

Reading Passage 1

Finding the Lost Freedom

1. The private car is assumed to have widened our horizons and increased our mobility. When we consider our children's mobility, they can be driven to more places (and more distant places) than they could visit without access to a motor vehicle. However, allowing our cities to be dominated by cars has progressively eroded children's independent mobility. Children have lost much of their freedom to explore their own neighbourhood or city without adult supervision. In recent surveys, when parents in some cities were asked about their own childhood experiences, the majority remembered having more, or far more, opportunities for going out on their own, compared with their own children today. They had more freedom to explore their own environment.
2. Children's independent access to their local streets may be important for their own personal, mental and psychological development. Allowing them to get to know their own neighborhood and community gives them a "sense of place". This depends on "active exploration", which is not provided for when children are passengers in cars. (Such children may see more, but they learn less.) Not only is it important that children be able to get to local play areas by themselves, but walking and cycling journeys to school and to other destinations provide genuine play activities in themselves.
3. There are very significant time and money costs for parents associated with transporting their children to school, sport and other locations. Research in the United Kingdom estimated that this cost, in 1990, was between 10 and 20 million pounds. (AIPPG)
4. The reduction in children's freedom may also contribute to a weakening of the sense of local community. As fewer children and adults use the streets as pedestrians, these streets become less sociable places. There is less opportunity for children and adults to have spontaneous meetings. This in itself may exacerbate fears associated with assault and molestation of children, because there are fewer adults available who know their neighbours' children, and who can look out for their safety.
5. The extra traffic involved in transporting children results in increased traffic congestion, pollution and accident risk. As our roads become more dangerous, more parents drive their children to more places, thus contributing to increased levels of danger for the remaining pedestrians. Anyone who has experienced either the reduced volume of traffic in peak hour during school holidays, or the traffic jams near schools at the end of a school day, will not need convincing about these points. Thus, there are also important environmental implications of children's loss of freedom.
6. As individuals, parents strive to provide the best upbringing they can for their children. However, in doing so, (e.g. by driving their children to sport, school or recreation) parents may be contributing to a more dangerous environment for children generally. The idea that "streets are for cars and back yards and playgrounds are for children" is a strongly held belief, and parents have little choice as individuals but to keep their children off the streets if they want to protect their safety.
7. In many parts of Dutch cities, and some traffic calmed precincts in Germany, residential streets are now places where cars must give way to pedestrians. In these areas, residents are accepting the view that the function of streets is not solely to provide mobility for cars. Streets may also be for social interaction, walking, cycling and playing. One of the most important aspects of these European streets, in terms of giving cities back to children, has been a range of "traffic calming" initiatives, aimed at reducing the volume and speed of traffic. These initiatives have had

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complex interactive effects, leading to a sense that children have been able to do this in safety. Recent research has demonstrated that children in many German cities have significantly higher levels of freedom to travel to places in their own neighbourhood or city than children in other cities in the world.

8. Modifying cities in order to enhance children's freedom will not only benefit children. Such cities will become more environmentally sustainable, as well as more sociable and more livable for all city residents. Perhaps, it will be our concern for our children's welfare that convinces us that we need to challenge the dominance of the car in our cities.

Questions 1-5

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Section 1? Write:

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

- 1 The private car has helped children have more opportunities to learn.
- 2 Children are more independent today than they used to be.
- 3 Walking and cycling to school allows children to learn more.
- 4 Children usually walk or cycle to school.
- 5 Parents save time and money by driving children to school.

Questions 6-9

In Paragraph FOUR and FIVE there are **FOUR** problems stated. These problems are numbered as questions 6-9. Find the correct cause for each of the problems and write the corresponding letter **A-G**. There are more causes than problems so you will not use all of them. You may use any cause **MORE THAN ONCE**.

Problems

Example: low sense of community feeling Answer: **F**

- 6 streets become less sociable
- 7 fewer chances for meeting friends
- 8 fears of danger for children
- 9 higher accident risk

Causes

- A** few adults know local children
- B** fewer people use the streets
- C** increased pollution
- D** streets are less friendly
- E** less traffic in school holidays
- F** reduced freedom for children
- G** more children driven to school

Questions 10-14

Complete the sentences. Choose the correct ending for each statement.

Endings are numbered **I-X**.

Example: By driving children to school, parents help create... Answer: **I**

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- 10 Children should play ...
- 11 In some German towns, pedestrians have right of way in ...
- 12 Streets should also be used for ...
- 13 Reducing the amount of traffic and the speed is ...
- 14 All people who live in the city will benefit if cities are ...

- I ... a dangerous environment
- II ... modified
- III ... residential streets
- IV ... modifying cities
- V ... neighborhoods
- VI ... socializing
- VII ... in backyards
- VIII ... for cars
- IX ... traffic calming
- X ... residential

Reading Passage 2

Rising Sea

Paragraph 1 — Increased Temperatures

The average air temperature at the surface of the earth has risen this century, as has the temperature of ocean surface waters. Because water expands as it heats, a warmer ocean means higher sea levels. We cannot say definitely that the temperature rises are due to the greenhouse effect; the heating may be part of a “natural” variability over a long time-scale that we have not yet recognized in our short 100 years of recording. However, assuming the build up of greenhouse gases is responsible, and that the warming will continue. Scientists and inhabitants of low-lying coastal areas would like to know the extent of future sea level rises.

Paragraph 2

Calculating this is not easy. Models used for the purpose have treated the oceans as passive, stationary and one-dimensional. Scientists have assumed that heat simply diffused into the sea from the atmosphere. Using basic physical laws, they then predict how much a known volume of water would expand for a given increase in temperature. But the oceans are not one-dimensional, and recent work by oceanographers, using a new model which takes into account a number of subtle facets of the sea — including vast and complex ocean currents — suggests that the rise in sea level may be less than some earlier estimates had predicted.

Paragraph 3

An international forum on climate change, in 1986, produced figures for likely sea-level rises of 20 cm and 1.4 m, corresponding to atmospheric temperature increases of 1.5° and 4.5° C respectively. Some scientists estimate that the ocean warming resulting from those temperature increases by the year 2050 would raise the sea level by between 10 and 40 cm. This model only takes into account the temperature effect on the oceans; it does not consider changes in sea level brought about by the melting of ice sheets and glaciers, and changes in groundwater storage. When we add on estimates of these, we arrive at figures for total sea-level rises of 15 cm and 70 cm respectively.

Paragraph 4

It's not easy trying to model accurately the enormous complexities of the ever-changing oceans, with their great

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volume, massive currents and sensitivity to the influence of land masses and the atmosphere. For example, consider how heat enters the ocean. Does it just “diffuse” from the warmer air vertically into the water, and heat only the surface layer of the sea? (Warm water is less dense than cold, so it would not spread downwards). Conventional models of sea-level rise have considered that this the only method, but measurements have shown that the rate of heat transfer into the ocean by vertical diffusion is far lower in practice than the figures that many models have adopted.

Paragraph 5

Much of the early work, for simplicity, ignored the fact that water in the oceans moves in three dimensions. By movement, of course, scientists don’t mean waves, which are too small individually to consider, but rather movement of vast volumes of water in huge currents. To understand the importance of this, we now need to consider another process—advection. Imagine smoke rising from a chimney. On a still day it will slowly spread out in all directions by means of diffusion. With a strong directional wind, however, it will all shift downwind, this process is advection — the transport of properties (notably heat and salinity in ocean) by the movement of bodies of air or water, rather than by conduction or diffusion.

Paragraph 6

Massive oceans current called gyres do the moving. These currents have far more capacity to store heat than the atmosphere does. Indeed, just the top 3 meters of the ocean contains more heat than the whole of the atmosphere. The origin of the gyres lies in the fact that more heat from the Sun reaches the Equator than the Poles, and naturally heat tends to move from the former to the latter. Warm air rises at the Equator, and draws more air beneath it in the form of winds (the “Trade Winds”) that, together with other air movements, provide the main force driving the ocean currents.

Paragraph 7

Water itself is heated at the Equator and moves poleward, twisted by the Earth’s rotation and affected by the positions of the continents. The resultant broadly circular movements between about 10° and 40° North and South are clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere. They flow towards the east at mid latitudes in the equatorial region. They then flow towards the Poles, along the eastern sides of continents, as warm currents. When two different masses of water meet, one will move beneath the other, depending on their relative densities in the subduction process. The densities are determined by temperature and salinity. The convergence of water of different densities from the Equator and the Poles deep in the oceans causes continuous subduction. This means that water moves vertically as well as horizontally. Cold water from the Poles travels on depth - it is denser than warm water - until it emerges at the surface in another part of the world in the form of a cold current.

Paragraph 8 — How the Greenhouse Effects Will Change Ocean Temperatures

Ocean currents, in three dimensions, form a giant “conveyor belt”, distributing heat from the thin surface layer into the interior of the oceans and around the globe. Water may take decades to circulate in these 3-D gyres in the top kilometer of the ocean, and centuries in the deep water. With the increased atmospheric temperatures due to the greenhouse effect, the oceans conveyor belt will carry more heat into the interior. This subduction moves heat around far more effectively than simple diffusion. Because warm water expands more than cold when it is heated, scientists had presumed that the sea level would rise unevenly around the globe. It is now believed that these inequalities cannot persist, as winds will act to continuously spread out the water expansion. Of course, if global warming changes the strength and distribution of the winds, then this “evening-out” process may not occur, and the sea level could rise more in some areas than others.

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Questions 15-20

Reading Passage 2 has eight Paragraphs, 1-8. The first and the last have been given headings. Choose the correct heading for the remaining six paragraphs from the list below. There are more headings than paragraphs, so you will not use all the headings.

Write the correct number, **A-I**, in boxes **15-20** on your answer sheet.

- List of headings*
- A** The gyre principle
 - B** The Greenhouse Effect
 - C** How ocean waters move
 - D** Statistical evidence
 - E** The advection principle
 - F** Diffusion versus advection
 - G** Figuring the sea level changes
 - H** Estimated figures
 - I** The diffusion model

15 Paragraph 2

16 Paragraph 3

17 Paragraph 4

18 Paragraph 5

19 Paragraph 6

20 Paragraph 7

Questions 21, 22

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

Write the correct letter in boxes 21 and 22 on your answer sheet.

21 Scientists do not know for sure why the air and surface of oceans temperatures are rising because

- A** there is too much variability
- B** there is no enough variability
- C** they have not been recording these temperatures for enough time
- D** the changes have only been noticed for 100 years

22 New search leads scientists to believe that

- A** the oceans are less complex
- B** the oceans are more complex
- C** the oceans will rise more than expected
- D** the oceans will rise less than expected

Question 23

Look at the following list of factors (**A-F**) and select **THREE** which are mentioned in the Reading Passage 2 which may contribute to the rising ocean levels.

Write the correct **THREE** letters **A-F** in the box 23 on your answer sheet.

- A** thermal expansion
- B** melting ice
- C** increased air temperature
- D** higher rainfall

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E changes in the water table

F increased ocean movement

Questions 24-28

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage 2? Write:

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

24 The surface layer of the oceans is warmed by the atmosphere.

25 Advection of water changes heat and salt levels.

26 A gyre holds less heat than there is in the atmosphere.

27 The process of subduction depends on the water density.

28 The sea level is expected to rise evenly over the Earth's surface.

Reading Passage 3

New Rules for the Paper Game

1. Computerized data storage and electronic mail were to have heralded the paperless office. But, contrary to expectation, paper consumption throughout the world shows no sign of abating. In fact, consumption, especially of printing and writing papers, continues to increase. World demand for paper and board is now expected to grow faster than the general economic growth in the next 15 years. Strong demand will be underpinned by the growing industrialization of South East Asia, the re-emergence of paper packaging, greater use of facsimile machines and photocopiers, and the popularity of direct mail advertising. It is possible that by 2017, world paper and board demand will reach 455 million tonnes, compared with 241 million tonnes in 1991.

2. The pulp and paper industry has not been badly affected by the electronic technologies that promised a paperless society. But what has radically altered the industry's structure is pressure from another front — a more environmentally conscious society driving an irreversible move towards cleaner industrial production. The environmental consequences of antiquated pulp mill practices and technologies had marked this industry as one in need of reform. Graphic descriptions of deformed fish and thinning populations, particularly in the Baltic Sea where old pulp mills had discharged untreated effluents for 100 years, have disturbed the international community.

3. Until the 1950s, it was common for pulp mills and other industries to dispose of waste into the sea and other bodies of water. The environmental effects were at the time either not understood, or regarded as an acceptable cost of economic prosperity in an increasingly import-oriented world economy. But greater environmental awareness has spurred a fundamental change in attitude in the community, in government and in industry itself.

4. Since the early 1980s, most of the world-scale pulp mills in Scandinavia and North America have modernized their operations, outlying substantial amounts to improve production methods. Changes in mill design and processes have been aimed at minimizing the environmental effects of effluent discharge while at the same time producing pulp with the whiteness and strength demanded by the international market. The environmental impetus is taking this industry even further, with the focus now on developing processes that may even eliminate wastewater discharges. But the ghost of the old mills continues to haunt industry today. In Europe, companies face a

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flood of environment-related legislation. In Germany, companies are now being held responsible for the waste they create.

5. Pulp is the porridge — like mass of plant fibers from which paper is made. Paper makers choose the type of plant fibre and the processing methods, depending on what the end product will be used for: whether it is a sturdy packing box, a smooth sheet of writing paper or a fragile tissue. In wood, which is the source of about 90 % of the world's paper production, fibres are bound together by lignin, which gives the unbleached pulp a brown colour. Pulping can be done by mechanical grinding, or by chemical treatment in which wood chips are “cooked” with chemicals, or by a combination of both methods.

6. Kraft pulping is the most widely used chemical process for producing pulp with the strength required by the high-quality paper market. It is now usually carried out in a continuous process in a large vessel called digester. Wood chips are fed from a pile into the top of the digester. In the digester, the chips are cooked in a solution called white liquor, composed of caustic soda (sodium hydroxide) and sodium sulphide. The chips are cooked at high temperatures of up to 170 degree for up to three hours. The pulp is then washed and separated from the spent cooking liquor which has turned dark. An important feature of Kraft pulping is a chemical recovery system which recycles about 95 % of the cooking chemicals and produces more than enough energy to run the mill. In a series of steps involving a furnace and tanks, some of the black liquor is transformed into energy, while some is regenerated into the original white cooking liquor. The pulp that comes out has little lignin left in the fibres. Bleaching removes the last remaining lignin and brightens the pulp. Most modern mills have modified their pulping process to remove as much of the lignin as possible before the pulp moves to the bleaching stage.

Questions 29-32

List of factors

- A more people read newspapers
- B increased use of paper bags
- C increased book production for education
- D wider use of sign post advertising
- E greater use of duplicating machines
- F increased use of fax machines
- G wider use of leaflet advertising

Look at the following list of factors (A-G), which will influence the amount of paper being used in the future. Choose **FOUR** factors which are mentioned in Paragraph 1 of Reading Passage 3. Write the correct answers **A-G** in boxes **29-32** on your answer sheet.

Questions 33-35

Complete the statements from the Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 by using **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS**.

33 The international community has begun to demand _____

34 In the past, the environmental effects of pulp mill practices were probably a price to pay for _____

35 Some paper mills have recently modernized their mill design in order to decrease _____

Questions 36-40

Below is the list of steps in the Kraft process of turning wood chips into paper. The steps are marked **A-H**. Only **FIVE** of the steps listed below are mentioned in the Reading Passage 3. Decide which steps are mentioned and write the appropriate number for each step in the correct order in the boxes **36-40** on your answer sheet.

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List of steps

- A** the chips are cooked
- B** the fibres are bound by lignin
- C** the pulp is bleached
- D** woodchips are put into a pile
- E** the pulp is dried
- F** the pulp is removed from the black liquor
- G** the chips are put into the white liquor
- H** the pulp is washed

36 ____

37 ____

38 ____

39 ____

40 ____

Answer Keys

1. **FALSE.** Note that it is 'The private car' with the definite article, meaning that they talk about the general idea of private car ownership. As for the idea itself, the opposite is stated in paragraph 1: the abundance of cars makes neighbourhoods too dangerous for kids to be left without adults looking after them. Therefore, they don't get a chance to learn and explore the world on their own.
2. **TRUE.**
3. **NOT GIVEN.** Walking and cycling are mentioned in the context of being fun activities. In other words, children have fun walking and cycling, but nothing is said about whether they learn something in the process.
4. **FALSE.** In paragraph 1, it is said that children 'have lost' their freedom to explore because they are supervised by their parents and driven around in cars. In other words, they neither walk nor cycle to school.
5. **FALSE.** First sentence of paragraph 3 mentions the opposite: parents have significant time and money expenditures associated with driving their kids to places.
6. **B.** Paragraph 4, second sentence—no paraphrasing is used here, so the answer is easy to find.
7. **F.** Paragraph 4. Again, because children are not given enough opportunities to walk, they are less likely to meet their friends.
8. **G.** Paragraph 5, sentence 2. People use cars to drive their children to school, which means more cars on the road and makes road trips riskier. As roads become increasingly dangerous because of more traffic, people choose to drive kids everywhere, creating a vicious circle.
9. **G.** See the same answer: one thing contributes to the other, and vice versa.
10. **VII.** The phrase is found in paragraph 6.
11. **III.** Paragraph 7, sentence 1. To have the right of way and to give way are opposite ideas. 'German' is capitalised so it's easy to find the relevant part of the text.
12. **VI.** Social interaction is mentioned as one of the purposes for which streets should be used (Paragraph 7).
13. **IX.** Here we are basically given the definition of "traffic calming", which is also given in parentheses in the middle of paragraph 7.
14. **II.** Last paragraph of the extract proposes that children will not be the only ones who stand to benefit from changing (modifying) them.
15. **G - Figuring the sea level changes.** The paragraph mentions the earlier simplistic model of calculating the rise in sea level. Later, it includes a description of the new, more advanced approach. Heading 'C - How ocean waters move' is incorrect, as they talk about rise rather than movement.
16. **H - Estimated figures.** The paragraph is dedicated to estimates—approximate numbers for variables such as the change in sea level brought about by an increase in ambient temperatures as well as polar ice melting.
17. **I - The diffusion model.** The paragraph clearly focuses on the diffusive qualities of temperature - how it mostly only affects the surface-level water. Heading 'F - Diffusion versus advection' is not good, as no mention of advection is made, nor is there any comparison between the two methods.
18. **E - The advection principle.** Despite the idea of water movement being mentioned several times, 'C - How ocean waters move' is not optimal here as the main idea is explaining what convection is and how it is more complex than the previously mentioned method. 'F - Diffusion versus advection' is not good because diffusion is briefly mentioned here to illustrate the difference between advection and diffusion. 'Versus' means 'against, opposed to. Obviously, no opposition is mentioned, only comparison.
19. **A - The gyre principle.** Gyres are introduced by explaining what they are, what they do, and the impact they have on heat distribution.

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20. C - How ocean waters move. Finally, we get a paragraph that is fully dedicated to the complex path that water in the world's oceans travels around the planet. No principles or methods are mentioned here, such as diffusion or advection, so it should make the heading choice easier.

21. C. The first paragraph suggests the possibility that the changes in ocean temperature could be cyclical in nature—a cycle we have not yet seen completely because the data gathering hasn't been done for long enough. Answer D is incorrect, as the figure of 100 years is given to say how long the monitoring has been going on and that this period is too short to draw conclusions from.

22. D. The ending of paragraph 2 suggests that the ocean level rise might be less than previously thought. Answers A and B are wrong as the text discusses the complexity of water temperature transfer and the general movement of water. There is nothing about how complex the ocean itself is.

23. B, C, E (either order). B - melting ice - second part of paragraph 3; C - increased air temperature - first part of paragraph 3; E - last sentence of paragraph 3 mentions groundwater storage; this is paraphrased as water table in the task. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_table for an explanation.

24. NOT GIVEN. The very first paragraph openly states that we can't say for sure what causes the surface to warm up.

25. TRUE. Heat and 'salinity', or salt levels, are mentioned to be affected by convection in paragraph 5.

26. FALSE. The opposite is correct: sentence 2 in paragraph 6 states that gyres have a higher heat storage capacity than the atmosphere.

27. TRUE. The middle of paragraph 7 confirms that water density plays a crucial role in the subduction process.

28. FALSE. The answer changes from one to another in the last paragraph, but the last sentence states that the 'evening out' of sea level might not occur.

29-32. (in any order) B, E, F, G. This entire task is an exercise in synonyms and paraphrasing (words from the task given in brackets). B - re-emergence of paper packaging (paper bags); E - use of photocopiers (duplicating machines); F - facsimile machines (fax machines, although not many people say facsimile nowadays); G - direct mail advertising (leaflets).

33. cleaner industrial production. In the paragraph 2 'environmentally conscious society' is mentioned—in other words, people who are aware of the damage to nature we cause and want to change that.

34. economic prosperity. Paragraph 3: The harm done to nature was seen as an inevitable consequence of economic prosperity (prosperity means doing well financially).

35. environmental effects. Paragraph 4: The means of production were modernised to decrease the toll on the environment.

36. D. Before you answer this series of questions, pay attention to the fact that the steps have to come in the same order they happen in the production order. The description of the production process is in paragraph 6. First of all, answer B is incorrect; the fibres are bound by lignin naturally, which is why the original colour is brown. Lignin is now added artificially. Answer D is correct: even though there is no mention of woodchips being put in the pile, it is implied: "wood chips are fed from a pile...".

37. G. "the chips are cooked in a solution called white liquor" - note that before they can be cooked, they should be put there.

38. A. See previous answer.

39. H. The pulp is washed from the excessive white liquor that turns dark in the process.

40. F. The most difficult part here that is immediately connected to the previous answer: 'washed and separated from the spent cooking liquor that has turned dark' - note that first it is washed and then removed from the black liquor.

Vocabulary

The vocabulary below is meant to help you with the more difficult words. If the word isn't on the list then you are either supposed to know it or it is too specific to be worth learning and you don't have to know it to answer the question. Symbols in brackets mean part of speech (see bottom of the list). Sentences in italics give examples of usage for some more complex words and phrases.

And remember — you are not given a vocabulary list (or a dictionary) at your real exam.

Section 1

Assume (v) - to believe in something without evidence, proof, or knowledge. *We assumed that David wasn't home since he wouldn't pick up his phone.*

Erode (v) - used figuratively here, it means to make something less powerful or effective in a slow way, to take something away. *The politician's power was slowly eroded by the opposing party and their attempts to sabotage his election campaign.*

Genuine (adj) - real, not artificial or fake. *Her shining eyes showed genuine interest in the subject, so I carried on with my lecture.*

Pedestrian (n) - a person who walks as a way of moving, as opposed to cycling, driving, or taking the bus. *Pedestrians in this part of city feel oppressed because the sidewalk is very narrow.*

Exacerbate (v) - to make something bad even worse; the opposite is 'alleviate'. *Her poor academic performance at college was exacerbated by her part-time job at the restaurant.*

Assault (n) - a physical attack. *To prevent assaults on unsuspecting citizens, surveillance cameras and better lighting were installed in this part of the city.*

Molestation (n) - similar to assault but with a sexual context.

Congestion (n) - a traffic-related difficulty caused by too many cars and resulting jams. *The mayor's initiative to reduce congestion in the city centre by introducing paid parking was met with a protest from local motorists.*

Implication (n) - a result of something that is not clearly visible or evident at once.

Strive (v) - if you strive to do something, you do your best to achieve it. *I strive hard to make sure my children have better childhood than I did.*

Precinct (n) - (here) a part of a town or a city.

Sustainable (adj) - possible to keep in the current state. Used positively. *A sustainable environmental programme is what's on everybody's mind nowadays.*

Section 2

Extent (n) - degree, scale, or size of something. *The extent of damage caused by the fire is currently unknown, as the firemen still haven't finished extinguishing it.*

Stationary (adj) - not moving or changing. *Stationary computers are rapidly replaced by mobile devices of all kinds nowadays.*

Diffuse (v) - to spread over some area.

Subtle (adj) - not easily seen; difficult to notice. *The joke was too subtle for the general audience, so almost nobody in the room laughed except for a few giggling people.*

Facet (n) - an aspect. Sociology has many facets that people often fail to notice or acknowledge.

Bring about (phr v) - to make something happen; to be a reason for something. *The war brought about severe economic conditions and even famine in some regions.*

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Conventional (adj) - traditional. *The conventional approach to education, which involves a teacher and dozens of students, is being questioned today with many suggested alternatives.*

Vast (adj) - huge in size or number. *The list of books we had to read by the end of summer was vast and consisted of almost two dozen titles.*

Salinity (adj) - the quality of containing salt. *The Dead Sea has the highest salinity numbers on earth.*

Poleward (adv) - in the direction of the pole (like South or North Pole). Generally, -ward as a suffix works to show what direction something moves in.

Beneath (adj) - under something, usually covered by it.

Convergence (n) - unification, becoming the same or similar. *We hope to achieve greater convergence and understanding between the two people.*

Presume (v) - to guess without knowing for sure. *He did come to the meeting, I presume?*

Persist (v) - to continue to exist over a long period of time. *I persisted with my attempts to get her attention, and eventually I succeeded.*

Section 3

A small preface for this section. Like it is the case with some text in Section 3 of IELTS Reading, this one has a description of a technologically complex process. Naturally, a description like that involves lots of highly technical words, which you usually neither need to know to understand the text nor want to remember because they are almost never used outside of that specific process. Therefore, I have omitted some words because they are non-essential to the general understanding of the text and the questions in this part.

Herald (v) - to announce or reveal something that is going to happen in the future. *The global switch from computers to phones heralded the imminent demise of desktop computing.*

Abating (n) - decrease, lowering.

Underpinned (adj) - to help make something stronger or more successful. *Malcolm's well-connected parents underpinned his enviable career progression.*

Irreversible (adj) - something that cannot be undone or made go to the way it was before. *Irreversible changes in the body are caused by substance abuse.*

Antiquated (adj) - old-fashioned in a bad way. Used negatively. *This guy has this car with an antiquated engine that spills oil everywhere and smells like a gas station.*

Graphic (adj) - detailed and evocative (making you have a clear visual image of something in your mind). *This author is well-known for his graphic descriptions of fight scenes.*

Effluent (n) - liquid waste produced by factories.

Prosperity (n) - the state of being successful at something, especially in a financial sense.

Spur (v) - encourage, give momentum to something. *The development of affordable personal computers spurred enthusiasm among tech-oriented professions.*

Impetus (n) - very similar to the previous word, but as a noun. Impetus is something that gives strength or momentum to something.

Haunt (v) - to follow or to remind, used about something unpleasant. *The memory of my first lame attempts at dating still haunts me to this day.*

Legislation (n) - laws and regulations. *Business legislation in this country is particularly complex, so I would suggest hiring a lawyer to take care of that.*

Sturdy (adj) - strong and durable, usually without little regard for appearance. *This car is nice and sturdy; it will last you a lifetime if you take proper care of it.*

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Tissue (n) - (here) a single-use piece of paper used for wiping.

Wood chips - small fragments of wood that are usually a by-product of cutting or sawing a piece of wood in half.

Furnace (n) - an enclosed space or room, the purpose of which is to maintain a very high temperature to burn or melt something.

Bleach (v) - to use chemicals to make something white or much lighter than it is.