the topic. Even though I struggled to find many useful websites, I'm glad we picked this subject. No

one else on the course is doing the same as us, although it is one of the research areas of the module convener.

MAYA That might actually put some people off.

FINN I suppose so. Anyway I hadn't realised there are actually companies specialising in creating theatre programmes

MAYA Yes they are quite common nowadays. Contrary to what many people think, theatres don't hire people to do the programmes. In fact, companies buy the rights to publish programmes on the theatre's behalf and then make their money selling advertising space within the programme booklet.

FINN It must be easier for theatres to do it that way.

MAYA Yes.

FINN I remember reading something about programmes in early British theatre. It said that the cast was always very important.

MAYA Yeah, audiences were very familiar with leading actors and big names would draw huge crowds.

FINN But I hadn't realised that if the programme named a famous actor, that's who the public expected to perform. And if that didn't happen, people accused the theatre of breaking their agreement with the audience. They would demand refunds and if they didn't get them, there were riots.

MAYA Outrageous! That'd never happen now.

FINN No, people are too polite, even when they're disappointed if the star of the show misses a performance.

MAYA We should definitely include that information about early audiences in our project. I also think it's important to mention that lots of ordinary people at that time were illiterate, so theatre programmes were of limited value in advertising plays. When a company of actors arrived in a town, they'd parade around the streets in their costumes, beating drums and announcing their upcoming performances.

FINN Interesting. I couldn't imagine that happening now either.

MAYA There's also an interesting comparison to make between 18th and 19th century programmes.

FINN Wasn't it in the 19th century that theatre programmes started to resemble programs today

MAYA Yes and unlike programs from the 18th century they always used colour

FINN And there was a greater variety of designs. But personally I think 18th century programmes were superior because they told the theatregoers so many things, including about the actors.

MAYA And about the writer, the plot and sometimes the history of the play.

FINN That's right. What should we say about theatre programmes in the 20th century?

MAYA I reckon the most important thing is the dramatic change they underwent during World War II.

FINN When the government imposed restrictions on the use of paper.

MAYA Yeah, but that was only in the UK. In the USA, programmes, or rather playbills, continued to be published in the same format.

FINN While here in the UK, programmes became merely a single sheet of paper folded to create four pages for text.

MAYA What I don't really get is that after the war they didn't go back to being more than one sheet or change in any way for over 25 years. I know there were paper shortages after the war, but only for five or ten years.

FINN Strange.

MAYA I got some pictures of programmes we could include on the slides for our presentation.

FINN I found a couple too Maya. Let go through and see what we think

MAYA Um oh this is an old one for a play called Ruey Blass

FINN Never heard of that. But the programme looks very decorative.

MAYA Good enough to put in a frame on the wall. The images are just beautiful. Finn, what did you find?

FINN I've got some pages from a programme for Man of La Mancha. I thought this was a good programme to show, not because of the pictures, but because it contains articles written by members of the theatre company, so we can learn how the production was created and the thoughts and feelings of the cast.

MAYA Good. I've got a copy of a programme that's now in a museum. It's for The Tragedy of Jane Shore and it's said to be the earliest surviving document to have been printed on Australia's first printing press

FINN Fantastic!

MAYA Another programme to talk about is for The Sailors Festival. It comes from the British Library's digitised collection of programmes that was started a few years ago. It already comprises over 200,000 programmes which is amazing!

FINN Huh. Wish I'd known about it while I was doing my research.

Part 4

It's only relatively recently that designers have become aware of the need to be inclusive when designing products. But what does that mean exactly? Well, it simply means designing products that span economic, social and cultural barriers. It means making sure products are accessible, so that as many different types of people as possible can use them, without any type of adaptation having to be made to the original design. Inclusive design is often linked with universal design, although they are not quite the same thing. Universal design aims to make products that work for everyone and that includes considering the needs of people who have cognitive difficulties, which can present quite a challenge. Today examples of successful inclusive design can be seen all around us. In workplaces it is common to see desks which can be adjusted to suit people of different heights or for wheelchair users This still

isn’t always the case, however, and is one reason why office workers often suffer from back or neck problems. You’ll find another example in the public toilets of countless hotels, airports and offices. Taps that you activate by sensor require no pressing or twisting movements. These are not only more hygienic, they’re also easier for people with dexterity or mobility issues. The tech industry has been criticised in the past for focusing too much on young consumers, but this is changing. Many products are now designed with the elderly in mind. For example, it’s well known that vision declines with age and that we also become worse at distinguishing between similar colours, in particular shades of blue, which is why software designers rarely create interfaces with this colour. Motor skills also decline with age and some people have difficulty doing everyday things like picking up a cup or opening a door. This can also affect their ability to use a mouse or keyboard. So voice access is now a routine way of making commands. It’s worth looking at the problems non-inclusive designs cause when not enough consideration is given to a range of users, as it can have a serious impact on people’s lives. Access is one obvious example because it has such a huge impact on disabled people’s independence. Not being able to access public transport because buses or trains are not wheelchair means many disabled people can go out unless someone goes with them. Safety is another issue. Inexplicably, most cars are still crash-tested using a dummy based on an average-sized male. This has safety implications for all women, particularly those who are pregnant, as the seatbelts worn by the dummy are not adapted to accommodate them. Over the past 100 years, workplaces in the UK have, on the whole, become considerably safer. Employers are legally required to provide well-maintained personal protective equipment, or PPE, anything from goggles to full bodysuits, to workers who need it, free of charge. But most PPE is designed to fit men. A recent report found that employers often think that when it comes to female workers, all they need to do to comply with this legal requirement is to buy jackets, for example, designed for a small man. The problem with this is that women can be tall and still have much smaller shoulders than the average man. Ill-fitting PPE such as high-vis jackets, vests and body armour can put women at risk. The report found that 95% of women said that their PPE often hampered their work and that this problem was worst in the emergency services, particularly the police. Another problem is related to comfort at work. A very common scenario in offices in summertime is to see women wrapped in blankets or wearing sweaters while the air conditioning is on high. Meanwhile, the men are in shorts and T-shirts. This is due to differences in metabolic rates for men and women. There is a standard setting for air conditioning to be at a temperature of 21 degrees designed to suit men and in most modern offices it is not possible to turn the air conditioning up or down. This means that many offices which mainly employ women are wasting energy by having the air conditioning set too high. As you can see from the examples I’ve just mentioned, there are serious consequences for designs which don’t consider the needs of all users.

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**239**	It says the monthly price per room starts at $105 and goes up to $239
2	**modern**	People have mentioned that the furniture from Peak Rentals is more modern than any of the other companies
3	**lamp**	Oh, and the brochure says that there's a special offer at the moment. If you rent living room furniture, I believe that's a set of chairs and a TV table, you'll also get a lamp at no extra cost
4	**Aaron**	Then you could try Aaron and Oliver
5	**damage**	But if you chose them you need to be aware that they charge an extra 12% every month in case of damage
6	**electronic**	There's another company called Larch Furniture. It's quite new, and it has the lowest prices in town. That's for both furniture and also electronic equipment
7	**insurance**	First of all you have to take out insurance on the furniture and you need to organize that yourself
8	**space**	I just thought of another furniture rental company. It's called Space Rentals, and it's located very near to the house
9	**app**	I don't have any information about their charges, so it's best to use their app to find out what it would cost you to use them
10	**exchanges**	One good thing about that company is that if you don't like the furniture once it's delivered, you can request exchanges, as long as you do that within a week of receiving it
11	**B**	but I was asked to join the project by NHA, a charity which sets up projects like this up and down the country
12	**A**	a walker found it on the ground after a rainstorm washed away some of the earth and sand
13	**A**	Just by chance, the team found some old maps and documents in our library, which showed 500-year-old drawings of ruined buildings on the grassy area between the outer stone walls of the castle and the river
14	**C**	Normally you'd expect to find brooches and other jewellery, but we're still waiting to uncover any such items

#	Answer	Explanation
15	**B**	we've also found evidence of human activity on the other side of the river. No other houses or huts so far, but we can see the borders of an ancient field system
16	**C**	In the meantime, we're putting on a series of guided tours for school groups this autumn
17	**B**	To reach the bridge, take the main path ahead of you, go straight on, and keep going till the path bends to the left. You'll see a smaller track leading off to the right.
18	**A**	You might be interested to see the rubbish pit. This is very near the castle walls in the north-west corner of the site
19	**G**	It is the largest structure in the central area of the site next to the current excavation area
20	**E**	To get there from here, you turn right at the first information board you come to and follow the path into the trees. Before you come out of the trees, you'll see it on your right
21	**B**	No one else on the course is doing the same as us
22	**A**	Contrary to what many people think, theatres don't hire people to do the programmes. In fact, companies buy the rights to publish programmes on the theatre's behalf
23	**C**	if the programme named a famous actor, that's who the public expected to perform. And if that didn't happen, people accused the theatre of breaking their agreement with the audience
24	**A**	I also think it's important to mention that lots of ordinary people at that time were illiterate, so theatre programmes were of limited value in advertising plays. When a company of actors arrived in a town, they'd parade around the streets in their costumes, beating drums and announcing their upcoming performances.
25	**C**	But personally I think 18th century programmes were superior because they told the theatregoers so many things, including about the actors
26	**B**	What I don't really get is that after the war they didn't go back to being more than one sheet or change in any way for over 25 years
27	**F**	But the programme looks very decorative
28	**E**	I thought this was a good programme to show, not because of the pictures, but because it contains articles written by members of the theatre company, so we can learn how the production was created and the thoughts and feelings of the cast

#	Answer	Explanation
29	**B**	I've got a copy of a programme that's now in a museum. It's for The Tragedy of Jane Shore and it's said to be the earliest surviving document to have been printed on Australia's first printing press
30	**D**	Another programme to talk about is for The Sailors Festival. It comes from the British Library's digitised collection of programmes that was started a few years ago
31	**adaptation**	It means making sure products are accessible, so that as many different types of people as possible can use them, without any type of adaptation having to be made to the original design
32	**cognitive**	Universal design aims to make products that work for everyone and that includes considering the needs of people who have cognitive difficulties, which can present quite a challenge
33	**desks**	In workplaces it is common to see desks which can be adjusted to suit people of different heights or for wheelchair users
34	**taps**	Taps that you activate by sensor require no pressing or twisting movements. These are not only more hygienic, they're also easier for people with dexterity or mobility issues
35	**blue**	we also become worse at distinguishing between similar colours, in particular shades of blue, which is why software designers rarely create interfaces with this colour
36	**voice**	So voice access is now a routine way of making commands
37	**pregnant**	This has safety implications for all women, particularly those who are pregnant, as the seatbelts worn by the dummy are not adapted to accommodate them
38	**shoulders**	the problem with this is that women can be tall and still have much smaller shoulders than the average man
39	**police**	The report found that 95% of women said that their PPE often hampered their work and that this problem was worst in the emergency services, particularly the police
40	**temperature**	There is a standard setting for air conditioning to be at a temperature of 21 degrees designed to suit men and in most modern offices it is not possible to turn the air conditioning up or down. This means that many offices which mainly employ women are wasting energy by having the air conditioning set too high

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Listening Test 4

PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Part 1 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715037-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-4-audio-part-1.mp3

Questions 1-10

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Advice on Family Visit

Accommodation

1 _____ Hotel on George Street

Cost of family room per night: £ 2 _____ (approx.)

Recommended Trips

A 3 _____ tour of the city centre (starts in Carlton Square)

A trip by 4 _____ to the old fort

Science Museum

Best day to visit: 5 _____

See the exhibition about 6 _____ which opens soon

Food

Clacton Market:

– Good for 7 _____ food

– Need to have lunch before 8 _____ p.m.

Theatre Tickets

Save up to 9 _____ % on ticket prices at bargaintickets.com

Free Activities

Blakewell Gardens:

– Roots Music Festival

– Climb Telegraph Hill to see a view of the **10** _____

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Part 2 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715039-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-4-audio-part-2.mp3

Questions 11-12

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**

11 **12** Which TWO things does the speaker say about visiting the football stadium with children?

- **A** ☐ Children can get their photo taken with a football player
- **B** ☐ There is a competition for children today
- **C** ☐ Parents must stay with their children at all times
- **D** ☐ Children will need sunhats and drinks
- **E** ☐ The café has a special offer on meals for children

Questions 13-14

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**

13 **14** Which TWO features of the stadium tour are new this year?

- **A** ☐ VIP tour
- **B** ☐ 360 cinema experience
- **C** ☐ audio guide
- **D** ☐ dressing room tour
- **E** ☐ tours in other languages

Questions 15-20

Which event in the history of football in the UK took place in each of the following years?

Choose **SIX** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A-H**, next to Questions

Events in the history of football

A the introduction of pay for the players

B a change to the design of the goal

C the first use of lights for matches

D the introduction of goalkeepers

E the first international match

F two changes to the rules of the game

G the introduction of a fee for spectators

H an agreement on the length of a game

15 1870 _____

16 1874 _____

17 1875 _____

18 1877 _____

19 1878 _____

20 1880 _____

PART 3 — QUESTIONS

Part 3 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715040-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-4-audio-part-3.mp3

Questions 21-22

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**

21 **22** Which TWO benefits for children of learning to write did both students find surprising?

- **A** ☐ improved fine motor skills
- **B** ☐ improved memory
- **C** ☐ improved concentration
- **D** ☐ improved imagination
- **E** ☐ improved spatial awareness

Questions 23-24

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**

23 **24** For children with dyspraxia, which TWO problems with handwriting do the students think are easiest to correct?

- **A** ☐ not spacing letters correctly
- **B** ☐ not writing in a straight line
- **C** ☐ applying too much pressure when writing
- **D** ☐ confusing letter shapes
- **E** ☐ writing very slowly

Questions 25-30

Choose the correct letter, **A, B or C**

25 What does the woman say about using laptops to teach writing to children with dyslexia?

- **A** ○ Children often lack motivation to learn that way
- **B** ○ Children become fluent relatively quickly
- **C** ○ Children react more positively if they make a mistake

26 When discussing whether to teach cursive or print writing, the woman thinks that

- **A** ○ cursive writing disadvantages a certain group of children
- **B** ○ print writing is associated with lower academic performance
- **C** ○ most teachers in the UK prefer a traditional approach to handwriting

27 According to the students, what impact does poor handwriting have on exam performance?

- **A** ○ There is evidence to suggest grades are affected by poor handwriting
- **B** ○ Neat handwriting is less important now than it used to be
- **C** ○ Candidates write more slowly and produce shorter answers

28 What prediction does the man make about the future of handwriting?

- **A** ○ Touch typing will be taught before writing by hand
- **B** ○ Children will continue to learn to write by hand
- **C** ○ People will dislike handwriting on digital devices

29 The woman is concerned that relying on digital devices has made it difficult for her to

- **A** ○ take detailed notes
- **B** ○ spell and punctuate
- **C** ○ read old documents

30 How do the students feel about their own handwriting?

- **A** ○ concerned they are unable to write quickly
- **B** ○ embarrassed by comments made about it
- **C** ○ regretful that they have lost the habit

PART 4 — QUESTIONS

Part 4 Audio: https://ielts-listening-audio.engnovatemedia.com/1715041-cambridge-ielts-20-academic-listening-4-audio-part-4.mp3

Questions 31-40

Complete the notes below.

Write **ONE WORD ONLY** for each answer.

Research in the Area Around the Chem be Bird Sanctuary

The importance of birds of prey to local communities

- They destroy **31** _____ and other rodents.
- They help prevent farmers from being bitten by **32** _____.
- They have been an important part of local culture for many years.
- They now support the economy by encouraging **33** _____ in the area.

Falling numbers of birds of prey

– The birds may be accidentally killed:

- By **34** _____ when hunting or sleeping.
- By electrocution from power lines, especially during times of high **35** _____.

– Local farmers may illegally shoot them or **36** _____ them.

Ways of protecting chickens from birds of prey

– Clearing away vegetation (unhelpful).

– Providing a **37** _____ for chickens (expensive).

– Frightening birds of prey by:

- Keeping a **38** _____.
- Making a **39** _____ (e.g., with metal objects).

– A **40** _____ of methods is usually most effective.

Transcripts

Part 1

MAN Sandra, I seem to remember you had some family visitors staying with you recently

WOMAN Yeah that right. My brother and his family were here a couple of months ago.

MAN OK, good. Well, I wanted to ask for your advice. I got my cousin and her family visiting next month and as I don't have kids, I've no idea where to take them.

WOMAN Right. What about accommodation? Are they going to stay with you in your flat?

MAN No, thankfully. There wouldn't be room. My cousin wants me to recommend a hotel. Do you know anywhere?

WOMAN Yes, I do actually. I always recommend people stay at the King's Hotel.

MAN Where's that near?

WOMAN It's about a five minutes walk from Murray Station, so nice and central. It's actually on George Street.

MAN Oh yes, I know.

WOMAN I think they're on quite a tight budget, so how much roughly is it to stay there? If you book a family room, it's about £125 per night. My brother paid for two double rooms in the end, and I think that was around £95 for each room.

MAN Oh, that's not too bad.

WOMAN So how old are your cousins' kids?

MAN Twelve and nine. So I want to organise some trips while they're here. I was thinking of doing a bus tour of the city centre, as none of them have been here before.

WOMAN Those bus tours are quite expensive. I think it's better to do a walking tour. It gives you a much better feel for the city. There's one that starts from Colton Square. It takes a couple of hours and doesn't cost that much.

MAN Sounds good. I'll look that up. Thanks.

WOMAN If the weather's nice, one thing you could do is visit the old fort. You could get there by boat. The whole trip takes half a day.

MAN That's a really good idea. I'd like to do that myself. And if the weather bad I was thinking they could go to the science museum. But maybe they could do that when I'm at work.

WOMAN Yeah don't forget it closed on Mondays

MAN They're here from Saturday for four nights so Tuesday would be best I think

WOMAN And it won't be so crowded then. Saturdays are terrible. I took my kids to the exhibition on old computers there and it was far too crowded. I wanted to go back but it's finished now.

MAN That's a shame. My cousin's kids would have enjoyed that.

WOMAN There's another one starting soon on space, which looks really good too.

MAN OK, well, I'll mention that to my cousin.

WOMAN Have you thought about where to take them to eat?

MAN Well, I really like all the food stalls at Clacton Market. My cousin's vegetarian. I know it's one of the best places for that kind of food.

WOMAN Definitely, and there'll be loads of choices for the kids too. You need to get there quite early, though. At the weekend, most of the stores stop serving lunch at 2.30.

MAN Good point. It's all going to need careful planning. My cousin said she'd love to take the kids to a show at the theatre, but tickets are so expensive.

WOMAN I know. But you can get some good deals if you book online with bargainedtickets.com for the following day. On some seats there a 75% discount

MAN Really. I must try and get some

WOMAN Yeah There are lots of things you can do for free as well. No need to spend a fortune.

MAN Like what?

WOMAN They're coming next month, right? Well, check and see if it's the same weekend as the Roots Music Festival in Blakewell Gardens.

MAN R-O-O-T-S?

WOMAN Yeah, check it out online. It's always a family-friendly event and there's no entry charge.

MAN That sounds perfect.

WOMAN And if you're in Blakewell Gardens, climb Telegraph Hill. You'll be able to look right down on the port. Everyone's always really impressed because it's so huge.

MAN Oh yeah, I've been meaning to do that for ages. I've heard the view's amazing.

WOMAN Yeah, it's really worth the effort.

MAN Well, that's given me loads of ideas. Thanks so much.

Part 2

Good morning and welcome to City Football Club. I'd like to give you some useful information about your visit to the stadium today and then we'll start the tour of the areas of the stadium that are open to visitors. I can see lots of children here today, so just to let mums and dads know a few things before we start. The stadium has lots of stairs and the players' tunnel is very dark. Please don't let your children wander off on their own, even for a minute. We don't want any accidents or anyone getting frightened. Cameras are permitted everywhere and you can take pictures of your child shooting a penalty. Assistants are helping to organise this and hopefully the queue won't be too long. It's very hot and sunny out on the pitch today. You can get food and drink at the cafe and I really recommend the healthy lunch boxes for children Also in the cafe, children are invited to do a football drawing. We pick the best one at the end of the afternoon. So don't forget to put your name and contact details on the back. That way if you've left the stadium before then, we'll send your prize, but sadly we can't return drawings. I'd like to mention some features of the tour. We'll start with the 360 cinema experience, which has been very popular over the years, and then I'll take you to the players' dressing rooms, before going outside to the seating area and the pitch. I should say, if you'd prefer your visit to be self-guided, please collect headphones from the reception, and then you can listen to the pre-recorded information at your own speed. We've only just introduced this feature and would appreciate your feedback. We're thinking of offering tours in other languages in future, so if you have any thoughts on that, we'd welcome those too. If you plan to return another time, you might like to book one of our VIP tours. We've only just started offering these and they can be booked online.

Now, the stadium you see today was built in 1989 as part of a three-year redevelopment project. While that project was going on, the team had to play its matches at the ground of another club. Apart from that, the club has been here on this site since 1870. As some of you may know, that was the start of a really important decade in the history of football in this country. For example, 1870 was also the year that football teams started to include a player whose role it was to guard the goal. It's hard to imagine what the game must have been like without someone in that position, isn't it? In 1872 and 73, many other clubs were established, both here and abroad. And the following year, in 1874, referees were allowed to send players off if they committed certain offences. And also in that year, teams started having to swap ends at half-time. One fact I was interested to discover was that in early football games the aim was for the scorer to get the ball between two flag posts and later between sticks joined at the top with a piece of tape. In 1875, that tape was replaced with the solid crossbar that we're familiar with today. 1877 saw the founding of further new clubs and the history books tell us that in the same year all the clubs decided to set a limit of 90 minutes for each match Before that it was a more casual arrangement and this sometimes caused huge arguments and sometimes fights during matches when one team called the end of the game and the other team wanted to play on to try and score a winning goal. By 1878, the number of teams in the Football League increased again. In addition, referees started using whistles and electric lamps were installed on certain pitches. This was a significant change, as games could then be played in the evenings all year round. In 1880, clubs began to charge fans for admission to games, even though players were still amateurs and had other proper jobs. That's hard to imagine in the modern professional game. where top players earn significant sums of money from both playing and commercial activities.

Part 3

MAN How are you getting on with the assignment on handwriting?

WOMAN Not too bad. You know, I hadn't realised that children benefit in so many ways from learning to write. It's such an important skill, and yet most people think handwriting is less important than in the past, because people hardly ever write by hand these days.

MAN Yes, and all the evidence suggests children should learn to write by hand before they learn to type, not least because it helps their memory.

WOMAN That's right. The physical act of writing helps children to remember letters. That seems pretty obvious when you think about it.

MAN What's less obvious is how it helps develop their concentration. They have to sit still and focus on one thing.

WOMAN Yeah, that aspect of handwriting had never occurred to me before.

MAN Same here. I'm not sure I understand how it improves children's imagination, though.

WOMAN Well there was that study which showed that primary age children generated more ideas when they were writing by hand than using a keyboard I would have guessed that would be the case.

MAN Hmm yeah I never associated spatial awareness with handwriting either. I thought spatial awareness was more to do with knowing where you are in relation to objects or other people.

WOMAN I thought that too. But good spatial awareness is essential for writing because you have to space words correctly. It's not just fine motor skills that improve through writing, as I'd always assumed.

MAN Handwriting is so much harder for children with dyspraxia, who have problems coordinating movement. It's good there are lots of things you can do in the classroom to help them. They need so much more support with letter formation. You need to play lots of games to help them distinguish letter shapes. It takes a lot of patience.

WOMAN Yeah, I like the idea of using one of those pens that lights up if you press too hard. That seems like a really simple solution.

MAN Yes, absolutely. I'm not sure there's much you can do about children with dyspraxia writing very slowly. It's more important to focus on accuracy and as they get more confident, I think they eventually speed up.

WOMAN One quite simple thing you can do is to use grid paper. So they write each letter in a box and that trains them to space the letters correctly.

MAN Indeed, that's more important for legibility than trying to get them to write in a straight line.

MAN For some children, it might be better to teach them to write on a laptop rather than by hand, like children with dyslexia. They often really struggle with handwriting and some just give up.

WOMAN Yeah, it's not as frustrating for them if they get things wrong. On a keyboard, they can be more willing to have a go. But I read that developing fluency isn't any faster.

MAN That's right. Did you read that article on the benefits of teaching print rather than cursive handwriting, where the letters are joined up?

WOMAN Yes. Well, in the past, cursive writing was certainly considered more stylish and educated, but not anymore. Teachers' attitudes have changed because it's been proved that cursive is more difficult to learn, especially for children with learning difficulties who find joining up letters really challenging.

MAN I agree. I was always worried that my poor handwriting affected my exam results, and now research shows that I was right to worry. I'm sure a lot of students think it's unfair that they're being judged on their handwriting, not just their knowledge.

WOMAN Marks are definitely affected if examiners can't read the script. That is why it has always been so important to teach children to write legibly. Do you think the role of handwriting will change in the future?

MAN I can't see that changing much. Touch typing still isn't taught in most schools, which is a shame. But maybe that won't be necessary in the future, because people will also be able to write by hand on digital devices. Anyway, teachers understand the value of handwriting. It's a basic life skill.

WOMAN True. However, the fact is that people are writing by hand less and less and relying on digital devices. That does cause some problems.

MAN You mean like note-taking. There are lots of apps for that.

WOMAN And for reading historical documents, apparently. But my mum is shocked by my awful spelling and the fact that my punctuation is really inconsistent. I think you can put that down to lack of practice.

MAN I expect so. Personally, I miss writing by hand. I hardly ever write anything now. I remember my grandparents had such beautiful handwriting and it was so individual. Nobody I know would be able to identify my handwriting now. It's a shame.

WOMAN I know. I feel the same way. I used to write a diary by hand and now I do that digitally. It just seems less effort to do it that way. So it's not just a problem...

Part 4

We've been looking at different types of conflicts that may arise between wildlife and humans at the boundaries of protected areas, such as national parks and animal sanctuaries. I'd like to illustrate this by telling you about some research that I've been involved in recently in the Central African country of Zambia in the area around the Chembe Bird Sanctuary which contains over 300 of the listed birds of Zambia These include a number of birds of prey such as eagles hawks and owls that live by hunting and killing other birds and animals Now most of the people living in the local communities near to the bird sanctuary are small-scale farmers and these birds of prey provide important social and ecological benefits to them. For example, a lot of damage can be caused to farmers' crops by rodents, such as rats, which would consume the crops as they grow in the fields, as well as after harvesting if they weren't hunted and killed by the birds. And the predatory habits of these birds also protect farmers in other ways. For example, a major danger to rural workers is snakes, whose bite may be dangerous or

even fatal, and birds of prey have a major role in keeping their populations under control. Local people have always been aware of these benefits and for years, even before the sanctuary was opened in 1973, the birds played a key role in the culture of the region. However, more recently, the sanctuary and its birds have also become increasingly important to the community in economic terms, because at present, after a relatively slow start, tourism has become an important source of revenue for them. However, although these birds of prey are protected by the government, their numbers are falling. Some of these deaths are accidental. Fatalities occur when birds alight on roads to catch and eat their prey, and are hit by fast moving traffic. Drivers in Zambia have to take special care at night, as birds may regard the quieter roads as safe places to sleep. Accidental deaths may also occur if these birds fly close to high power lines as they may be electrocuted. This is a particular danger in the heavy rain which can occur in the region in the months from December to April. And local farmers also pose a threat to these birds. As well as growing crops, small-scale farmers in the area also rear chickens.

These provide food for the farmers' families, as well as being an important source of income. But they're also an easy target for birds of prey, and so farmers may shoot these birds, which is illegal but understandable, or they may poison the birds, which again is illegal and can have negative effects on the ecosystem. So how else can farmers protect their chickens from birds of prey? Some people believe that to prevent the predators from settling near the area where the chickens are kept, it's best to keep this area free from vegetation. But in fact, this is counterproductive, as it means the chickens have no cover to hide in and they'll be easier for the birds to see. Another possibility would be to prevent the chickens from going outside at all and to keep them safe from predators inside a building, but this would cost far too much to be a practical solution. Nearly all the farmers reported that they spent a lot of time and effort trying to frighten off the birds of prey without actually harming them. Most of the farmers had at least one dog and said this was a big help at scaring away the predators. Some of the farmers also reported that during the breeding season, when the chickens were particularly vulnerable, they encouraged their children to watch over the chickens and to hit pans with a metal spoon so that the resulting noise would succeed in driving away birds that were trying to seize the young chicks None of these methods was 100% effective so as a result the village people told us that rather than just using one method, they were forced to use a combination for them to have any effect. And even so, these birds of prey remain a major threat to the chickens' survival and cause considerable economic loss to farmers. So we looked at the possibility of a longer-term solution to...

Answer Key

#	Answer	Explanation
1	**Kings / King's**	I always recommend people stay at the King's Hotel
2	**125**	If you book a family room, it's about £125 per night
3	**walking**	I think it's better to do a walking tour. It gives you a much better feel for the city
4	**boat**	One thing you could do is visit the old fort. You could get there by boat
5	**Tuesday**	They're here from Saturday for four nights so Tuesday would be best I think
6	**space**	There's another one starting soon on space, which looks really good too
7	**vegetarian**	Well, I really like all the food stalls at Clacton Market. My cousin's vegetarian. I know it's one of the best places for that kind of food
8	**2.30 / 2:30**	You need to get there quite early, though. At the weekend, most of the stores stop serving lunch at 2.30
9	**75**	On some seats there a 75% discount
10	**port**	You'll be able to look right down on the port
11	**B / C**	Please don't let your children wander off on their own, even for a minute children are invited to do a football drawing. We pick the best one at the end of the afternoon
12	**B / C**	Please don't let your children wander off on their own, even for a minute children are invited to do a football drawing. We pick the best one at the end of the afternoon
13	**A / C**	I should say, if you'd prefer your visit to be self-guided, please collect headphones from the reception, and then you can listen to the pre-recorded information at your own speed. We've only just introduced this feature and would appreciate your feedback. If you plan to return another time, you might like to book one of our VIP tours. We've only just started offering these and they can be booked online

#	Answer	Explanation
14	**A / C**	I should say, if you'd prefer your visit to be self-guided, please collect headphones from the reception, and then you can listen to the pre-recorded information at your own speed. We've only just introduced this feature and would appreciate your feedback. If you plan to return another time, you might like to book one of our VIP tours. We've only just started offering these and they can be booked online
15	**D**	1870 was also the year that football teams started to include a player whose role it was to guard the goal
16	**F**	In 1874, referees were allowed to send players off if they committed certain offences. And also in that year, teams started having to swap ends at half-time
17	**B**	In 1875, that tape was replaced with the solid crossbar that we're familiar with today
18	**H**	in the same year all the clubs decided to set a limit of 90 minutes for each match
19	**C**	By 1878, the number of teams in the Football League increased again. In addition, referees started using whistles and electric lamps were installed on certain pitches
20	**G**	In 1880, clubs began to charge fans for admission to games
21	**C / E**	What's less obvious is how it helps develop their concentration. They have to sit still and focus on one thing. I never associated spatial awareness with handwriting either
22	**C / E**	What's less obvious is how it helps develop their concentration. They have to sit still and focus on one thing. I never associated spatial awareness with handwriting either
23	**A / C**	Yeah, I like the idea of using one of those pens that lights up if you press too hard. That seems like a really simple solution. One quite simple thing you can do is to use grid paper. So they write each letter in a box and that trains them to space the letters correctly.
24	**A / C**	Yeah, I like the idea of using one of those pens that lights up if you press too hard. That seems like a really simple solution. One quite simple thing you can do is to use grid paper. So they write each letter in a box and that trains them to space the letters correctly.
25	**C**	Yeah, it's not as frustrating for them if they get things wrong. On a keyboard, they can be more willing to have a go

#	Answer	Explanation
26	**A**	teachers' attitudes have changed because it's been proved that cursive is more difficult to learn, especially for children with learning difficulties who find joining up letters really challenging
27	**A**	I was always worried that my poor handwriting affected my exam results, and now research shows that I was right to worry.
28	**B**	I can't see that changing much. Touch typing still isn't taught in most schools, which is a shame. But maybe that won't be necessary in the future, because people will also be able to write by hand on digital devices. Anyway, teachers understand the value of handwriting. It's a basic life skill
29	**B**	But my mum is shocked by my awful spelling and the fact that my punctuation is really inconsistent. I think you can put that down to lack of practice
30	**C**	Nobody I know would be able to identify my handwriting now. It's a shame.
31	**rats**	a lot of damage can be caused to farmers' crops by rodents, such as rats, which would consume the crops as they grow in the fields
32	**snakes**	For example, a major danger to rural workers is snakes, whose bite may be dangerous or even fatal, and birds of prey have a major role in keeping their populations under control
33	**tourism**	However, more recently, the sanctuary and its birds have also become increasingly important to the community in economic terms, because at present, after a relatively slow start, tourism has become an important source of revenue for them
34	**traffic**	Fatalities occur when birds alight on roads to catch and eat their prey, and are hit by fast moving traffic
35	**rain**	This is a particular danger in the heavy rain which can occur in the region in the months from December to April
36	**poison**	farmers may shoot these birds, which is illegal but understandable, or they may poison the birds, which again is illegal and can have negative effects on the ecosystem
37	**building**	Another possibility would be to prevent the chickens from going outside at all and to keep them safe from predators inside a building, but this would cost far too much to be a practical solution
38	**dog**	Most of the farmers had at least one dog and said this was a big help at scaring away the predators

#	Answer	Explanation
39	**noise**	some of the farmers also reported that during the breeding season, when the chickens were particularly vulnerable, they encouraged their children to watch over the chickens and to hit pans with a metal spoon so that the resulting noise would succeed in driving away birds that were trying to seize the young chicks
40	**combination**	None of these methods was 100% effective so as a result the village people told us that rather than just using one method, they were forced to use a combination for them to have any effect

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Writing Test 1

Part 1

The first table below shows changes in the total population of New York City from 1800 to 2000. The second and third tables show changes in the population of the five districts of the city (Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, Staten Island) over the same period.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

	New York City (all five districts)
Year	Population
1800	79,216
1900	3,437,202
2000	8,009,185

	Manhattan	
Year	Population	As percentage (%) of total population
1800	60,515	76%
1900	1,850,093	54%
2000	1,538,096	19%

	Other districts (Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, Staten Island)	
Year	Population	As percentage (%) of total population
1800	18,701	24%
1900	1,587,109	46%
2000	6,471,089	81%

Part 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task. Write at least 250 words.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Access to clean water is a basic human right. Therefore, every home should have a water supply that is provided free of charge.

Do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Writing Test 2

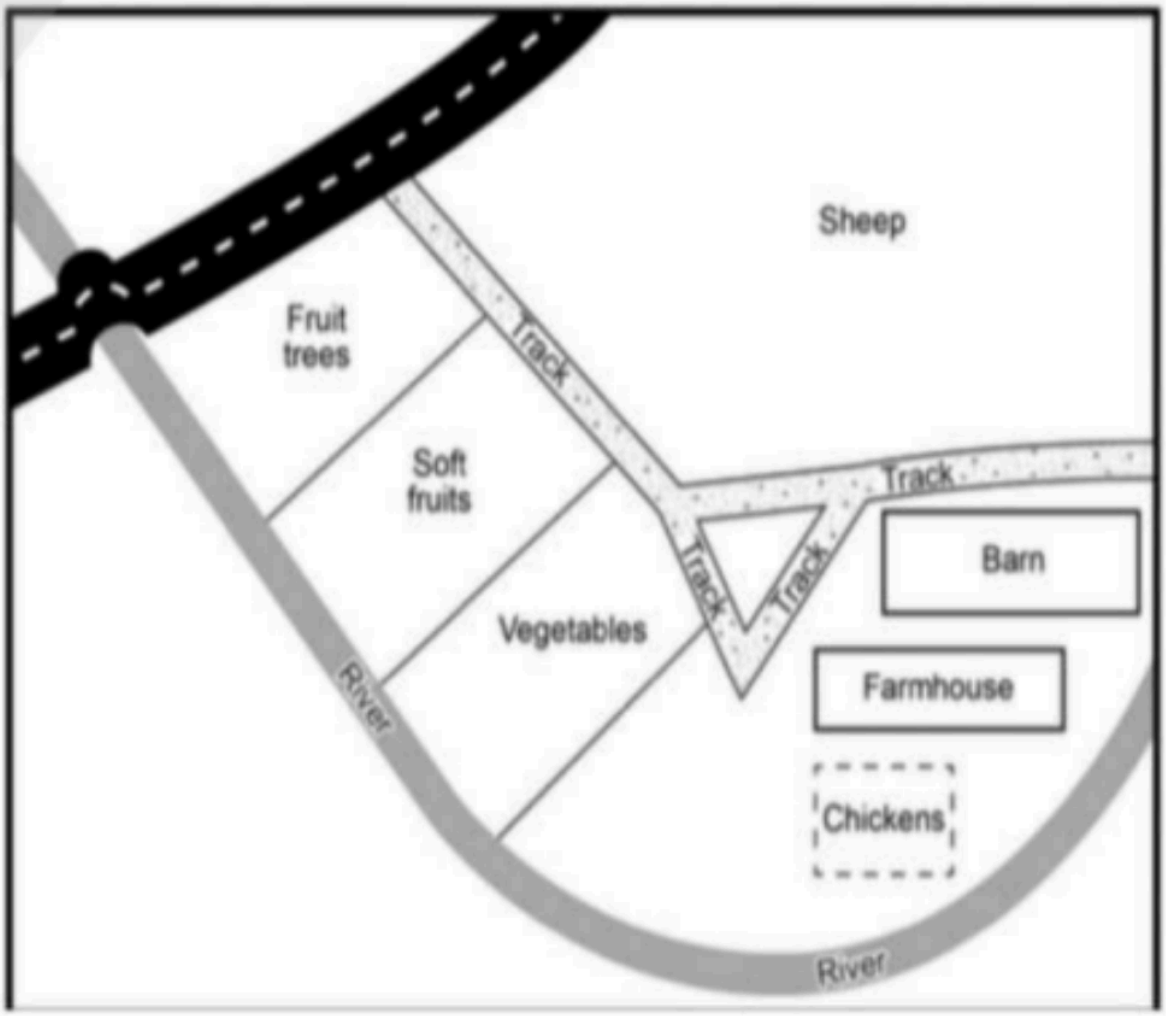
Part 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

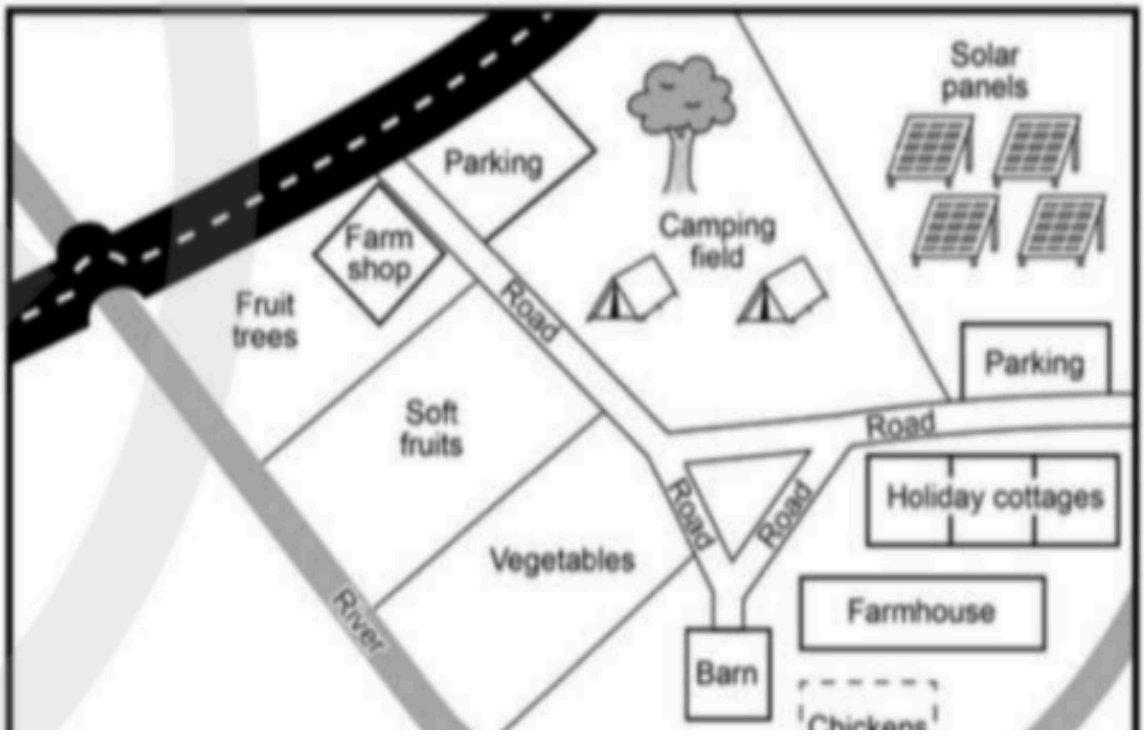
The plans below show the site of a farm in 1950 and the same site today. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Beechwood Farm

1950



Today





Part 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task. Write about the following topic:

In many countries, primary and secondary schools close for two months or more in the summer holidays. What is the value of long school holidays? What are the arguments in favour of shorter school holidays?

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Writing Test 3

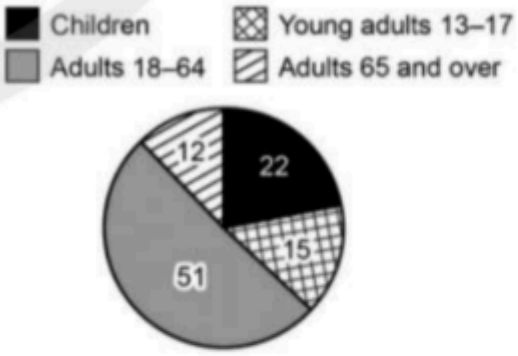
Part 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The charts below give information about a public library in a town called Little Chalfont. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

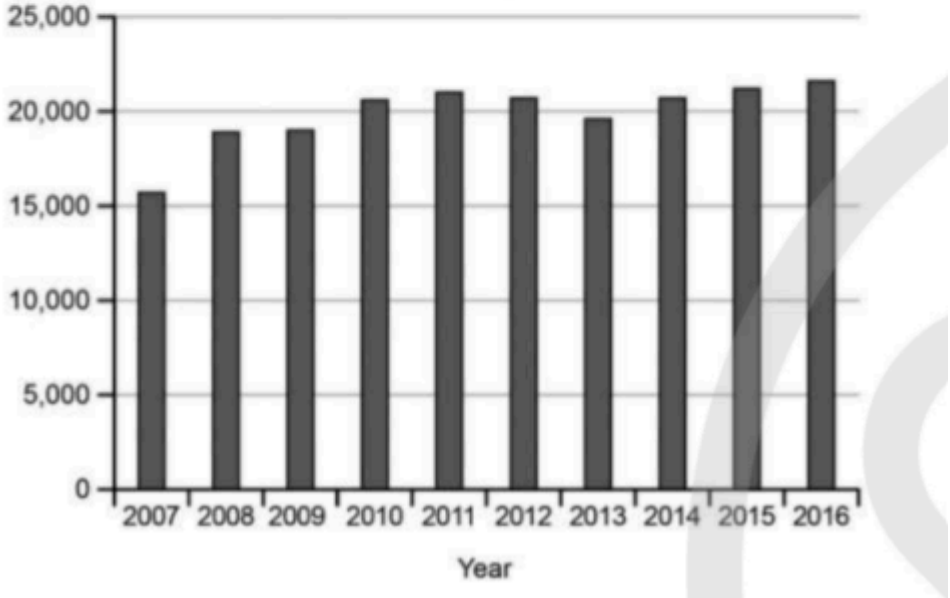
Little Chalfont Library

Age of library members (2016)



Total loans by category (2016)	
Children's fiction	38%
Children's non-fiction	6%
Children's DVDs	1%
Young adults	2%
Adult fiction	38%
Adult non-fiction	13%
Adult audio books	2%

Total number of loans (2007–2016)



Part 2

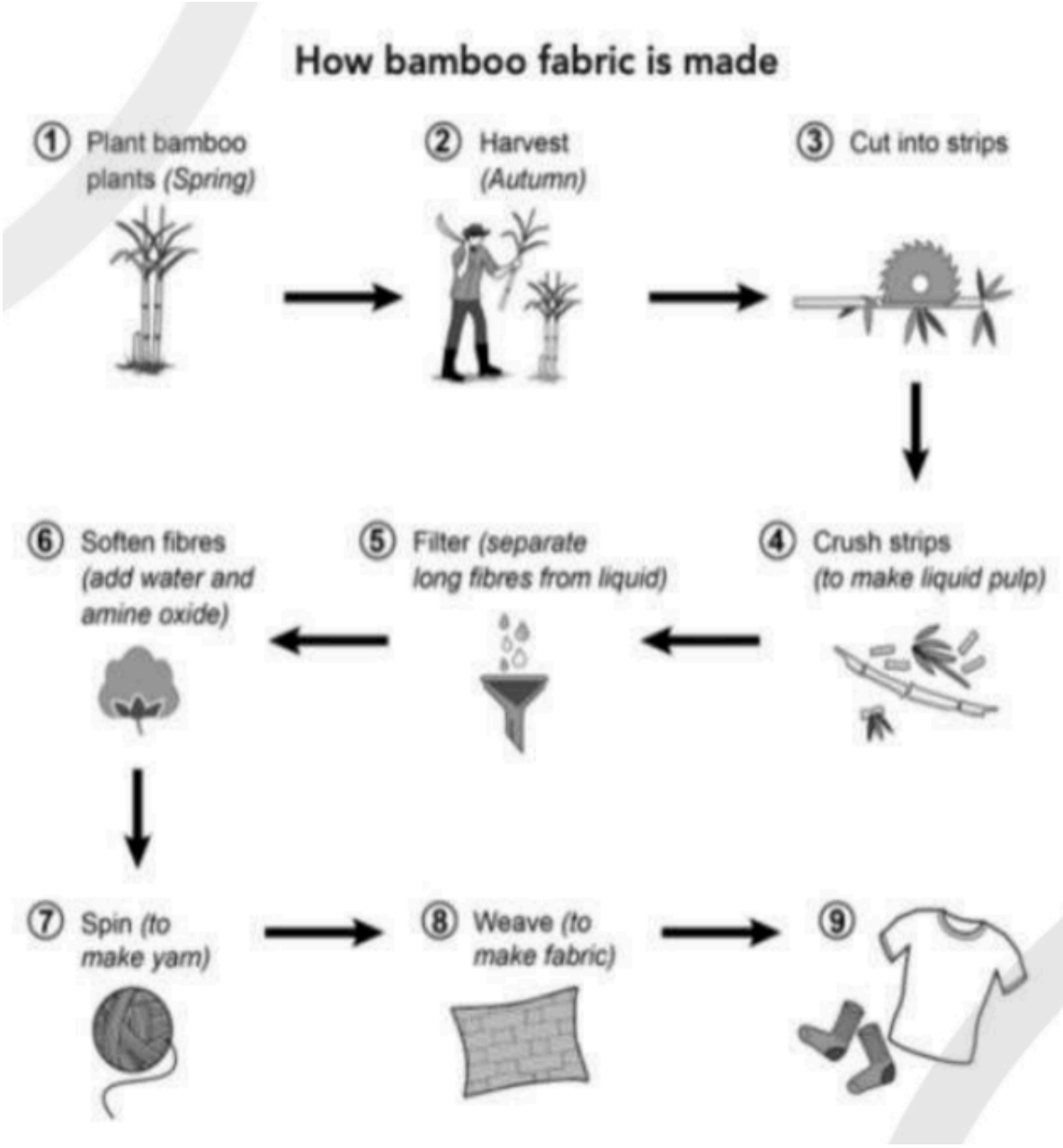
You should spend about 40 minutes on this task. Write about the following topic: Some people have decided to reduce the number of times they fly every year or to stop flying altogether. Do you think the environmental benefits of this development outweigh the disadvantages for individuals and businesses? Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Writing Test 4

Part 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task. Write at least 150 words.

The diagram below shows how fabric is manufactured from bamboo. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.



Part 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task. Write at least 250 words. Write about the following topic:

Many aspects of the way people dress today are influenced by global fashion trends. How has global fashion become such a strong influence on people's lives? Do you think this is a positive or negative development? Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Speaking Test 1

Part 1

Question 1

How much walking do you do in your daily life?

Question 2

Did you walk more when you were at school than now?

Question 3

What places are there to go for a walk near where you live?

Question 4

Would you ever like to go on a walking holiday?

Part 2

Question 5

Describe a play or a film you have seen that you would like to see again with friends.

You should say:

what play or film you'd like to go to see again

who you would go with

what other people have said about this play or film

and explain why you would like to see this play or film again with friends.

Part 3

Question 6

What are the most popular kinds of plays or shows at theatres in your country?

Question 7

How easy is it to get tickets to the theatre?

Question 8

Do you think theatres need to do more to attract younger audiences?

Question 9

What do you think attracts people to working as an actor?

Question 10

What are some of the qualities that a person needs to have if they want to

become an actor?

Question 11

Can you think of any disadvantages of working as an actor?

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Speaking Test 2

Part 1

Question 1

What's your favourite fruit?

Question 2

Are there any kinds of fruit that you don't like eating?

Question 3

Do you like eating cooked food that has fruit in it?

Question 4

Where's the best place to buy fruit where you live?

Part 2

Question 5

Describe a time when you changed a plan you had made.

You should say:

what your original plan was

why you changed it

what new plan you made and explain how you felt about changing your plan.

Part 3

Question 6

What kinds of plans do friends make together?

Question 7

Do you think it's better to discuss future plans with friends or with family?

Question 8

When making plans for the future, is it important not to copy friends?

Question 9

When people are choosing what to study, how important is it that their course should lead directly to a career?

Question 10

Why is it a good idea to get some work experience before deciding on a future career?

Question 11

How easy do you think it is for people to change from one career to another?

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Speaking Test 3

Part 1

Question 1

Did you enjoy going to museums when you were a child?

Question 2

Are there any interesting museums near where you live now?

Question 3

Do you think it is best to go to museums by yourself or with friends?

Question 4

When you visit another city or country, do you think it's important to go to a museum there?

Part 2

Question 5

Describe a piece of work you did for your job or your studies that you felt very satisfied with.

You should say:

what this piece of work was

why you did this piece of work

who or what helped you to do this work and explain why you felt so satisfied with this piece of work.

Part 3

Question 6

What are some aspects of people's lives that they can often be dissatisfied with?

Question 7

Would you say that having ambitions in life is always a positive thing?

Question 8

What do you believe the most important components are of a satisfying life?

Question 9

What makes a job more satisfying: a high salary or having good colleagues?

Question 10

Do you think people need to change jobs regularly if they want to stay satisfied at work?

Question 11

Is it possible to find job satisfaction in all types of work?

Cambridge IELTS 20 Academic Speaking Test 4

Part 1

Question 1

What do you think your best personal qualities are? [Why?]

Question 2

Do you have the same personal qualities as your parents? [Why/Why not?]

Question 3

What personal qualities are important to you in a friend? [Why?]

Question 4

Do you think you have the personal qualities to be a good/successful leader? [Why/Why not?]

Part 2

Question 5

Describe a time when you had a long discussion about a news story.

You should say:

what the news story was about

who you discussed this news story with

what people's opinions were and explain why you had such a long discussion about this news story.

Part 3

Question 6

How do most people find out about the news in your country?

Question 7

Are people more interested in local news than national news?

Question 8

How important is it to know about international news?

Question 9

Why are discussion programmes involving members of the public popular on [TV and radio]?

Question 10

What kinds of people want to take part in discussion programmes?

Question 11

Do discussion programmes influence people in a good or bad way?