



EXEMPTION EXAM REVISION MATERIAL

READING SECTION

READING I

Read the passage carefully and circle the correct alternative.

	Skin: The Body's Canvas
A	<p>If you could take off your skin and lay it flat, it would cover an area of about 1.9 square meters, making it by far the body's largest organ. Covering almost the entire body, skin protects us from a variety of external forces. For example, it protects us from extremes of temperature, damaging sunlight, harmful chemicals, and dangerous infections. Skin is also packed with nerves, which keeps the brain in touch with the outside world. The health of our skin and its ability to perform its protective functions are crucial to our well-being. However, the appearance of our skin is equally - if not more - important to many people on this planet.</p>
B	<p>Take skin color, for example. Your genes determine your skin's color, but for centuries, humans have tried to lighten or darken their skin in an attempt to be more attractive. In the 1800s, white skin was desirable for many Europeans. Skin this color meant that its owner was a member of the upper class and did not have to work in the sun. Among darker-skinned people in some parts of the world, products used to lighten skin are still popular today. During the 20th century, attitudes toward light skin shifted in the opposite direction in other cultures, as cities grew, and work moved indoors. Tanned skin began to indicate leisure time and health. In many places today, tanning on the beach or in a salon remains popular, even though people are more aware of the dangers of UV rays.</p>
C	<p>Just as people have altered their skin's color to denote wealth and beauty, so too have cultures around the globe marked their skin to indicate cultural identity or community status. Tattooing, for example, has been carried out for thousands of years. Leaders in places including ancient Egypt, Britain, and Peru wore tattoos to mark their status, or their bravery. Today, among the Maori people of New Zealand as well as in cultures in Samoa, Tahiti, and Borneo, full-facial tattoos are still used to identify the wearer as a member of a certain family. These tattoos can also symbolize the person's achievements in life.</p>
D	<p>In Japan, tattooing has been practiced for thousands of years, but was outlawed in the 19th century. Although there are no laws against <u>it</u> today, tattoos are still strongly associated with criminals - particularly the yakuza, or the Japanese mafia, who are known for their full-body tattoos. The complex design of a yakuza member's tattoo usually includes symbols of character traits that the wearer wants to have. The process of getting a full-body tattoo is both slow and painful and can take</p>



	two years or more to complete.
E	<p>In some cultures, scarring - a marking caused by cutting or burning the skin - is practiced, usually among people who have darker skin on which a tattoo would be difficult to see. For many men in West Africa, for instance, scarring is a rite of passage - an act that symbolizes that a male has matured from a child into an adult. In Australia, among some native peoples, cuts are made on the skin of both men and women when they reach age 16 or 17. Without <u>these</u>, they were traditionally not permitted to trade, sing ceremonial songs, or participate in other activities.</p>
F	<p>Not all skin markings are permanent, though. In countries such as Morocco and India, women decorate their skin with colorful henna designs for celebrations such as weddings and important religious holidays. The henna coloring, which comes from a plant, fades, and disappears over time.</p>
G	<p>In recent years in many industrialized nations, tattooing, henna body art, and, to a lesser degree, scarring have been gaining in popularity. What makes these practices appealing to those living in modern cities? According to photographer Chris Rainier, whose book <i>Ancient Marks</i> examines body markings around the globe, people are looking for a connection with the traditional world. "There is a whole sector of modern society - people in search of identity, people in search of meaning ..., " says Rainier. "Hence, [there has been] a huge explosion of tattooing and body marking." Rainier reasons that it's "mankind wanting identity, wanting a sense of place ... and a sense of culture within their community."</p>

Read the passage carefully and circle the correct alternative.

1. What is the reading text mainly about?

- a. The importance of skin health in the overall health of a person
- b. The relationship between the appearance of a person's skin and his status in the community
- c. The reason why people have their skins scarred or marked
- d. People's interest in their skin tones

2. What is the purpose of paragraph B?

- a. to tell why skin color was socially important in the 1800s.
- b. to explain changing attitudes towards skin color.
- c. to make the connection between dark skin and working outdoors.
- d. to explain why indoor tanning salons are popular.



3. Which of the following ideas is NOT mentioned in paragraph B?
- a. People's desire to change their skin color results from their wish to look appealing.
 - b. In the 19th century, the obligation to work outside was not deemed to be socially prestigious.
 - c. In the 20th century, having tanned skin meant someone had free time and enjoyed good health.
 - d. Nowadays, no consciousness exists regarding the risk of exposure to UV radiation from the sun.
4. What is the perspective of some native Australian people regarding to the cuts made on their skin?
- a. The tribe members with scars were not considered to be respectable members of that society.
 - b. Cuts were applied to toddlers and teenagers alike.
 - c. Tribe members who didn't have these scars were prohibited from taking part in economic and social activities.
 - d. Tribe members with scars were not only excluded from economic life but also from social life.
5. The bold phrase **packed with** in paragraph A means _____.
- a. disgusted with
 - b. moist with
 - c. identical with
 - d. filled with
6. The bold phrase **a rite of passage** in paragraph E means _____.
- a. a ceremony when children get tattoos
 - b. a time when women sing ceremonial songs
 - c. a special holiday on the full moon
 - d. an event marking an important transition in life
7. The bold word **explosion** in paragraph G means _____.
- a. bombing
 - b. destruction
 - c. increase
 - d. decrease
8. "it" underlined in paragraph D refers to _____.
- a. tattooing
 - b. the government
 - c. law
 - d. 1870



9. “these” underlined in paragraph E refers to _____.

- a. cuts
- b. customs
- c. males
- d. celebrations

10. What kind of shifts have occurred in people’s opinions about skin color throughout history?

11. Why do city-dwellers today prefer to wear tattoos?



READING II

Read the passage carefully and circle the correct alternative.

HOW LANGUAGES ARE BORN	
A	<p>There are fewer than 200 independent countries in the world. However, language experts say that more than 7,100 languages are spoken. This raises an interesting question: How did all these languages develop?</p>
B	<p>In simple terms, there are two common ways that languages develop. The first way is when a group of people that speak the same language separate into two or more groups. For example, this might happen if one nation divides into two independent countries. At first, the languages of the two groups will be the same. Over time, however, the pronunciation will change slightly. Some new words will be added, and other words will be lost, and the grammar will change, too. These changes will be small in the early years after the division. As a result, the two groups will be able to understand each other with minimal difficulty. If the two groups stay separated, however, the differences will grow. In the end, their languages will change so much that people can no longer understand each other. At this point, a new language has been born.</p>
C	<p>The example of Latin illustrates this process well. It was the principal language of the Roman Empire. This was the main power in Europe for hundreds of years. About 1,500 years ago, the Roman Empire ended. When this occurred, people who spoke Latin separated into many groups. In the years since then, Latin has changed into multiple languages. In fact, experts say more than 40 languages developed from it. Of these, Romanian has the most similar grammar. Italian is closest in terms of vocabulary. And Sardinian has the most similar pronunciation.</p>
D	<p>The second common way that languages develop is almost the opposite of the first. In other words, new languages can be born when two cultures meet. The people from the two groups do not have a shared language, so they cannot understand each other easily. This makes it hard for people to share ideas or to trade with each other. To make life easier, a so-called pidgin language might develop. At first, pidgins have a basic vocabulary with words from both cultures. They also have a limited grammar for simple communication. When pidgins first develop, they do not have any native speakers. Everybody who uses them is a native speaker of another language. If the two cultures use the pidgin for long enough, some people will be born who speak it as their native language. These speakers add to the vocabulary and grammar, and the language grows and develops. At this point, the pidgin is called a creole.</p>
E	<p>One famous example of a modern creole is Tok Pisin. Tok Pisin began as a pidgin when English speakers from Australia began trading with people on the island of Papua New Guinea. In fact, the name Tok Pisin comes from the English words “talk” and “pidgin.” Over time, groups of local people</p>



F	<p>who spoke different native languages started using Tok Pisin to converse and trade with each other as well as with Australians. Eventually, children were born who spoke Tok Pisin as their first language. These days, it is the main language for about one million people.</p> <p>What will happen in the future? Will new languages continue to be born? Actually, some experts worry that many languages might die out. The reason is global languages like English, Spanish, and Arabic. Many people feel they need to speak these languages to succeed in life. As a result, they may stop speaking their native languages. This would be a bad thing because languages are such an important part of people's cultural heritage, developed over many years.</p>
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A. Summary

Complete the summary by selecting the **THREE** answer choices that express the most important ideas in the text. Some sentences do not belong in the summary because they express ideas that are not presented in the text or are minor ideas in the text.

SUMMARY

Two common situations can lead to the birth of new languages.

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- When a culture divides, this can result in language change and development.
- Languages with basic grammar often have a limited vocabulary as well.
- Most languages spoken on Papua New Guinea are pidgins or creoles.
- The birth of new languages happens slowly over a long period of time.
- The languages most likely to change are those spoken by many people.
- The need to communicate and do business can lead to new languages.

B. Read the text. Then write *T* (true) or *F* (false).

- According to the text, there are two main ways in which new languages can form. _____
- Latin developed into just a few modern languages including Romanian, Italian, and Sardinian. _____
- Typically, creoles have a limited vocabulary, simple grammar, and no native speakers. _____
- Tok Pisin originally developed so that people from Papua New Guinea could trade with people from other parts of that nation. _____



6. There is a danger that less widely spoken languages may die out because of the influence of globally important languages such as English and Arabic. _____

C. Vocabulary

7. The word “slightly” in paragraph B could be replaced with _____.

a. little	b. much	c. unexpectedly	d. dangerously
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8. The phrase “so-called” in paragraph D most likely means _____.

a. basic	b. commonly named	c. useful	d. easily understood
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9. The word “converse” in paragraph E could be replaced by _____.

a. convince	b. collect	c. communicate	d. compete
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10. The word “heritage” in paragraph F most likely means _____.

a. ability	b. opportunity	c. population	d. tradition
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READING III

A Different Type of Home

Today, the architectural sector faces two combined issues: the responsibility to design environmentally-friendly buildings and the need for more housing. Various attempts at eco buildings have produced mixed results. Meanwhile, people continue to look for sustainable ways of living.

One option for this is *cohousing*, a movement which began in Denmark in the 1970s. Cohousing means a group of homes that share some common facilities and amenities, and whose residents share responsibility for managing the community. The movement spread through many European countries and then to other nations worldwide. Cohousing, it appears, is becoming more popular.

In the United Kingdom, cohousing did not really develop until the end of the 1990s. The first cohousing project, Springhill, was created by a property developer called David Michael in the town of Stroud in England. David Michael was aware of Kathryn McCamant and Charles Durrett, two architects who had studied in Denmark and then went on to design cohousing communities all over the US. He found their work inspiring for its focus on eco-friendly homes and a strong sense of community.

In the year 2000, David Michael began to build Springhill's 35 homes – or units. The units range from one-bedroom flats to five-bedroom houses. The residents are a mix of single people and couples with families; younger and older people. The roads are free from traffic as all cars remain parked in one area on the edge of the development, and there is a car-sharing scheme for shopping and other needs. Springhill has a large, shared garden and a common house where neighbours can spend time and eat meals together. There is a shared cooking system, too. Residents pay a monthly fee, depending on the size of their property, which goes towards the maintenance of the common areas.

Springhill has various selling points which appeal to different people for different reasons. For some, the sense of community that it provides is key. Suburban living can be lonely and depressing, and, in fact, one UK study revealed that over 80% of Britons do not know any of their neighbours. Whatever this says about society in the 21st century, Springhill offers an escape from the isolation that some people experience. Those who embrace cohousing often say it is a more civilized way of life. For other residents of Springhill, the eco-friendly nature of the development is its chief selling point. Energy efficiency and the fact that these homes were designed with conservation in mind holds great appeal for many who chose to live there. Cohousing developments may not be the perfect solution for everyone's needs, but they certainly are a welcome alternative for some.



Read the article and then complete the summary with words from the text.

A current problem is the (1)_____ for more homes that are environmentally friendly. One solution is a movement called (2)_____. It began in the (3)_____ and is a development of homes where the residents all share (4)_____ for running the community and managing the amenities that they share. David Michael started a cohousing project called (5)_____ in the UK back in the 1990s. The homes (or units) are different sizes and there is also a (6)_____ house in which the community can come together for meals and other social events. Residents like the conservation aspect of this development as well as finding it a particularly (7)_____ way of living.

WRITING

1. Write a well-organized OPINION ESSAY on the following topic in 200-250 words. Include all the elements a good Opinion Essay should contain.

TOPIC: Students should attend work and travel programs when they are at university.

Do you agree? Why/Why not?

2. Write a well-organized PERSUASIVE ESSAY on the following topic in 200-250 words. Include all the elements a good Persuasive Essay should contain.

TOPIC: Attendance shouldn't be compulsory at universities.



ANSWER KEY

READING I

1. B	2. B	3. D	4. C	5. D
6. D	7. C	8. A	9. A	

10. (Sample answer): There has been a direct relationship between wanting to look attractive and economic status throughout the history. Skin tone has changed with the economic power it is symbolized with. In the past, workout outside under the sun was considered to be lacking in prestige, so the white skin was trendy. Now that having time and money to have beach holiday is prestigious, tanned skin is in fashion.

11. (Sample answer): Members of modern society wish to experience a sense of belonging, a certain status in the society in which they live, and to achieve this, they wear tattoos.

READING II

1. A/D/F	2. T	3. F	4. F	5. F
6. T	7. A	8. B	9. C	10. D

READING III

1. recycling	2. energy	3. metals	4. reusing	5. lifestyle
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