# Test 3 answer key with extra explanations

## Listening

Part 1

### Questions 1–10

- 1 The correct answer is 'Marrowfield': The man says that his address is '52 Marrowfield Street'. He spells 'Marrowfield'.
- 2 The correct answer is 'relative': The man says, 'a relative ... suggested it'.

'Internet' is incorrect as the man says, 'I usually do that (use the internet), but this time ...'.

**'Member' is incorrect** as after the woman asks, 'Is he a member too?', the man replies that he 'belongs to another club'.

**3 The correct answer is 'socialise' or 'socialize':** The man says, 'I also like to socialise with other photographers'.

'Photographers' is incorrect as a verb is needed in the gap after 'to'.

- **4 The correct answer is 'full':** The man says, 'I think I'll go for the full membership'. **'Associate' is incorrect** as the woman says that it costs £20 not £30.
- 5 The correct answer is 'Domestic Life': The man says, 'the theme was entitled "Domestic Life".

'A family' is incorrect as this was the subject not the title of the photograph.

- 6 The correct answer is 'clouds': The man says, 'The instructions were to capture the clouds'. 'Blue sky' and 'setting sun' are incorrect as the man says, 'it (the photo) couldn't just be blue sky and a setting sun'.
- 7 The correct answer is 'timing': The man says, 'I should have waited a bit longer to get the shot', and the woman replies, 'So the timing wasn't right.''Shot' is incorrect as this is too general.
- 8 The correct answer is 'Animal Magic': The man says, 'the third competition I entered was called "Animal Magic".

**'Difficult subject'** is incorrect as this is the woman's reply, not the title of the competition. She says, 'Well, that's a difficult subject!'

9 The correct answer is '(animal) movement': The man says, 'there had to be some movement in the scene'.

**'A fox' is incorrect** as although the man says, 'I got a great shot of a fox in the end', he could have photographed any animal.

10 The correct answer is 'dark': The man says, 'I suspected that it was a bit dark, which is what I was told'.

'At night' is incorrect as an adjective is needed in the gap after 'too'.

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### Part 2

## Questions 11-20

11 and 12 The correct answers are B and C (in either order): The speaker says, 'you should never consume mushrooms picked by friends or neighbours' and you should avoid 'mushrooms growing beside busy roads'.

**A**, **D** and **E** are incorrect as the speaker doesn't mention picking more than one variety of mushroom, eating mushrooms while picking them or picking old mushrooms.

13 and 14 The correct answers are B and D (in either order): The speaker says, 'Some edible mushrooms are bright red'. He also says, 'just because deer or squirrels eat a particular mushroom, doesn't mean that you can'.

A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'it's not necessary to peel them (mushrooms)'.

**C** is incorrect as the speaker says, 'I prefer mushrooms cooked', but he does not mention the effect of cooking on toxins in mushrooms.

E is incorrect as the speaker says, 'some of the most deadly mushrooms have no smell'.

15 The correct answer is C: The speaker says, 'you need to be there first thing in the morning'.

**A** is incorrect as the speaker says, 'There are usually a range of habitats where mushrooms grow' and he mentions playing fields not just wooded areas.

B is incorrect as the speaker mentions wildlife but says nothing about disturbing it.

16 The correct answer is B: The speaker says, 'if possible, you should go with a group led by an expert'.

A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'you can't always rely on getting a good signal in the middle of a wood'.

C is incorrect as the speaker says, 'I wouldn't recommend ... relying on photos in a book'.

- 17 The correct answer is B: The speaker says, 'collect only enough for your own needs'. A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'don't trample on young mushrooms' but says nothing about *not* picking these.
- 18 The correct answer is C: The speaker says, 'the biggest problem is that so many new houses have been built in this area'.

A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'Restaurants are becoming more interested in ... wild mushrooms', but he doesn't mention this as a problem.

B is incorrect as the speaker doesn't mention a lack of rain.

19 The correct answer is A: The speaker says, 'put them in the fridge ... for a couple of days'.

B is incorrect as the speaker doesn't mention a dark room.

**C** is incorrect as the speaker doesn't mention leaving the mushrooms after 'washing them really carefully'.

20 The correct answer is A: The speaker says, 'Be adventurous! They're great in so many dishes – stir fries, risottos, pasta.'

**B** and **C** are incorrect as the speaker doesn't mention strong tasting mushrooms or the length of time they should be cooked.

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### Part 3

## Questions 21–30

21 and 22 The correct answers are A and E (in either order): The students agree that 'ultimately, they (the Luddites) didn't achieve anything'. The man says, 'I can see why the Luddites felt so threatened' and the woman agrees, saying, 'I know.'

**B** and **C** are incorrect as the students do not mention anything about the Luddites today or whether they have been criticised.

**D** is incorrect as the students agree that industrialisation (which the Luddites opposed) 'created more jobs than it destroyed' so they weren't proved right.

23 and 24 The correct answers are B and D (in either order): The man says, 'all the evidence shows people are spending longer than ever at work' and the woman agrees, saying, 'that's true'. The woman says, 'I'm not so sure about [falling (lower) unemployment]', and the man agrees, saying, 'not in the foreseeable future'.

**C** is incorrect as although the woman says, 'people will be expected to work until they're much older (delay retiring)', the students don't mention whether people will want to do this.

E is incorrect as the students don't mention people changing jobs more frequently.

25 The correct answer is G: The man says, 'there are more of them than ever' and they 'have become far more efficient'. The woman adds, 'Twenty times more accountants in this country compared to the 19th century.'

D is incorrect as the students don't mention qualifications.

**26 The correct answer is E:** The man says, 'I'd never have thought that demand for hairdressing would have gone up so much in the last hundred years.' The woman says that this is because 'people's earning power has gone up'.

 ${\bf G}$  is incorrect as the students don't mention productivity – they only discuss increasing demand.

27 The correct answer is B: The woman says, 'Even 20 years ago there were secretaries doing dictation and typing.' The man says, 'Really boring compared to these days ...'

A and C are incorrect as the students do not mention numbers of administrative staff.

**D** is incorrect as although the woman refers to 'graduates', she does not mention the need for more qualifications in the future.

- 28 The correct answer is C: The woman says, 'the 1871 census showed that roughly 25% of the population worked on the land'. The man replies, 'Now it's less than 0.2%.'A is incorrect as the fall in jobs has already happened.
- 29 The correct answer is F: The man says, 'now ... this sector will see huge growth' and the woman says, 'it's hard enough to meet current demand'.G is incorrect as the students refer to growth and demand but don't mention productivity.
- **30 The correct answer is A:** The woman says, 'They've been in decline since ATMs were introduced in the eighties.' The man replies, 'And technology will certainly make most of the jobs they do now redundant'.

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#### Part 4

## Questions 31-40

- **31 The correct answer is 'technical':** The speaker says that as well as legal measures (ways), 'we'd need to have ... the technical systems to enable us to prevent such accidents'. '**Management' and 'control' are incorrect** as they do not collocate with 'ways'.
- **32 The correct answer is 'cheap':** The speaker says, 'satellites are relatively (quite) cheap these days ... meaning that more people can afford to put them into space'.

'Afford' is incorrect as an adjective is needed in the gap after 'quite'.

'Crowded' is incorrect as this refers to 'space' not 'satellites'.

- 33 The correct answer is 'thousands': The speaker says that there are 'whole constellations, consisting of thousands of them (satellites)'.'Crowded' is incorrect as 'of' comes after the gap.
- 34 The correct answer is 'identification': The speaker says, 'it (a satellite) doesn't have to (isn't required to) send back any information to Earth to allow its identification'.
  'Launch' is incorrect as the speaker is referring to the satellite transmitting information 'once it's out there'.
- **35 The correct answer is 'tracking':** The speaker says, 'we don't have ... enough proper ways of tracking them (satellites)'.

'Colliding' is incorrect as the speaker refers to 'planes colliding with one another' and not satellites.

**36 The correct answer is 'military':** The speaker says, 'a satellite may be designed for military purposes (reasons) ... and the operators don't want competitors to have information about it'.

'Information' is incorrect as it is too general.

- 37 The correct answer is 'location': The speaker says that information 'isn't easy to collect' and that 'Details are needed about ... [the satellite's] location at a particular time'. 'Sensors' is incorrect as the satellites' sensors are used to collect the information about the location.
- **38 The correct answer is 'prediction':** The speaker says, 'all that the scientists can do is to put forward a prediction (guess) concerning where the satellite is heading next'.
- **39 The correct answer is 'database':** The speaker says that their task 'will involve creating a single (one) database on which [the information] can be entered'. **'Key issue' is incorrect** as the instructions tell you to write one word only.
- 40 The correct answer is 'trust': The speaker says, 'it's ... essential that this system is one that establishes (creates) *trust* in the people that use it'.
  'Work' and 'global' are incorrect as they do not make sense in the gap.

# Test 3 answer key with extra explanations

### Reading

Reading Passage 1

### Questions 1–13

- **1 The correct answer is G:** This section describes the possible alternatives (fly ash and slag) to cement in a concrete mix, and explains what they are and how they are used.
- 2 The correct answer is D: This section refers to three locations where there are tall wooden buildings (Vancouver, Vienna and Brumunddal).
- **3 The correct answer is C:** This section states, 'the ingredients of concrete ... [are] found in abundance in most places around the globe (world)'.
- **4 The correct answer is F:** This section ends by saying, 'only when a wider range of construction projects have been proven in practice will it be possible to see wood as a real alternative to concrete'.
- **5 The correct answer is 'architects':** Section D says, 'climate change is driving architects to turn to treated timber ...'.

'Buildings' is incorrect as it is not possible to encourage buildings.

**6 The correct answer is 'moisture':** Section E explains that wood 'absorbs moisture from the air'.

**'Pests' is incorrect** grammatically as a singular noun is needed before 'enters', and pests are mentioned 'In addition' in the next sentence of the summary.

- 7 The correct answer is 'layers': Section E states, 'An adhesive (glue) is used to stick layers of solid-sawn timber (wood) together, crosswise, to form building blocks.'
   'Properties' is incorrect as these are not physical things and cannot be stuck together.
- 8 The correct answer is 'speed': Section E says that wooden buildings 'can be constructed at a greater speed' than concrete ones.

'Strength' is incorrect as this has already been referred to earlier in the summary.

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- **9 The correct answer is C:** In the second paragraph of Section G, Surgenor says that although the use of alternatives to cement (fly ash and slag) can save carbon, other things may have to be considered such as fossil fuels used in shipping (transporting by boat) these alternatives.
- 10 The correct answer is A: At the end of Section C, Cheeseman says that concrete is an amazing substance and it will be difficult to make anything else 'with similar properties'.
- **11 The correct answer is B:** In Section F, Mannström reports that demand for wood is increasing, 'with climate change concerns [being] the main driver (cause)'.
- 12 The correct answer is D: In Section H, Preston and Lehne say, 'Some novel (new) cements have been discussed ... without breaking through (but not used)' because they are 'rarely as cost-effective as conventional cement'.
- **13 The correct answer is A:** In Section B, Cheeseman says, the 'sheer scale (huge extent) of manufacture (of concrete) is the issue (the reason it produces so much carbon)'.

### Reading Passage 2

### Questions 14-26

- **14 The correct answer is iii:** The writer describes the weaknesses of steam-powered vehicles together with some advantages.
- **15 The correct answer is viii:** This paragraph describes how the 'Internal Combustion Engine' gradually became more popular that the steam car.
- **16 The correct answer is vi:** Paragraph C points out that the Model B steam engine was quiet 'Its high-pressure steam drove the engine pistons in virtual silence' and quick 'It could accelerate from zero to sixty miles per hour in just fifteen seconds'.
- **17 The correct answer is v:** Paragraph D describes the improvements made to the Model C which led to '5,390' people paying a deposit to order one of the vehicles when they became available.
- **18 The correct answer is vii:** Paragraph E describes the 'glitches' (problems) encountered by the customers who bought the new car.
- **19 The correct answer is i:** Paragraph F describes how the car was left 'sitting overnight in freezing conditions' and then after 'over an hour in the frosty morning air' it was successfully started and driven.
- **20 The correct answer is iv:** Paragraph G says that the good performance of the car and its low emissions could be a reason why it may become popular again.
- 21 The correct answer is A: The writer says, 'The glory days of steam cars were few.'

B is incorrect as we are not told how many steam cars were made.

C is incorrect as there is no information about selling steam cars in this paragraph.

**D** is incorrect as it was the combustion engine cars which were 'difficult to operate', not the steam cars.

**22 The correct answer is C:** According to Paragraph C, the boys constructed three separate versions of the car, trying to improve it at each stage.

A is incorrect as we are told the boys used parts taken from another car.

**B** is incorrect as the text tells us the boys built three separate prototypes (versions of the car) and does not mention written notes.

**D** is incorrect as there is no reference to the boys asking other people for help.

**23 The correct answer is B:** According to Paragraph D, Abner Doble drove the car 'from Massachusetts to Detroit (another city) in order to seek investment'.

A is incorrect as we are not told they moved production to Detroit.

C is incorrect as we are only told that the brothers worked on the car.

**D** is incorrect as the brothers added or improved features, but still based these on the Model B.

- 24 The correct answer is 'speed': According to Paragraph F, 'its maximum speed was pushed to over a hundred miles per hour'.
- **25 The correct answer is 'fifty / 50':** When the company closed in 1931, 'fewer than fifty of the amazing Model E steam cars had been produced'.
- **26 The correct answer is 'strict':** The Model E passes the emissions laws in California and 'they are pretty strict'.

### Reading Passage 3

### Questions 27-40

27 The correct answer is B: The writer describes how a teacher gives students in his class different tasks depending on what they are able to do.

A is incorrect as there is no suggestion that any of the students are uninterested in what they are doing.

C is incorrect as the activities and descriptions suggest that the students are interested in the play.

D is incorrect as there is nothing to suggest that any students are disruptive.

28 The correct answer is A: The text says that the practice (streaming) is 'intuitively appealing to almost every stakeholder (to almost everyone who is involved in education – parents, students, teachers, etc.)'.

**B** is incorrect as there is nothing in the paragraph about which students benefit most from streaming.

C is incorrect as the text says that streaming requires special schools to be set up, which is not a simple process.

**D** is incorrect as although different types of schools are mentioned, the text doesn't say that streaming works better in some than in others.

29 The correct answer is C: The text says that 'The brightest ones (students) will never summit Mount Everest', meaning that they will never achieve as much as they are capable of.

A is incorrect as it is not suggested that the brightest students follow unsuitable paths, just that they won't reach the top.

**B** is incorrect as climbing Mount Everest is not referred to as an example of an interesting task, but as a goal.

 ${\bf D}$  is incorrect as the text is referring to the limitations of mixed-ability classes not the limitations of the students.

**30 The correct answer is C:** Scaffolding is normally used on a building to help workers carry out building or repair work at higher levels. Here, the scaffolding is the support given to students in their initial stages of learning.

A is incorrect as scaffolding allows a student to learn, rather than preventing this.

B is incorrect as the scaffolding refers to the help given, not to the classroom environment.

**D** is incorrect as although setting appropriate targets might be one part of scaffolding, in this text, scaffolding refers to all the support provided – 'teachers, textbooks, worked examples, parents and so on'.

- 31 The correct answer is H: Professor Hattie says that 'tracking has minimal effects on learner outcomes (achievements)'.
- **32 The correct answer is D:** Professor Hattie says that streaming has a significant effect on the 'lowest sets' of students.
- 33 The correct answer is F: Professor Hattie says that the lowest sets tend to be of 'low socioeconomic class', meaning from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- **34 The correct answer is E:** The text says that there is only a 'small benefit for those lucky clever students in the higher sets'.
- **35 The correct answer is B:** The eighth paragraph says that streaming 'limits what the teacher feels the student is capable of'.
- **36 The correct answer is NO:** According to the text in the sixth paragraph, the Vygotsky model indicates that 'streaming students ... would be an efficient and effective solution'.
- **37 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN:** The eighth paragraph mentions the possibility of students taking on MKO roles but doesn't mention teachers' feelings about this.
- **38 The correct answer is YES:** The ninth paragraph says that there is 'something exciting about passing on skills and knowledge that you yourself have just mastered'.
- **39 The correct answer is NO:** In the final paragraph, the writer says, 'we need the many to flourish not suffer at the expense of a few bright stars (the highest-achieving students)'. So the focus should not be on the highest-achieving students.
- 40 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN: The writer doesn't make an explicit claim about the impact of the outdoor activity on classwork.

## **TEST 3, WRITING TASK 1**

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

The diagram features the floor plan of a library twenty years ago and at present. Overall, the uses of the rooms in the central library have changed considerably. The modernised library has more facilities, including a café, computer room and three self-service machines.

When you entered the library in the past, you would have found a reading room on your left and a curved enquiry desk for tickets and book returns on your right. In the very centre of the library were two sets of tables and chairs. Adult fiction books were on the left, and non-fiction books were on the right. In the back right and left corners, you could have visited a room for borrowing CDs, videos and computer games and another for children's books.

In its current form, the library is a very different place. The reading room is now a computer room, and there is a café where the enquiry desk used to be. Above the café are a smaller adult fiction books section, an information desk and three self-service machines. On the opposite side, reference books have taken the place of adult non-fiction books.

Conspicuously, there are no tables and chairs in the current library. The room for children's books is now a lecture room, and there is an enlarged room in the back left corner that includes two L shaped sofas and fiction books for children. The library holds storytelling events here.

Here are comments from another examiner:

This is a high-level response to the task. It starts with a clear overview of the changes that have been made to the library over the 20-year period. The second paragraph gives a full description of the layout of the original plan, and the next paragraph provides full details of all the key changes. Organisation is logical, as each floor plan is described in turn.

Vocabulary is flexibly used [*curved* | *On the opposite side* | *taken the place of* | *Conspicuously*] to present the changes and errors are rare. Similarly, there is a good range of grammatical structures that are appropriate to the task [*could have visited* | *is now* | *used to be*] as they describe the library in the past, the changes and the current state of the library.

This is a strong response to the task; it is logically organised and fully coherent.

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## **TEST 3, WRITING TASK 2**

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

The move from rural areas to urban areas seems inevitable as people relocate in pursuit of better work and study opportunities, along with a more highly developed infrastructure. This essay will argue that while there are advantages for individuals, as well as for rural and urban societies, on the whole it is a negative development.

When they move from the countryside to the city, individuals benefit from more advanced transport, health services and entertainment. Cities see a diverse range of people coming in from different parts of the country, leading to vibrant cultural mix. When people move to the city for training and education, this brings many positives to their lives in terms of opportunities for work, wealth and fulfilment. However, with the rise in working remotely, the opportunities available to those in rural areas are not as limited as they were before as it is possible for many people to study or work there without having to relocate.

People moving to the city can have a negative effect on rural areas as it means that they are not there to support the local economy or community. In time, it becomes a vicious circle as the more people leave a rural community, the less that community has to offer, so the more people leave. For many individuals, the move can be difficult; city life can be expensive, stressful and competitive. In cities, an influx of newcomers can lead to overcrowding and pressure on public services like transport and hospitals.

Overall it seems that while it is understandable that people want to move to cities from rural areas, it tends to bring more challenges than benefits.

Here are comments from another examiner:

This is a good response to the task and the position is clear from the first paragraph: the candidate thinks the general move of the population to the cities is a negative development. Ideas are presented within two main paragraphs: one lists the benefits for people of facilities in cities [*transport* | *health services and entertainment* | *cultural mix* | *training and education* | *work*] and the other describes the [*negative effect on rural areas*].

The organisation of ideas into two main paragraphs, one with the benefits of city life and one with the negative impacts, is not entirely logical. For example, in the second paragraph, the comment on remote working [*it is possible for many people to study or work there without having to relocate*] does not fit into the central topic of the benefits of moving to the city. Then, the third paragraph covers both the negatives for the rural area and the negatives of city life for those who make the move. This would be better separated into two paragraphs.

There is a good range of vocabulary with some flexibility and precision [*relocate in pursuit of* | *vibrant cultural mix* | *fulfilment* | *working remotely* | *vicious circle* | *influx* | *overcrowding*], and the range of grammar is also wide and generally accurate. Grammatical structures include comparatives [*not as limited as* | *the more* ... *the less* ... *the more* | *more challenges than*] within multi-clause sentences, and future and present time structures [*This essay will argue* | *tends to bring*]. However, there is some repetition of structures [*can*].

To improve the overall score, the grouping of ideas within the paragraphs could be clearer and there could be less repetition of similar grammatical structures.

IELTS 18 Academic. Sample Writing answers

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