

Test 2 answer key with extra explanations

Listening

Part 1

Questions 1–10

- 1 The correct answer is 'training':** The woman says, 'all employees get training'.
'Uniforms' is incorrect as the woman says, 'you just need to wear a white T-shirt and black trousers ...'.
- 2 The correct answer is 'discount':** The woman says, 'you can get a discount at any of their (Milo's) restaurants'. The man asks, 'Even at weekends?' and the woman replies, 'No'.
- 3 The correct answer is 'taxi':** The woman says, 'if you have to ... finish work after midnight, the company will pay for you to get a taxi home'.
'Bike' is incorrect as the man says, 'I'd use my bike' so the company wouldn't need to provide it.
- 4 The correct answer is 'service':** The man says that staff had to give 'a really high level of service' in his last job, and the woman says, 'that will be equally important at Milo's'.
'Detail' is incorrect as it does not make sense in the gap.
- 5 The correct answer is 'English':** The woman says, 'you'll need to have a certificate in English'.
'Communication skills' is incorrect as the instructions tell you to write one word only.
- 6 The correct answer is 'Wivenhoe':** The woman says, 'The first one [job vacancy] is in Wivenhoe Street.' She spells 'Wivenhoe'.
'Cork' is incorrect as the woman only says that Wivenhoe Street is 'just off Cork Street'.
- 7 The correct answer is 'equipment':** The woman says that the supervisor's responsibilities include 'checking all the procedures for cleaning the equipment'.
'Things' is incorrect as 'is' comes after the gap so a singular noun is needed.
- 8 The correct answer is '9.75':** The woman says, 'to begin with, you'd be getting £9.75 [per hour]'.
'9.50' is incorrect as the man says, 'In my last job I was getting £9.50 per hour.'
'11.25' is incorrect as the woman says the salary 'goes up to £11.25 after three months'.

9 The correct answer is 'deliveries': The woman says, 'you'd be responsible for ... sorting out all the deliveries'.

'Sorting' is incorrect as something that can be organised (a noun) is needed in the gap.

10 The correct answer is 'Sunday': The woman says, 'you do get one Sunday off (when you don't work) every four weeks'.

'Monday(s)' is incorrect as the woman says that [Milo's is] closed on Mondays', meaning every week not once a month.

Questions 11–20

11 and 12 The correct answers are B and E (in either order): The speaker says, 'there's an excellent hospital just 15 kilometres away, and a large secondary school even closer'. The speaker also says, 'many employees are having to commute long distances at present'.

A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'One drawback to the site is that it's on quite a steep slope'.

C is incorrect as the speaker says that the airport 'wasn't one of our major criteria for choosing the site'.

D is incorrect as the speaker says, 'At present it's being used for farming, like much of the land around Nunston.'

13 and 14 The correct answers are B and C (in either order): The speaker says that people liked the fact that 'provision [has been] made for protecting trees and wildlife on the site' and that it seems to be 'a place where people of all ages can live together happily'.

A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'Some people ... [would] like to see more facilities for cyclists'.

D is incorrect as the speaker does not mention the *low* cost of accommodation.

E is incorrect as the speaker says, 'it's only a short drive to get out into the countryside', so the development is near but not in a rural location.

15 The correct answer is G: The speaker says that the school will be 'at the corner of the second turning to the left' on the road going up from the South Entrance.

B is incorrect as it is located at the corner of the fifth turning to the right.

H is incorrect as it is located on the road to the left of the South Entrance.

16 The correct answer is C: The speaker says that the Sports Centre will be 'on the western side of the development, just below the road that branches off from London Road'.

E is incorrect as it is located on the eastern side of the development.

H is incorrect as it is on London Road (not branching off it) and on the southwestern side of the development.

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17 The correct answer is D: The speaker says, 'The clinic will be just below this (the lake), to the right of a street of houses.'

A is incorrect as it is above the lake.

B is incorrect as it is to the right of the lake.

18 The correct answer is B: The speaker says that the community centre will be 'On the northeast side' and 'will be adjoining' a row of 'houses specifically for residents over 65 (the elderly)'.

D is incorrect as it is central and it does not adjoin the housing for the elderly.

E is incorrect as it is at the end of a road.

19 The correct answer is H: The speaker says that the supermarket will be 'between the two entrances to the development' and 'just to the south' of 'three large trees'.

C is incorrect as it is to the north of the trees.

F is incorrect as it is to the east of the trees.

20 The correct answer is A: The speaker says that the playground will be 'in [the] curve' at the top of 'the road that goes up from the South Entrance' and that it will have 'nice views of the lake'.

D is incorrect as it is not 'in [the] curve' of a road.

F is incorrect as it is not in the curve of the road that goes up from the South Entrance and it does not have a view of the lake.

Questions 21–30

21 The correct answer is C: The students agree that the eruption had ‘massive social and economic consequences’.

B is incorrect as Adam says, ‘there were so many primary sources to look at’.

A is incorrect as the students agree that the eruption was ‘catastrophic’, but they do not compare it with other events.

22 The correct answer is A: Adam says, ‘I was surprised there were so many weather stations established by that time’.

B is incorrect as Michelle says, ‘they all gave a pretty consistent (similar) account’, and Adam agrees.

C is incorrect as Adam says, ‘you can see how the weather changed, often by the hour’.

23 The correct answer is B: Michelle says, ‘Reports from the period blamed the haze for an increase in headaches, respiratory issues and asthma attacks.’

A is incorrect as Michelle says that people realised it ‘wasn’t the sort of fog they were used to’.

C is incorrect as Michelle says, ‘it covered the sun and made it look a strange red colour’, meaning the sun wasn’t completely blocked out.

24 The correct answer is B: Adam says, ‘a French naturalist beat him (Franklin) to it’.

A and C are incorrect as Michelle does not make either of these claims.

25 and 26 The correct answers are A and B (in either order): Adam says, ‘you would not expect the effects to ‘go on for so long ... [or be] reported as far away as North America and North Africa’. Michelle agrees, ‘I found all that hard to believe too.’

C is incorrect as Michelle says, ‘many people died’ and Adam replies, ‘You’d expect that ...’.

D is incorrect as Adam says that you would expect ‘the fact that the volcanic ash drifted so swiftly’.

E is incorrect as the students do not mention warning signs.

27 The correct answer is D: Michelle says, 'livestock (animals) ... were poisoned because they ate vegetation that had been contaminated with fluorine'.

B is incorrect as the students do not say anything about the effects on agriculture being predictable.

28 The correct answer is A: Michelle says that the effects of the eruption 'led to more people dying than any other country'.

E is incorrect as although Adam says, 'the crops all failed', he does not mention food prices.

29 The correct answer is C: Adam says, 'the mortality (death) rate ... included an unusually high percentage of people under the age of 25'.

A is incorrect as Adam does not compare the loss of life with that in other countries.

30 The correct answer is F: Michelle says, 'the weather in the USA was badly affected' and refers to people being 'snowbound until March in Virginia'. Adam agrees, saying, 'there was ice floating down the Mississippi which was unprecedented'.

Questions 31–40

- 31 The correct answer is 'convenient':** The speaker says that 'nothing is quite as convenient as being able to pop your phone or credit card into your pocket'.
'Item' is incorrect as the word 'are' comes before the gap.
- 32 The correct answer is 'suits':** The speaker says, 'that was the time (in the 18th century) when suits became popular'.
'Trousers' is incorrect as the speaker says that men were already wearing these: 'Trousers were knee-length'.
- 33 The correct answer is 'tailor':** The speaker says, 'pockets were sown into this cloth by whichever tailor the customer used'.
'Customer' is incorrect as the customer asked the tailor to make the garments.
- 34 The correct answer is 'profession':** The speaker says that pockets 'were often larger but plainer if the wearer was someone with a profession ...'.
'Stylish' and 'decorative' are incorrect as they do not make sense, as adjectives, in the gap. A noun is needed after 'type of'.
- 35 The correct answer is 'visible':** The speaker says, 'they (women's pockets) weren't nearly as visible ... as men's'.
'Numerous' is incorrect as the speaker does not compare the number of pockets men and women had.
- 36 The correct answer is 'string(s)':** The speaker says that women had 'a pair of pockets ... tied together with string'.
'Fabric' and 'linen' are incorrect as the speaker says that the pockets 'were made of fabric ... or something more expensive, such as linen'. They were the materials the pockets were made of, not something to link the pockets together.
- 37 The correct answer is 'waist(s)':** The speaker says, 'Women tied the pockets around their waist'.
'Clothes' is incorrect as the pockets were 'beneath their clothes' and didn't hang from them.
- 38 The correct answer is 'perfume':** The speaker says: 'They would have an opening in the folds of their skirts through which they could reach ... their perfume.'
'Petticoats' is incorrect as they are an item of clothing and not things carried under the clothes.
- 39 The correct answer is 'image':** The speaker says that pockets 'stood out too much and detracted from the woman's image (made it less attractive)'.
'Possessions' is incorrect as the speaker says that women 'still ... needed somewhere to carry these items (their possessions)'.
- 40 The correct answer is 'handbag':** The speaker says, 'they (pouches) inevitably led on to the handbag'.
'Items' is incorrect as 'a' comes before the gap so a singular noun is needed.

Test 2 answer key with extra explanations

Reading

Reading Passage 1

Questions 1–13

- 1 The correct answer is 'deer antlers':** The second paragraph of the text describes how the earliest (stage) of the monument was built using tools 'which may have been fashioned out of deer antlers'.
- 2 The correct answer is 'timber posts':** The text says, 'Deep pits ... located within the circle may once have held a ring of timber posts.'
- 3 The correct answer is 'tree trunks':** According to the fourth paragraph, 'builders fashioned sledges and rollers out of tree trunks'.
'Bluestones' and 'boulders' are incorrect as these names refer to the large stones which might have been carried on the sledges.
- 4 The correct answer is 'oxen':** In the fourth paragraph, the text says that the stones may have been transported 'with supersized wicker baskets ... hauled (pulled) by oxen'.
'Vessels' is incorrect as although the text says that the stones may have been towed by 'a fleet of vessels (boats)', it does not say that the stones were in baskets.
- 5 The correct answer is 'glaciers':** The text says that geologists have suggested that 'it was glaciers, not humans, that carried the bluestones'.
'Nature' is incorrect as the scientists specifically suggested the activity was done by glaciers.
- 6 The correct answer is 'druids':** The seventh paragraph describes the claim made in the 17th century 'that Stonehenge was the work of druids'.
'Primitive graves' is incorrect as the answer must refer to a group of people who might have built the monument.
- 7 The correct answer is 'burial':** In the ninth paragraph, the writer says, 'there is consensus among the majority of modern scholars that Stonehenge once served the function of burial ground', meaning that the scholars agree about this function of Stonehenge.
'Neolithic agrarians' (from the eighth paragraph) is incorrect as that paragraph is concerned with who built Stonehenge, not what its purpose was.

8 The correct answer is 'calendar': The penultimate paragraph states, 'In the 1960s, the astronomer Gerald Hawkins suggested that the cluster of megalithic stones (Stonehenge) operated as a form of (kind of) calendar'.

'Astrological phenomena' is incorrect as the theory was that the stones were used to predict phenomena such as eclipses, not that Stonehenge itself was a phenomenon.

9 The correct answer is TRUE: In the sixth paragraph, the text says that in the third phase, sandstone slabs or 'sarsens' 'were arranged into an outer crescent or ring' and some were 'assembled into ... structures ... in the centre (middle) of Stonehenge'.

10 The correct answer is FALSE: At the end of the sixth paragraph, the text says that until roughly 1600 BCE, the bluestones were 'repositioned multiple times', so they did not stay in the same spot.

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11 The correct answer is FALSE: In the seventh paragraph, the text says that 'archaeologist John Aubrey made the claim that Stonehenge was the work of (Celtic) druids'. However, 'in the mid-20th century, radiocarbon dating demonstrated that Stonehenge stood more than 1,000 years before the Celts inhabited the region' so this finding did not support Aubrey's claim.

12 The correct answer is TRUE: In the eighth paragraph, the text says that 'Bones, tools and other artefacts found on the site' support the idea that 'several distinct tribes of people contributed to (the construction of) Stonehenge'.

13 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN: In the penultimate paragraph, the text mentions that Hawkins was an astronomer, but we are not told whether or not his critics were also astronomers.

Questions 14–26

14 The correct answer is C: The writer says that at present the capabilities of AI are restricted to 'narrow AI', but that this restriction is very temporary, and the full range of 'human-level performance' could be achieved in future.

A is incorrect as in fact the writer is predicting that AI will progress quickly, saying, 'many experts believe (predict) this restriction is very temporary'.

B is incorrect as the writer dismissed the use of AI in chess as irrelevant to the modern world, saying, 'That's yesterday's news, what's next?'

D is incorrect as there is no reference in the first paragraph to disagreement between experts.

15 The correct answer is A: The writer describes two reasons why machines will soon be able to outperform humans – the slow speed that our brains work at and the limit on the size of our brains.

B is incorrect as the writer is explaining differences between machines and humans, not shared characteristics.

C is incorrect as no details are given of exactly how machine intelligence has developed.

D is incorrect as there is no comparison of the stages of development of different aspects of humans.

16 The correct answer is B: King Midas made a wish (that everything he touched would turn to gold) but did not think through the possible consequences of this very general wish. When he failed to specify exactly what he wanted, his wish had disastrous results.

A is incorrect as the story of King Midas is not about progress, but about clarity of aims.

C is incorrect as King Midas was not concerned with creating a better world for anyone except himself.

D is incorrect as the story illustrates the dangers of a course of action, not the financial advantages.

17 The correct answer is D: The writer says that we need to create 'human-friendly' AI machines. This task is difficult (a challenge) as we are not always 'human-friendly' ourselves.

A is incorrect as the writer is considering what AI machines will be like and not how to improve human behaviour.

B is incorrect as although the writer says that AI should have goals 'aligned with our own values', there is no discussion of which these values are.

C is incorrect as although the impact of humans on 'many other creatures' on the planet is mentioned, there is nothing about creating a better world for them.

- 18 The correct answer is C:** The writer says that luckily, the machines will be 'smart enough for the job' and be 'ethically (morally) as well as cognitively (having greater brain power) superhuman'.
- A is incorrect** as there is no suggestion in the paragraph that there is any threat to the safety of machines. The phrase 'For safety's sake' at the beginning of the paragraph refers to the safety of humans, not machines.
- B is incorrect** as the writer makes a clear prediction that the machines will be 'smart enough for the job'.
- D is incorrect** as there is no suggestion in this paragraph of any conflict between humans and machines.
- 19 The correct answer is D:** The writer says that humans may lack the ability to give machines the right sort of instructions to achieve what we want. Getting started 'won't be easy' because humans can't agree among themselves 'about the ideals' to improve society and even contribute to 'the suffering of strangers'.
- A is incorrect** as it is suggested the abuses of power come from humans, not machines.
- B is incorrect** as the writer is suggesting that the two types of learning are similar, not different.
- C is incorrect** as there is no reference to not having enough people who know how to program machines.
- 20 The correct answer is YES:** In the seventh paragraph, the writer refers to 'Machines who are better than us at sticking to the moral high ground (better at behaving consistently in a moral way)' and says that these might prevent us from being able to 'discriminate in favour of our own communities (only look after our own people)'.
- 21 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN:** In the eighth paragraph, the writer refers to 'silicon police' (a phrase used in this text to describe police protection by machines) but does not say anything about how many would be needed.
- 22 The correct answer is NO:** In the eighth paragraph, the writer is discussing 'Loss of freedom'. At the end of the paragraph, the writer says, 'few of us are likely to welcome such a future', referring to a future in which 'our options (our freedom)' are limited.
- 23 The correct answer is YES:** In the tenth paragraph, the writer says, 'it will require a cooperative spirit'. Here, 'it' refers to getting the new technology (AI) 'to act well for us'.
- 24 The correct answer is C:** In the ninth paragraph, the writer says that AI 'already has some input into how resources are used in our National Health Service (NHS)'.
- 25 The correct answer is A:** According to the text, if AI was given 'a greater role' in health care, this change would affect people like senior doctors.
- 26 The correct answer is E:** Greater power being given to AI would mean 'depriving some humans (e.g. senior doctors) of the control they presently enjoy (giving professional people less control)'.

Questions 27–40

- 27 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN:** The writer says that the word ‘genius’ is ‘universally (nowadays) associated’ with Leonardo da Vinci, but we are not told when he was first referred to as a genius.
- 28 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN:** In the second paragraph, we are told how many deaths were caused by the plague, but no figure is given for the deaths that could be caused by the present climate crisis.
- 29 The correct answer is TRUE:** The writer says that at present humanity faces ‘widespread displacement, extinctions and death’, which are all challenges, and that ‘Then, as now’, we need to find solutions to these challenges.
- 30 The correct answer is FALSE:** The third paragraph states that Leonardo worked on a plan of an ‘ideal city’ in 1486 (in the 15th century), but the writer says that this ‘would remain unfulfilled’, meaning the city was never actually constructed.
- 31 The correct answer is TRUE:** In the third paragraph, the writer says, ‘unsustainable urban models are a key cause of global climate change today’.
- 32 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN:** In the fourth paragraph, the writer says that ‘prominent (important) Renaissance men pushed forward (encouraged) large-scale urban projects in Italy, such as ... [in] Pienza and ... the city of Ferrara’, but there is no information about the attitude or actions of local people in these two places.
- 33 The correct answer is FALSE:** The fifth paragraph refers to ‘his disordered (untidy) way of working’.
- 34 The correct answer is ‘transport’:** The fifth paragraph says, ‘He designed the city for the easy transport of goods’.
- 35 The correct answer is ‘staircases’:** The sixth paragraph describes how Leonardo’s design for ‘outdoor staircases ... can be seen in some of today’s high-rise buildings’.
- 36 The correct answer is ‘engineering’:** The seventh paragraph says that Leonardo’s vision was a ‘fusion of (combined) architecture and engineering’.

- 37 The correct answer is 'rule':** After describing Leonardo's design principles for street width, the writer says that this is 'a rule still followed in many contemporary cities across Italy'.
- 38 The correct answer is 'Roman':** In the eighth paragraph, the text says, 'some of these features (of Leonardo's work) existed in Roman cities ...'.
- 39 The correct answer is 'Paris':** The end of the eighth paragraph refers to the 'renovation of Paris ... between 1853 and 1870 (in the late 19th century)'.
- 40 The correct answer is 'outwards':** The final paragraph refers to a city 'built upwards instead of outwards' which would be 'more efficient and sustainable'.

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 1

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 5.0** score.

The barchart reveals the information about the households income in the US by annually in 2007, 2011 and as well as 2015.

Overall it seems that, in 2007 there was a high increased ratio of \$100,000 income it had been steady at 29% of households, However in 2011 there was a slight decrease and it remains at 26% as well as in 2015 there was dramatically increased and steady at 34%.

In 2007, there was a population who had less than \$25,000 income at 25% household and there were least person who had \$75,000 annual income around 14% was there. However, compared to 2011 these was a slight decrease and it was almost 2% dropped and reached at 12%.

In 2015 there was a people who had higher income around \$100,000 the ratio was striched at 33% apart from them compared to \$75,000 income there was a fluctuation and it was stagnant at 15%.

Here is the examiner's comment:

There is good reporting of the data for households at \$100,00 or more and \$75,000–\$99,999. There is no reporting of households of \$25,000–\$49,999 or \$50,000–\$74,999 and this does have an impact on the score for the task.

There are some effective linking devices [*Overall* | *However*] and cohesive features [*who* | *it*], but overall, there is a lack of progression and a number of inaccuracies [*around 14% was there* | *these was* / *there was* | *apart from them* / ?].

There is a limited range of vocabulary, but it is minimally adequate for the task. The candidate uses some suitable examples [*slight decrease* | *compared to* | *fluctuation*] but makes several noticeable errors that cause some difficulty for the reader [*high increased ratio* | *least person* | *dropped*].

The response uses a range of grammatical structures including different tenses [*had been steady*] and comparative structures [*less than* | *compared to*], but overall, the frequent grammatical errors cause some difficulty for the reader [*remains* / *remained* | *there was a people* / *there were people*].

To improve the rating for this response, all key features should be presented and an overview, or summary should be added at the end. In addition, the use of vocabulary and grammatical structures should be more accurate.

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 1

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 5.5** score.

The presented chart illustrates the relationship between annual salary and the amount of household in three different years.

Overall, the number of household has increased in the last year (2015) and most of them have an annual income lower than \$75,000 and more than one out of three received an income lower than \$50,000. Furthermore this tendency has been stable in the 2007, 2011 and 2015.

In the chart can be observed that aproximately just over twenty five million household have gotten an annual income of less than 25,000 in 2015 and almost the same number has received lower than 50,000 in the same year. As it was mention before, the patron has been the basically the same in previous years. There has been an increment of around 10 million of household who earned more or equal to \$100,000 per year in 2015.

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 2

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer.

When students enrol at university, they have to decide whether to devote themselves entirely to one subject or to take some other subjects that do not directly relate to their course. While both paths have their benefits, I believe it is better to take some additional subjects.

If a person studies their major and no other subjects, it could be argued that they will become a specialist in their field sooner than if they studied a range of subjects. They will have laser focus and tailor what they learn to their future career. In many places it is expensive to go to university so people want to make sure that they are studying only the subjects they need and that will help them in their future career.

That being said, there are many reasons that people study subjects outside their major. One reason is that the person may not have chosen a career and would like to explore more than one possibility. Secondly, many jobs require a general education; it is said that no knowledge is ever wasted and the person will use it one day. Thirdly, it is becoming more common to take an interdisciplinary approach. Often knowledge is connected outside the boundaries of 'subjects'. For example, a student of fine arts may find that geometry helps with scale and perspective.

While it is understandable that some people focus only on one chosen course of study, it seems to me that there are more persuasive arguments to branch out and learn different things, not only to make oneself a more well-rounded person but to be more adaptable to the modern workplace.

Here are comments from another examiner:

This response is well-developed and the candidate expresses their opinion consistently, in the first and final paragraph, that it is better for students to learn about other subjects as well as their main subject. There is a range of ideas to support studying just for the main subject, including the students' need to *[focus]*, the expense and the impact on their *[future career]*. There are also relevant ideas on the other side, which consider the benefits of a broader *[knowledge]* base and include a specific example *[a student of fine arts may find that geometry helps ...]*.

Ideas are presented logically, using a wide range of cohesive devices *[That being said | While it is understandable that]* to sequence information logically. In the third paragraph, there is a slightly mechanical use of linkers *[One reason | Secondly | Thirdly | For example]*; for the highest rating, this could be avoided.

Vocabulary is fluently and flexibly used, with sophisticated control around the topic area of university courses *[enrol at | outside the boundaries of 'subjects' | interdisciplinary approach]*. There are no errors in spelling.

The range of grammatical structures is wide. The use of a range of tenses, including modal structures *[have to decide | want to make sure | would like to explore | is becoming | may find]* and conditionals *[than if they]*, combined with the absence of errors, make this a high-level response.

To improve the response, the third paragraph could be less mechanical. However, this is already a high-level response with a well-developed position containing extended and supported ideas.