

English Comprehension Study – 1



Unseen passage and reading comprehensions are an important part of Design entrance examinations. Generally two types of passages which are Case-based factual passage and Discursive passages are given in examinations which are followed by multiple choice questions. Students are expected to read the passages, Understand all facts and then answer the MCQ questions given below the passages. These passages are given to test vocabulary, analytical skills, reading skills of students. We hope you enjoy practicing these samples, which we have prepared based on past year question paper analysis.

Passage -1

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. Keep your watch accurate. For some people, moving up the time on their watch will help them get up earlier. For others, they will remember that the time on the watch is wrong and will disregard it altogether. It may be helpful to set your watch just two minutes ahead instead of five or ten.
2. Keep a clock, phone, computer or anything that displays time in each room of your house. One of the easiest ways to run late is simply by not realising that the time is passing as quickly as it is.
3. Set all your clocks and watches to the same time. Don't be an optimist. Things usually take Longer than what you'd expect, even without major delays. If you have a dinner appointment at 7:30 p.m., don't think you can work till 7 p.m., then take a bath, dress and reach on time. Realistically, calculate the time you will take at each step and then add 10 minutes more to allow for unexpected delays, or you cannot get to your job done in time.
4. Wake up when you are supposed to wake up. Don't hit the snooze button, keep on lying in bed, and watch TV at the very start of your day. May be you can try even setting your clock 10 minutes earlier than you need. If you have difficulty with this, move your alarm clock to somewhere away from your bed; that way, you will have to get up to turn it off. Commit yourself to being 15 minutes early for everything. If you have to reach your place of work at 8:00, don't even tell yourself this.

(p.t.o)

Just tell yourself (and everyone else who listens - but don't annoy them or make them think that they are late or early!) "I have to be at work at 7:45." If you do this, you will be on time even with little unforeseen delays. You will be on time even with a traffic jam.

Question. The narrator does not deny which of the following activity just after waking up:

- (i) hitting snooze button
- (ii) keep on lying in bed
- (iii) watch TV
- (iv) wake up when you actually have to

Ans : (iv) wake up when you actually have to

Question. It is good to commit yourself _____ everything.

- (i) to be late
- (ii) to delay
- (iii) to being 15 minutes early
- (iv) to search the last moment

Ans : (iii) to being 15 minutes early

Question. The passage highlights:

- (i) the value of time
- (ii) the importance of being ahead of time
- (iii) the value of being upto time
- (iv) the value of calculating time

Ans : (ii) the importance of being ahead of time

Question. To be punctual we should _____.

- (i) hit the snooze button of the alarm clock
- (ii) get up at the right time
- (iii) start watching TV in the morning
- (iv) keep on lying in bed

Ans : (ii) get up at the right time

Question. What does the author mean when he uses the word “delay”?

- (i) Late
- (ii) Turn off
- (iii) Disregard
- (iv) Accurate

Ans : (i) Late

Question. We should be ____ in approach with time management.

- (i) optimistic
- (ii) pessimistic
- (iii) realistic
- (iv) utopian

Ans : (iii) realistic

Question. One of the major reasons for being delayed is

- (i) absence of clock, phone or computer
- (ii) being overindulged in work
- (iii) not realising that time passes quickly
- (iv) not keeping a margin in the expected time of work

Ans : (iii) not realising that time passes quickly

Question. Being ahead by ____ minutes should be everyone’s commitment.

- (i) 10 minutes
- (ii) 15 minutes
- (iii) 5 minutes
- (iv) 30 minutes

Ans : (ii) 15 minutes

Question. The author uses the word 'unexpected' in paragraph 4. He means to say:

- (i) commit
- (ii) unforeseen
- (iii) annoy
- (iv) snooze

Ans : (ii) unforeseen

Question. Which word conveys the opposite of realistically?

- (i) Impracticable
- (ii) Rational
- (iii) Achievable
- (iv) Pragmatic

Ans : (i) Impracticable

Question. Which word means 'disregard'?

- (i) Attention
- (ii) Consider
- (iii) Ignore
- (iv) Regard

Ans : (iii) Ignore

Question. The narrator denies us to:

- (i) be realistic
- (ii) be optimistic
- (iii) keeping our watch accurate
- (iv) wake up when we are supposed to

Ans : (ii) be optimistic

Passage -2

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. If you are addicted to coffee, and doctors warn you to quit the habit, don't worry and just keep relishing the beverage, because it's not that bad after all! In fact, according to a new study, the steaming cup of Java can beat fruits and vegetables as the primary source of antioxidants. Some studies state that coffee is the number one source of antioxidants in American diet and both caffeinated and decaf versions appear to provide similar antioxidant levels.

2. Antioxidants in general have been linked to a number of potential health benefits, including protection against heart diseases and cancer. But Sandra Vinson, a dietitian, said that their benefits ultimately depend on how they are absorbed and utilised in the body. The research says that coffee outranks popular antioxidant sources like tea, milk, chocolate and cranberries. Of all the food and beverages studies, dates actually have the most antioxidants based solely on serving size, but since dates are not consumed anywhere near the level of coffee, the drink comes as the top source of antioxidants, Vinson said.

3. Besides keeping you alert and awake, coffee has been linked to an increasing number of potential health benefits, including protection against liver and colon cancer, type 2 diabetes, and Parkinson's disease according to some recently published studies.

4. The researchers, however, advise that one should consume coffee in moderation, because it can make you jittery and cause stomach pains.

Question. ____ is an important source of antioxidants in American diet.

- (i) Tea
- (ii) Coffee
- (iii) Milk
- (iv) Chocolate

Ans : (ii) Coffee

Question. The word which means the same as 'nervous' is:

- (i) alert
- (ii) awake
- (iii) moderation
- (iv) jittery

Ans : (iv) jittery

Question. According to dietitian Sandra Vinson, the benefits of coffee ultimately depend on:

- (i) how it is relished
- (ii) how they are absorbed and utilised in the body
- (iii) how they are served and consumed
- (iv) whether it keeps us alert and awake

Ans : (ii) how they are absorbed and utilised in the body

Question. What is the correct order of the information given below?

- I. Antioxidants are linked to a number of health benefits
- II. One should consume coffee in moderation
- III. Decaf versions of coffee provide antioxidants levels
- IV. Dates have the most antioxidants based solely on serving size

- (i) III, I, IV, II
- (ii) III, IV, I, II
- (iii) III, I, II, IV
- (iv) II, I, IV, III

Ans : (i) III, I, IV, II

Question. Coffee provides a large number of health benefits including protection against:

- (i) liver and colon cancer
- (ii) type 2 diabetes
- (iii) Parkinson's disease
- (iv) All of these

Ans : (iv) All of these

Question. ____ have the most antioxidants among all the food and beverages.

- (i) Dates
- (ii) Cranberries
- (iii) Tea and milk
- (iv) Coffee

Ans : (i) Dates

Question. Which of the following is the primary source of antioxidants?

- (i) Java
- (ii) Fruits
- (iii) Vegetables
- (iv) Both (i) and (ii)

Ans : (i) Java

Question. Besides keeping us alert and awake, coffee provides us protection against:

- I. liver and colon cancer
- II. stomach ache
- III. type 2 diabetes
- IV. lung diseases

- (i) I and II
- (ii) II and III
- (iii) I and IV
- (iv) I and III

Ans : (iv) I and III

Question. Consumption of coffee in excess:

- (i) is a suggestion from doctors
- (ii) doesn't call the utter need to quit it
- (iii) provides the richest source of maximum antioxidants
- (iv) will make one feel jittery and cause stomach pains

Ans : (iv) will make one feel jittery and cause stomach pains

Question. What does the author mean when he uses the word 'absorbed'?

- (i) Solely
- (ii) Immersed
- (iii) Utilised
- (iv) Potential

Ans : (ii) Immersed

Question. Which word conveys the opposite of 'sober'?

- (i) Decaf
- (ii) Quit
- (iii) Addicted
- (iv) Primary

Ans : (iii) Addicted

Question. The word _____ is an antonym of 'inattentive'.

- (i) alert
- (ii) potential
- (iii) awake
- (iv) linked

Ans : (i) alert

Passage -3

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. Man does not Live by food alone. Water is vital to human health and fitness. Although it is not a nutrient per se as are carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins and minerals. It, in fact, is a key nutrient as no life is possible without it. Whereas we can do for weeks without food, we cannot live without water longer than a couple of days.

2. Water approximates 60 per cent of the body weight of human adults. The total amount of water in a man weighing 70 kilograms is approximately a little over 40 litres. It is an excellent solvent—more substances are soluble in water than in any other liquid known so far. This makes it an ideal constituent of the body fluids which sustain life supporting chemical reactions. It dissolves varied products of digestion and transports them to the rest of the body. Likewise, it dissolves diverse metabolic wastes and helps drain them out of the body. Besides, it performs a variety of functions—some well known and well understood while others not so well appreciated yet vital. The no less important role of water is to distribute/dissipate the body heat efficiently, thereby regulating body's temperature. Water accomplishes this role ideally because it has high thermal conductivity ensuring rapid heat transfer from one part to the other.

3. Above all, water has a high-specific heat, implying that it takes a lot of heat to raise the temperature of water and likewise much heat must be lost to lower its temperature.

4. Drinking a lot of water is an inexpensive way to stay healthy. Even excess of water is harmless. Water therapy-drinking a litre or so the first thing in the morning is kidney-friendly.

5. The water regulation in the body is affected by hypothalamus in two ways i.e.,
(i) by creating the sensation of thirst which makes us drink water and
(ii) by controlling the excretion of water as urine.
If water regulation fails, medical emergency ensues.

Question. Which word conveys the opposite of 'similar'?

- (i) Dissipate
- (ii) Ideal
- (iii) Accomplished
- (iv) Diverse

Ans : (iv) Diverse

Question. Water regulates body temperature efficiently as:

- (i) it circulates easily
- (ii) it has high-specific heat
- (iii) it dissolves food easily
- (iv) it has high thermal conductivity

Ans : (iv) it has high thermal conductivity

Question. Water is vital to human health and fitness because:

- (i) man does not live by food alone
- (ii) it is an excellent solvent
- (iii) we cannot survive for more than a couple of days without it
- (iv) it controls thirst and excretion of water as urine

Ans : (iii) we cannot survive for more than a couple of days without it

Question. Water is called a key nutrient because:

- (i) it dissolves different products of digestion
- (ii) no life is possible without it
- (iii) it carries products to the rest of the body
- (iv) it raises temperature of the body

Ans : (ii) no life is possible without it

Question. Which word is a synonym of 'maintain'?

- (i) Supporting
- (ii) Sustain
- (iii) Diverse
- (iv) Varied

Ans : (ii) Sustain

Question. What does the author mean when he uses the word 'regulation'?

- (i) Official rule
- (ii) Control
- (iii) Device for fair use
- (iv) Worn or used as per rules

Ans : (ii) Control

Question. Which component is an inexpensive way to stay healthy?

- (i) Water
- (ii) Minerals
- (iii) Vitamins
- (iv) Proteins

Ans : (i) Water

Question. Which of the following statements is not true?

- (i) Water regulates body temperature
- (ii) Excess water is not harmless
- (iii) Excess water is not harmful
- (iv) Water transports nutrients to the body

Ans : (ii) Excess water is not harmless

Question. Which activity is considered as water therapy?

- (i) Its high thermal conductivity ensuring rapid heat transfer from one part to another
- (ii) Drinking a litre of water in the morning
- (iii) Drinking excess quantity of water
- (iv) All of the above

Ans : (ii) Drinking a litre of water in the morning

Question. What is the per cent of water content in a human body?

- (i) 60%
- (ii) 40%
- (iii) 80%
- (iv) 70%

Ans : (i) 60%

Question. Water is an ideal constituent of the body fluids because:

- (i) it is an excellent solvent
- (ii) it dissolves metabolic wastes
- (iii) it drains wastes out of the body
- (iv) it regulates excretion of urine

Ans : (i) it is an excellent solvent

Question. Which word is a synonym or undamaging'?

- (i) Excess
- (ii) Harmless
- (iii) Therapy
- (iv) Friendly

Ans : (ii) Harmless

Passage -4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. Hobbies help us grow as a person. The best way to have a new hobby is to try something new. All of us are unique, and this is the reason why our hobbies and interests are different. Once we find an activity we are passionate about, we can explore that activity more. When you get hooked, you will realize that your hobby has become an integral part of your life. Having a hobby that we enjoy brings us joy and refreshes us. Hobbies help us to manage our leisure and unplanned time more productively. It also affords you the opportunity to learn new skills in your work. But these are not the only benefits of having a hobby.

2. It feels great to be skilled and good at something, doesn't it? And this is what that makes you confident. It can take some time to develop your hobby so that you may be able to tell that you are skilled. But, the journey of experiencing your hobby is very rewarding in itself. With the exposure to different types of activities these days, it doesn't matter which activity you choose. Whether you are pursuing a craft, sports, puzzles, or skill development, your hobby should be a diversion and a passion. Simultaneously, if your hobby gives you a sense of purpose, then you will be more confident about challenging yourself in your hobby and help you prepare for learning new things at work.

3. Hobbies give you an opportunity to enhance your life. Hobbies allow you to de-stress yourself while remaining mentally productive. Having hobbies promotes better health and may lower the risk of having high blood pressure. Enjoying a few hours of your hobby a week can also reduce the risk of depression and dementia. Hobbies refocus your mind on to something that you enjoy doing. Hobbies that include physical activities create chemical changes in your body that help to reduce stress.

4. Even if it doesn't involve physical activities, you can still reap the benefits of having a hobby. Getting a short break from work and doing something you are passionate about can rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.

5. Hobbies may provide an opportunity for you to socialize with people and that can be an additional benefit for your overall well-being. You can connect with people who enjoy doing the same things that you do. You can meet new people, discuss your hobby and get connected to a bigger circle that may even help you turn your hobby into your profession. The internet provides numerous groups and forums to connect with people that enjoy doing the same things that you want to do.

6. Some hobbies require creativity and if you develop creativity through your hobby, it can be beneficial. Creativity can help you experience new things at school and work. The skill of being creative is essential in today's world.

Question. The journey of experiencing a hobby is quite :

- (i) challenging for a person.
- (ii) rewarding in itself.
- (iii) demanding in itself.
- (iv) inspirational for a person.

Ans : (ii) rewarding in itself.

Question. Which of the following is not a way through which hobbies enhance your life?

- I. may lower the risk of having high blood pressure
- II. reduce the risk of depression and dementia
- III. distracts the mind from other useless problems
- IV. promotes better health
- V. reduces stress
- VI. manages the regular balanced exercise

- (i) I, II, III and IV
- (ii) I, III, IV and VI
- (iii) I, II, IV and V
- (iv) I, III, V and VI

Ans : (iii) I, II, IV and V

Question. Getting a hobby means having a short break from work and doing something you are passionate about which can :

- (i) give you a peace of mind from all the other problems of daily hectic life and make you feel refreshed.
- (ii) help you enhance and improve your skills and push you forward on your path to success.
- (iii) make you enjoy and appreciate your life much more as you are happy pursuing what you love.
- (iv) rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.

Ans : (iv) rejuvenate your mind and help prepare you to handle challenges in the future in a better way.

Question. Hobby provides you with an opportunity to socialise with people by making :

I. you get connected to a bigger circle that may even help you turn your hobby into your profession.

II. you meet new people with whom you can discuss your hobby.

III. you connect with people who enjoy doing the same things that you do.

IV. you get together with people of your own age and profession.

(i) I, III and IV

(ii) II, III and IV

(iii) I, II and III

(iv) I, II, III and IV

Ans : (iii) I, II and III

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Passage -1

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