



EXEMPTION EXAM REVISION MATERIAL

READING SECTION

READING I

Read the passage carefully and circle the correct alternative.

1	The snow leopard lives high in the mountains of Central Asia. Humans rarely see this beautiful animal with its spotted coat and characteristic long tail. They follow their prey silently and will even stop a falling stone from making noise. To attack, they jump up to 15 meters. In the cold, dry landscape, the animal hunts alone and at night. They are one of the world's most secretive animals.
2	Snow leopards have been protected since 1975, but only about 4,000 to 7,000 remain. Poachers hunt them for body parts, and herders kill them because the leopards kill their farm animals. Conservation groups are now offering financial help to herding communities that protect leopards. Two of <u>these</u> are Snow Leopard Conservancy India Homestays and Snow Leopard Enterprise (SLE) in Mongolia.
3	The Homestays program sends tourists to stay in herders' houses for about ten US dollars a night. The herders use the extra money to replace lost animals, and the organization helps them build fences to keep the leopards out. The SLE program sells items made by Mongolian women and gives them the money. The program gives herders an extra 10 to 15 percent in income and raises the status of women. Program members receive a 20 percent bonus if no snow leopards are killed during a year.
4	Both SLE and the Homestays program are succeeding. Efforts like these may give the snow leopard a chance to survive in the future.

1. What would be a good title for the passage?
 - a. How Local Women in Mongolia Have Saved the Snow Leopard
 - b. Bringing the Snow Leopard Back from Disappearing
 - c. Why Poachers Have Nearly Made the Snow Leopard Disappear
 - d. The Reasons Why the Snow Leopard is Disappearing From the Earth

2. “these” underlined in paragraph 2, refers to _____.
 - a. conservation groups
 - b. communities
 - c. herders



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d. snow leopards



3. Which detail does NOT describe snow leopards?
- They are hardly encountered by people.
 - They live in mountainous regions of Central Asia.
 - They like to hunt in small groups.
 - They sometimes kill herders' animals.
4. Why do you think a snow leopard stops a stone from falling?
- The noise might frighten the leopard.
 - The leopard knows that the noise will frighten its prey.
 - The leopard is a very cautious animal.
 - The leopard feels that it is in danger.
5. The purpose of paragraph 3 is to_____.
- give examples of programs that help the herders' animals
 - inform tourists about snow leopards' habitats
 - ask questions about herders who kill snow leopards
 - compare conservation groups in India and Mongolia

READING 2

Read the passage carefully and circle the correct alternative.

TWO VOLCANOES	
1	Two legendary volcanoes are Mount Fuji and El Popo. Mount Fuji in Japan is believed to be a religious site by many people. It has the highest summit in Japan. People climb Fuji to witness the dawn as the sun's golden rays spread across the mountain. But Fuji can be deadly. In 1707, it exploded and sent out a cloud of ash that covered Tokyo for weeks.
2	Four million people live in Tokyo, just 112 kilometers from the volcano. Experts at Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention report that lower frequency earthquakes may cause an increase in activity under Fuji. <u>They</u> say understanding the cause of the quakes may help to predict the next eruption and help the people of Tokyo leave the region in time.
3	On the other side of Earth is "El Popo". It is just 70 kilometers southeast of Mexico City. The last major eruption was probably in 820 A.D., but it has erupted many times. In 2000, more than 26,000 people were evacuated when it sent out ash and smoke over the area. Another eruption may not be



	avoided. Experts monitor El Popo and look for earthquakes, a change in the surface, and other signs that it could explode again.
4	Why do people live near active volcanoes? The land is very rich. For farmers especially, it is unthinkable to leave their land. They do not want their lives to be destroyed, but they do not know how to stop an eruption. So as in myths from thousands of years ago, locals near Fuji and El Popo take gifts to the volcanoes to make them happy.



READING 3

FUTURE TRAFFIC	
A	How to make traffic flow smoothly is a problem that city planners around the world deal with every day. Even when there is no construction or bad weather which causes delays, major roads are still full of cars. Some optimists, however, think new technology will finally make traffic move.
B	Perhaps the most hopeful project belongs to billionaire Elon Musk. Musk proposes a series of underground tunnels that would transport vehicles around Los Angeles and other cities at high speed. In his plan, cars would be lowered onto moving areas that would carry the vehicles through tunnels to their destinations. Computers would control all movement and transfer cars from one tunnel to another. Once a vehicle reached its destination, it would be raised to the surface and continue its trip in a normal manner on surface roads. Musk claims that with such a system in place, a trip in crowded Los Angeles that currently takes sixty minutes could be completed in less than ten minutes.
C	Musk's idea seems to have great potential. However, critics are quick to point out problems with the plan, with the price as the first <u>one</u> . To create a whole system of underground tunnels would be an enormous financial burden for any city or government. In addition, even if cities could afford such a system, many claim the tunnels would suffer from the same problems as traditional roads.
D	In the past, building more roads and highways did not solve traffic problems in the way city planners had hoped. Instead, as soon as more roads were constructed, more drivers appeared and filled up the extra space. Those skeptical about Musk's plan say the same thing would happen with the high-speed tunnels. Another issue would be so-called "choke-points." Most traffic jams today occur where too many people are trying to get on or off the road at a single narrow point. Similar to traditional highways, Musk's underground tubes would face the problem of traffic jams at the entrances and exits. Without some major innovations, the high-speed tunnels would have the same major setbacks.
E	As any driver will admit, it is very frustrating that many traffic jams have no clear cause. Cars simply slow down for a period of time before the road opens up again and traffic returns to a normal speed. Traffic experts have discovered that the main reason for this is that human drivers have difficulty maintaining something called "flow." If drivers always slowed down and sped up gradually, there would be fewer traffic jams. However, this is not what happens in reality. Because drivers can only see a short distance ahead, they tend to brake suddenly in response to changes in speed that occur a few cars in front of them. This irregular rapid braking affects the flow of traffic and leading to traffic jams.
F	Now, there is another modern solution that may be possible in the near future. Engineers are already experimenting with driverless cars that can communicate with other such cars on the road, even cars far ahead of or behind the driver's own vehicle. With a large number of "smart" cars in constant contact with each other, it will be much easier to maintain a steady flow of traffic and greatly reduce the number of traffic jams. Furthermore, in a driverless-car future in which computers are in control instead of easily distracted human drivers, it is expected that there would be many fewer crashes as well. This would eliminate another major cause of traffic jams.



6. According to paragraph A, which statement is **TRUE** about traffic jam?
- a) Uncompleted construction road work is a frequent cause of traffic jam.
 - b) Bad weather conditions have nothing to do with traffic jam.
 - c) Reduction of traffic congestion is a common issue for every city planner.
 - d) New technology has raised a hope for everyone to solve traffic jam.
7. What is the main idea of paragraph B?
- a) By the help of Musk's plan, traffic problems in Los Angeles will be solved effectively.
 - b) Musk's plan will enable drivers in Los Angeles to save a lot of time in the traffic.
 - c) Musk's project may be the most promising project that provides a solution to traffic jams.
 - d) In Musk's plan, transporting the vehicles will be only through the underground tunnels.
8. Which of the following is **NOT** a criticism of Musk's plan?
- a) Building such a system will cost a lot of money.
 - b) The system will attract more cars to the roads.
 - c) The plan will make driving more dangerous than today.
 - d) Choke-points will be packed with cars like highways.
9. According to the text, what is the major reason for traffic congestion?
- a) There is not a standard speed at which each vehicle moves.
 - b) There are not enough high-speed tunnels around the cities.
 - c) Governments cannot construct new roads because of high cost.
 - d) The number of highways isn't enough compared to the number of cars.
10. What benefit of driverless cars is **NOT** mentioned in paragraph F?
- a) Keeping the flow of the traffic will be simpler.
 - b) Financial burden of gas will be a smaller problem.
 - c) There will be less car accidents on the roads.
 - d) Communication with other cars is possible.
11. According to the text, which statement is **FALSE** in terms of dealing with traffic jams?
- a) In the past, building new roads could not be an effective way to deal with traffic jams.
 - b) The high-speed tunnels will minimize the financial burden of constructing new roads.
 - c) Driverless cars will be possibly a good solution to overcome the traffic problems in the future.
 - d) Musk's underground tubes system isn't an effective solution for the choke-points on the roads.



12. What is this text mainly about?

- a) the main reasons of traffic jams and the new proposals to solve the problem
- b) the ways of making the roads safer for drivers with new technologies
- c) the contribution of high-speed tunnels to the flow of traffic
- d) the comparison of the traffic problems between present and past

13. The bold word “**enormous**” in paragraph C means_____.

- a) effective
- b) slight
- c) predictable
- d) huge

14. The bold word “**skeptical**” in paragraph D means_____.

- a) unskillful
- b) uninterested
- c) uncareful
- d) uncertain

15. “one” underlined in paragraph C refers to_____.

- a) idea
- b) problem
- c) plan
- d) price



READING 4

THE POWER OF COLOR	
5	<p>Thinkers, artists, and scientists have long debated the nature of colour: what are its origins, and how does it affect us? In the past, humans watched their fires blacken the ceilings of the caves where they lived. They saw blue and red in the sky and brown and green on the ground. In time, people began to understand that colour not only made the world more beautiful, but <u>it</u> was also able to convey emotion and symbolize power. By using colours they extracted from insects, plants, and minerals, primitive humans copied animals, painting their bodies to signal aggression toward an enemy or to attract a mate.</p>
10	<p>Over the centuries, the sources of colours such as blue, purple, and red were carefully guarded and were often worth as much as gold. In the 19th century, a young chemistry student became the first to manufacture a synthetic dye, and suddenly the world became a much more colourful place. By the 20th century, as scientists discovered the psychological effects of colours, everyone from advertisers to educators found ways to make use of colour to influence our feelings and behaviour.</p>
15	<p>Red, the colour of human blood, has traditionally symbolized intensity, fire, love and anger. In Eastern cultures, it also represents luck, wealth and success. For humans, the colour red can send different messages. Some people redden when they are angry or embarrassed, sending a clear signal to others about how <u>they</u> are feeling. British anthropologists Russell Hill and Robert Barton of the University of Durham found that when opponents in a game are equally matched, the team dressed in red is more likely to win. According to Barton, “red seems to be the colour, across species, that signals dominance”– giving those</p>
20	<p>dressed in red an advantage in sporting events. In many animal species (including humans), contact with this bold colour causes the heart rate to accelerate. However, one of red’s lighter shades, pink, can have the opposite effect on people. Men in prisons are reported to be more passive when the walls are painted a specific shade of pink.</p>
25	<p>Humans have also used the colour red in everything from politics to advertising. Many food products in the U.S., for example, are packaged in red containers. The colour makes the product look as if it is advancing toward a shopper.</p>
30	<p>Yellow, the colour we most often associate with sunshine, is found throughout nature and the man-made world as a colour that commands attention; indeed, it is one of the easiest colours to see. This highly visible shade is found on everything from school busses to traffic signs and pens used to highlight important information in a text. The colour is also used to caution people; soccer players, for example are shown as a reminder to start the game. It can be used as a stimulant as well: in a number of studies, yellow has been found to help children focus on their work and do better in school.</p>
35	<p>Blue, the colour of sky and sea, has long been associated with water, holy or religious objects, and protection against evil. Over the years, darker shades of the colour have also come to represent calm, stability, and power. Dark blue, for example, is the colour of the business suit or police uniform; it tells others, “I am in control” or “You can trust me”. In other cultures, blue has been associated with sadness. It’s common in English, for example, when feeling sad or depressed, to talk about “feeling blue” while in Iran, blue is the colour of mourning, and it is worn when a person dies.</p>
40	<p>Like pink, blue has a neutral, calming effect on people. Rooms painted blue help people to relax or sleep. (Sleeping pills are often coloured blue to suggest exactly this idea.) The colour also seems to control hunger. Blue food is rarely seen in nature, and when it is, such food is usually no longer healthy to consume (with the exception of certain fruits like blueberries). Thus, eating off blue plates may reduce one’s hunger. So, if you are planning to lose weight, try adding a blue light to your refrigerator–it will make the food inside look less delicious. It’s just one more example of the power that colour can hold over us.</p>



I. Answer the following questions according to the text. Do not write any extra or irrelevant information.

16. Why are the teams who wear red uniforms more likely to win in a sports game?
17. Why do people prefer to use the colour yellow in different places? Write **TWO** of the reasons.
18. What do the darker colours of blue generally symbolize?
19. How does the colour blue affect people's eating habits?

II. Circle the best alternative that defines the following words written in bold in the text.

20. “**primitive**” in line 5 means _____.

a) early	b) friendly	c) elderly
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21. “**mourning**” in line 36 means _____.

a) weakness	b) kindness	c) sadness
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III. Write what the following words underlined in the text refer to.

22. “it” in line 4 refers to _____.

23. “they” in line 14 refers to _____.



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ANSWER KEY

1. B	
2. A	
3. C	
4. B	
5. D	25. A
6. A	26. C
7. D	27. color
8. A	28. some people
9. B	
10. C	
11. C	
12. C	
13. C	
14. A	
15. B	
16. B	
17. A	
18. D	
19. D	
20. B	