# Test 4 answer key with extra explanations

#### Listening

Part 1

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#### Questions 1–10

1 The correct answer is 'receptionist': The man says, 'this is a position for a receptionist'.

'Office work' is incorrect as the instructions tell you to write one word only.

'Office' is incorrect as this is a place, not a role.

2 The correct answer is 'Medical': The man says that the job is 'at the medical centre there (in Fordham)'.

**'Sports' is incorrect** as the woman says, 'I *worked* in a sports centre for a couple of years' meaning this was the location of her previous job.

- 3 The correct answer is 'Chastons': The woman asks, 'where exactly is that?' and the man replies, 'on Chastons Road'. He then spells 'Chastons'.
  'Station' is incorrect as the man says, 'it's quite near the station' not that it's Station Road.
- 4 The correct answer is 'appointments': The man says, 'you'd also be involved in making appointments'.
  'Enquiries' is incorrect as the woman only refers to 'enquiries from patients'.
- 5 The correct answer is 'database': The man says, 'another of your duties would be keeping the centre's database up-to-date' meaning maintaining it.
  'Duties' is incorrect as it does not make sense in the gap.
- 6 The correct answer is 'experience': The man says, 'one thing they do require is someone with experience'.

**'Sports' is incorrect** as although the man says, 'you did mention your work at the sports centre when you came in to see us', the type of experience required isn't specified.

7 The correct answer is 'confident': The man says, 'they want someone who can stay calm and ... be confident'.

**'Busy'** is incorrect as the man uses this word to describe the working environment ('they're always very busy') not the manner of the receptionist.

8 The correct answer is 'temporary': When talking about the job, the man says, 'it's temporary'.

'Permanent' is incorrect as the man says, 'this isn't a permanent job'.

- **9 The correct answer is '1.15':** The woman asks, 'What time would I finish?' and the man replies, 'One fifteen.'
- 10 The correct answer is 'parking': The woman asks, 'is there parking available ... at the centre?' and the man replies, 'Yes, there is'.
  'Bus' is incorrect as although the man says that the centre is 'on a bus route', he doesn't say there is always a bus onsite.

#### Part 2

#### Questions 11–20

**11 The correct answer is B:** The speaker says that the building 'was constructed in 1880 as the home of a local businessman'.

**A** is incorrect as although the speaker says that the building belonged to 'Alfred Palmer, of the Palmer biscuit factory', it was his home not his factory.

**C** is incorrect as the speaker says that the home was 'later (not originally) sold and became a hall of residence'.

12 The correct answer is A: The speaker says, 'You may see students going into the building for lessons'.

B is incorrect as the speaker refers to 'the room that used to be the library'.

**C** is incorrect as the speaker says, 'apart from two rooms that are our offices, the university uses the main part of the building (for teaching)'.

**13 The correct answer is A:** The speaker says, 'We do have a donation box ... so feel free to give whatever amount you consider appropriate.'

**B** is incorrect as although the speaker says, 'We run activities for children and students ... for which there's no charge', this refers to their activities not the entrance fee.

C is incorrect as the speaker says that free entry 'includes access to ... special exhibitions'.

14 The correct answer is C: The speaker says, 'you might be more comfortable not carrying around heavy rucksacks (bags)'.

A is incorrect as the speaker says, 'you might like to keep your cameras with you'.

B is incorrect as the speaker says, 'keep your coats and jackets on as it's quite cold'.

15 The correct answer is F: The speaker says that this 'was designed ... by a group of young people on a film studies course'.

G is incorrect as the speaker does not mention an expert visitor.

**16 The correct answer is G:** The speaker says, 'this morning, a specialist (expert) cheesemaker will be giving demonstrations'.

**F** is incorrect as the speaker says that the cheesemaker will be producing (creating) butter and cheese, not the students.

- 17 The correct answer is E: The speaker says, 'you can take our memory test in which you answer questions about things you've seen in the museum'.H is incorrect as the speaker says, 'you can go in two directions'.
- **18 The correct answer is A:** The speaker says (to parents), 'we ask you to keep your children close to you and ensure they don't climb on the carts'.

**D** is incorrect as although the speaker mentions children, she doesn't say anything about school groups.

**19 The correct answer is C:** The speaker says, 'you can't visit that (Bees are Magic) at the moment'.

**H** is incorrect as the speaker gives more than one direction, saying, 'you can either make your way back to reception or go out into the garden – or even go back to take another look in the galleries'.

20 The correct answer is B: The speaker says, 'There are baby ducks that are only a few days old, as well as tiny frogs.'

A and D are incorrect as although the speaker mentions children, she doesn't say anything about supervision or school groups.

H is incorrect as although the speaker says, 'there's a fence around it', she doesn't tell visitors which way to go.

#### Part 3

#### Questions 21–30

21 and 22 The correct answers are B and D (in either order): The woman says, 'On the video you could see them really listening hard to make sure they did all the steps in the right order'. She also says, 'the children were all having fun while being taught something new'.

A is incorrect as the woman says that the children were '[making] a bird'.

C is incorrect as the man says, 'they were working individually'.

**E** is incorrect as although the man says, 'with younger children you could do origami to help practise fine motor skills', this is not shown on the video.

- 23 The correct answer is D: The woman says, 'it helped him (Sid) to settle down and start concentrating' and the man agrees, saying, 'I noticed that too.'
  C is incorrect as the man describes Sid as 'quite disruptive (troublesome)' but not competitive before the activity.
- 24 The correct answer is A: The man says that Jack 'seemed to want to work things out for himself' and the woman agrees, saying, 'You could see him trying out different things'.
  B is incorrect as Jack didn't '[ask] the teacher for help'.
- 25 The correct answer is C: The man says that Naomi 'decided she wanted her mouse to be the best'.

E is incorrect as the woman says that Naomi 'didn't seem satisfied with hers in the end'.

26 The correct answer is G: The woman says that Anya 'produced the perfect bird with very little effort'. The man agrees, saying, 'I think the teacher could have increased the level of difficulty for her.'

A is incorrect as the woman says, 'She listened so carefully' and doesn't mention Anya working independently.

27 The correct answer is F: The man says that Zara 'looked as if she didn't really get what was going on'. The woman agrees, saying, 'She seemed unsure about what she was supposed to do'.

E is incorrect as the speakers do not mention how Zara felt about the results.

28 The correct answer is A: The man says that preparing examples 'was a really good idea'. The woman agrees, saying, 'those physical examples supported her verbal explanations really well'.

**B** is incorrect as the woman says, 'those physical examples supported her verbal explanations (spoken instructions) really well', so it wasn't necessary to check that the children were able to understand the terminology.

**C** is incorrect as the man says, 'The children could see what they were aiming for' and doesn't mention telling them not to worry about finding it difficult.

29 The correct answer is B: The man says, 'I bet it's because so many teachers are clumsy like me.' The woman agrees, saying, 'That's true – too much effort required if you're not good with your hands.'

A is incorrect as although the woman says, 'teachers may just feel it's not that appealing (interesting) to [some] children', she doesn't mention how important they feel it is.

C is incorrect as the speakers don't mention how much time it takes up.

**30 The correct answer is C:** The man says, 'I think it would ... work really well for presenting fractions, which is coming up soon'. The woman agrees, saying, 'Good idea.'

A is incorrect as there is no mention of any misunderstanding.

**B** is incorrect as although the woman says that the students 'might struggle with fractions', that isn't the reason for using origami.

#### Part 4

#### Questions 31–40

**31 The correct answer is 'plot':** The speaker says, '... some of us, I'm sure, have a pretty general (vague) idea of the plot'.

'Idea' is incorrect as it is less specific than 'plot'.

- 32 The correct answer is 'poverty': The speaker says that Victor Hugo 'also gave many speeches about issues like the level of poverty in his society'.
  'Change' is incorrect as although the speaker says that Victor Hugo felt strongly about 'areas where change was needed', this refers to an area and not an issue.
- **33 The correct answer is 'Europe':** The speaker says that Victor Hugo 'was forced to reside in other parts (elsewhere) of Europe'.

'Guernsey' is incorrect as 'elsewhere' in the question suggests the gap requires a location that France was also part of.

34 The correct answer is 'poetry': The speaker says, 'he bought [the house] using the money he'd made in France from the publication of ... his poetry'. 微信<sub>VStfsw</sub>

'Property' is incorrect as the speaker refers to 'a property that he bought' not one he sold.

'Publication' and 'collection' are incorrect as they are too general.

**35 The correct answer is 'drawings':** The speaker says, 'portraits ... hang in rooms on the ground floor, along with drawings'.

'Travels' is incorrect as it doesn't make sense in the gap.

- 36 The correct answer is 'furniture': The speaker says that Victor Hugo used 'wooden furniture that he bought in the market' to create 'dark wood panelling (carved panels)'. 'Panelling' is incorrect as the speaker says that he 'created [this] himself'.
- 37 The correct answer is 'lamps': The speaker says, 'There's a strong Chinese influence in these areas in things like the ... lamps'.
  'Sofas' is incorrect as the speaker doesn't say that they have a Chinese design.
- 38 The correct answer is 'harbour' or 'harbor': The speaker says, 'at the very top of the house, there's a room [that] ... looks out over the harbour'.
  'Lookout' is incorrect as it is the room not the view that is called 'the Lookout'.
- **39 The correct answer is 'children':** The speaker says, 'he also invited a large group of local children ... to dinner once a week'.

'Areas' is incorrect as you cannot entertain areas.

40 The correct answer is 'relatives': The speaker says, 'the house was owned by his relatives (they had ownership)' and 'they (the relatives) decided to donate it (the house) to the city of Paris'.

'Museum' is incorrect as the speaker says that the house 'is now a museum that is open to the public', meaning the house has become a museum and not that the museum had owned the house.

# Test 4 answer key with extra explanations

### Reading

Reading Passage 1

#### Questions 1–13

1 The correct answer is D: This paragraph describes the factors that must be considered if green roofs are to become 'the norm for new developments'. These include maintenance skills, fulfilling legal requirements on safety and public access, practical decisions during installation and the need to provide an economic justification.

**E** is incorrect as although this paragraph briefly mentions the fact that 'There are still barriers to overcome', it does not say what these are.

2 The correct answer is C: According to this paragraph, Toronto has encouraged 'urban farms on rooftops (green roofs)' since the 1990s.

**A** is incorrect as although London has had a policy to greatly increase the number of green roofs in the city, we are told that the UK is 'relatively new to developing green roofs'.

- **3 The correct answer is E:** The final sentence of this paragraph says, 'The success stories [of green roofs] need to be studied and replicated elsewhere'.
- **4 The correct answer is B:** This paragraph explains that green roofs can be used together with living walls and also with drainage systems.

**Paragraph E is incorrect** as although it refers to 'combinations of green roofs with solar panels', it gives only one example.

- **5 The correct answer is D:** This paragraph refers to the need to 'convince investors and developers that installing green roofs is worthwhile'.
- 6 The correct answer is 'energy': Paragraph A says that one of the benefits of green roofs is that they allow 'saving on energy costs'.
  'Pollution' is incorrect as there is no reference to spending money on preventing this.
- 7 The correct answer is 'food': Paragraph A gives a list of the benefits of green roofs, ending with 'even growing food'.

**'Resources' and 'space' are incorrect** as neither of these are actually produced by the green roofs.

8 The correct answer is 'gardening': Paragraph B says that doctors prescribe 'time spent gardening' for patients.

'Patients' is incorrect as the answer needs to be a type of activity, not a type of person.

**9 The correct answer is 'obesity':** The text says that green roofs can 'help people avoid obesity'.

'Anxiety', 'depression' and 'dementia' are incorrect as these are generally regarded as mental rather than physical problems.

#### 10 and 11 The correct answers are C and D (in either order):

**C** is correct: This paragraph says that it's 'crucial' to 'keep enough water at roof height' and 'it's much easier to do this in newer buildings'.

**D** is correct: Another advantage is that 'a greater variety of plants' can be grown as newer buildings 'can typically hold greater weight' and therefore hold more soil for the plants.

A is incorrect as there is no mention of a growing season.

**B** is incorrect as although the storage and distribution of water is mentioned, there is nothing about whether its use is economical.

E is incorrect as there is no mention of the size of the area available for growing plants.

#### 12 and 13 The correct answers are A and D (in either order):

A is correct: The paragraph refers to the existence of 'brown roofs, which are wilder in nature and maximise biodiversity', meaning that these roofs are left wild in order to support as many different wildlife species as possible.

**D** is correct: The paragraph also refers to green roofs with 'solar panels', suggesting that they can be used to generate power from a sustainable source (the sun).

**B** is incorrect as the reference in the text to 'times of heavier rainfall' is not related to growing plants.

C is incorrect as the paragraph makes no reference to temperature regulation.

**E** is incorrect as although water collection is mentioned, there is nothing about supplying other buildings with water.



#### Reading Passage 2

#### Questions 14–26

14 The correct answer is B: The writer says, 'in the early 20th-century, progressive thinkers revolted against the notion (idea) that inherent ability is destiny'. This means that at this time, some thinkers opposed earlier ideas about intelligence being fixed.

A is incorrect as no specific locations are mentioned in this paragraph.

**C** is incorrect as although the text tells us that Binet held an earlier view of intelligence and Dewey introduced a new one, it doesn't explain how they responded to changing views.

**D** is incorrect as although the text states that thinkers turned away from the idea of a fixed intelligence, it doesn't say why they did this.

15 The correct answer is C: The paragraph refers to posters and speeches in schools informing students about people who '*believed* their way to the top'. The schools are using posters and speeches to suggest to students that if they are confident and believe in themselves, they can be successful.

A is incorrect as the paragraph is talking about success in general and although sporting heroes are mentioned, there is nothing about students' own personal ambitions.

B is incorrect as there is no information about students helping one another.

D is incorrect as the paragraph doesn't mention the identification of particular strengths.

16 The correct answer is D: The text says, 'the former (the first) took on only those tasks that would not risk their sense of worth'. Here, 'the former' refers to the group of students with a fixed mindset who were 'praised for their intelligence'. We are later told that 'this "fixed mindset" had led them to fear of failure and lack of effort'. So these students were afraid of trying difficult tasks because they might fail at them.

A is incorrect as although this paragraph is about individual motivation, there is no reference to competition between students.

**B** is incorrect as although the 'fixed mindset' students are afraid of their self-esteem being affected if they fail, we are not told that their self-esteem is generally low.

**C** is incorrect as the text is suggesting the opposite – that if intelligence is praised, they are likely to put *less* effort into future tasks: 'Praising ability actually made the students perform worse'.



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- 17 The correct answer is C: In the fifth paragraph, Gelman says that the growth mindset researchers were able to 'take their data (from their research designs) to support just about any theory at all'. He is therefore criticising the methodology used by the researchers that could have led to a number of different results and saying that stricter control was needed.
- **18 The correct answer is B:** In the sixth paragraph, the writer says that Dweck is concerned that 'her work [on the growth mindset] has been misunderstood'.
- **19 The correct answer is A:** In the first paragraph, we are told that Alfred Binet 'held that earlier view' which refers back to 'The concept of intelligence as something innate' a feature (characteristic) which is part of our genetic make-up and can't be changed.
- 20 The correct answer is E: In the seventh paragraph, Yeager and Walton claim that if students 'perceive (consider) a teacher's intervention as conveying that they are in need of help', this might upset them, so efforts to help students 'should be delivered in a subtle (not an obvious) way'.
- 21 The correct answer is B: In the sixth paragraph, the writer quotes Dweck as saying, 'It's [the growth mindset is] not just a vehicle for making children feel good'.
- 22 The correct answer is D: In the fifth paragraph, Bates is quoted as saying, 'Kids with the growth mindset aren't getting better grades', meaning that there is no effect on their academic achievement.
- 23 The correct answer is YES: In the sixth paragraph, the writer says that Dweck 'deserves great credit for responding to it (criticism) and adapting her work'.
- 24 The correct answer is NO: In the eighth paragraph, the writer says that a genuine achievement such as making a speech is probably more powerful than 'vague notions of "motivation" itself'. This means the actual achievement has the greatest effect on self-confidence.
- 25 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN: The ninth paragraph mentions growth mindset interventions but there is no reference to media coverage.
- **26 The correct answer is YES:** In the final paragraph, the writer expresses the view that 'Motivational posters and talks ... might well give students a deluded notion (the wrong idea) of what success actually means'.

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#### Reading Passage 3

#### Questions 27–40

- **27 The correct answer is YES:** According to the first paragraph, the book Wegener wrote about continental drift 'was the focus of an international controversy'.
- 28 The correct answer is NOT GIVEN: We are told Wegener opposed the idea that the continents 'remained fixed in place', but we are not told whether or not the idea was defended in scientific publications.
- **29 The correct answer is NO:** In the second paragraph, we are told that Wegener 'used evidence from a large number of sciences' to show how continental movement occurred.
- **30 The correct answer is NO:** The second paragraph says that 'Plate tectonics (the idea that the continents move) is in many respects quite different from Wegener's proposal'.
- **31 The correct answer is I 'biographer's perspective':** The whole text is the introduction to a book about Alfred Wegener (a biography) by its author, Mott T Greene (who is therefore Wegener's biographer) and gives his point of view.
- 32 The correct answer is F 'professional interests': According to the third paragraph, Wegener 'followed a career in atmospheric physics'.
- **33 The correct answer is A 'modest fame':** The third paragraph gives three reasons why Wegener was relatively famous; two are connected with non-academic activities and one with his professional life as the author of an academic textbook.
- **34 The correct answer is C 'record-breaking achievement':** This refers to Wegener setting a world record for time spent in the air in a hot-air balloon.
- **35 The correct answer is H 'hazardous exploration':** This refers to Wegener's 'extremely dangerous expedition' to Greenland.
- **36 The correct answer is E 'select group':** The text says Wegener became known by 'a small circle (group) of meteorologists and atmospheric physicists in Germany'.
- 37 The correct answer is B: The writer says that he feels that although he has identified different aspects of Wegener's life in the book, these events make more sense if they are considered together. He suggests that rather than looking at isolated aspects of Wegener's life, the reader should read the whole book.

A is incorrect as although we are told how the book is organised, we are not told why it was written.

C is incorrect as although the writer tells us that Wegener followed many different careers, he does not offer any reasons for this.

**D** is incorrect as the writer does not give any views on which aspects of Wegener's life are most interesting to him.



IELTS 18 Academic, Test 4 answer key with extra explanations, Reading © Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2023 **38 The correct answer is A:** Greene tells us that Wegener 'did not seek to find influence or advance his ideas through professional contacts and politics'.

**B** is incorrect as we are told that Wegener 'didn't keep notebooks or diaries that recorded his life and activities'.

**C** is incorrect as we are told that Wegener's published works followed the 'standard practice'; of the time, focusing on results rather than the processes used to achieve the results.

D is incorrect as he avoided 'professional contacts and politics', preferring to stay 'at home in his study'. 微信ystfsw

39 The correct answer is D: Greene says that other scientists left huge amounts of material behind, including notebooks, letters and journals, which help the biographer 'form an accurate picture of (describe)' how their ideas developed over time. In contrast, Wegener left very little material – 'he didn't keep notebooks or diaries'.

A is incorrect as the text does not discuss the impact of the published work of the other famous scientists.

**B** is incorrect as there is no information about whether or not the other famous scientists had any doubts about their scientific ideas.

C is incorrect as there is no information about whether or not the ideas of the other famous scientists were controversial.

40 The correct answer is C: Greene says that although we seem to have freedom, in fact 'most of the time our lives "happen to us", meaning that in fact we have little control over much of our lives.

A is incorrect as although Greene says that we 'plan, think and act', he doesn't mention whether our intentions in doing this are good or bad, or whether we need more in life than good intentions.

**B** is incorrect as although Greene refers to the fact that we plan, he doesn't mention why we do this, and in fact suggests that planning may have little effect.

**D** is incorrect as Greene is saying here that no one is truly free; we are not really in control of what happens to us in our lives. He does not say that people should try to change this.



## **TEST 4, WRITING TASK 1**

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

The graph presents information about how the price of copper, nickel and zinc changed in 2014.

Between January and June, the price of copper dropped from its highest annual amount of plus two per cent to nearly minus one per cent. It rose to plus one per cent in July and stayed there until September when it dipped slightly, then increased back up to a little above plus one per cent again.

Zinc hit its peak price in February before dropping to minus one per cent in June in a similar manner to copper. The price remained constant until October then appreciated up to plus two per cent at the end of the year.

The price of nickel was more volatile. It was at plus six per cent in January but fell rapidly to plus one per cent in March and down further to minus three per cent in June. It rose a little in the following three months reaching plus one per cent by December.

Overall, prices depreciated in the first part of the year but recovered somewhat in the second half. The value of nickel changed the most.



Here are comments from another examiner:

This response presents the overall pattern for each metal: copper, zinc and nickel. An overview in the final paragraph summarises the overall pattern of prices over the year.

The best detail is given for copper in the second paragraph, as data for the whole year is presented. There are some inaccurate details [*Between January and June* | *in a similar manner to copper*] as the minimum is reached in May for copper and June for zinc.

Ideas are organised and progress logically in this response, with a paragraph given to each metal. There is some effective use of cohesive devices [*Between* | *in a similar manner* | *it* | *before* | *but* | *Overall*].

Vocabulary is used adequately and there are some good examples [*dropped* | *rose* to | *dipped slightly* | *peak*] and some more unusual ones [*appreciated* | *volatile* | *depreciated* | *recovered somewhat*].

Grammar structures include some sentences with multiple clauses [*It rose to … and stayed there … when it dipped … then increased back up to …*]. However, most sentences are short and simple, and there are errors [*appreciated up / appreciated*] including plural endings [*price of copper, nickel and zinc / prices of copper, nickel and zinc*].

To improve the Band Score, the final summary could describe how the [value of nickel changed] as this is not clear.



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## TEST 4, WRITING TASK 2

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

Due to improvements in healthcare, housing and sanitation, more people are reaching old age. Some feel that this causes unwanted pressure on society. Others say that this is a fallacy and that older people benefit their communities.

I can understand why some people are concerned. Many feel that older people are more accidentprone and less physically and mentally capable than younger people. The idea that older people are always sick and reliant on health services is also common. There may be a measure of truth to these claims, but I don't think it is fair to assume that older people are always dependent on others or contribute less to the workforce.

In many countries, the ageing population is a source of expertise that can be very useful to society. They add stability to the workforce bringing experience that younger people do not have. It is easy to overlook the substantial contributions older people make by doing unpaid work. In countries like the United States and China, millions of children are cared for by their grandparents. Mothers and fathers can then continue working while older ones take care of the children conveying cultural values to them in the process.

In view of the above, I feel that the advantages of an ageing population undoubtedly exceed any disadvantages. The prevalence of older people in society should not be viewed as a problem but rather as a solution to some of the problems that exist today.

Here are comments from another examiner:

The advantages and disadvantages of having an ageing population are clearly presented, and in the conclusion, the position is clearly stated. The candidate refers to the health challenges that old people face as the main disadvantage. In terms of advantages, the candidate points to the stability, experience and unpaid work of older people, especially in caring for grandchildren, which allows parents to work and instils cultural values.

Ideas are arranged logically and each paragraph has a clear central topic. The range of cohesive devices could be more varied, although there are some effective examples [*but* | *They* | *while*].

Vocabulary contains some degree of flexibility and precision [*unwanted pressure* | *accident-prone* | *measure of truth* | *source of expertise*].

Grammatical range is also good and demonstrates a wide range of structures. It is well controlled with few errors, but there are several shorter and simpler sentences. The response could be improved grammatically by increasing the number of complex or multi-clause sentences.

The word count is slightly below the minimum of 250 words and should be extended. For example, ideas could be added on the 'problems [this creates] for governments' as the candidate mentions only a concern about health.