

IELTS Reading Short Answer Questions



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IELTS Reading - Short Answer Questions

Short Answer Questions Practice Exercise 1

Answer questions **1-8** which are based on the reading passage below.

The Dingo - An Australian Pest Reading Passage

The origins of the dingo are obscure, and there is much controversy connected with this. It is not truly native to Australia but is thought to have arrived between 3,500 and 4,000 years ago. Whatever its origins, the dingo was a highly valued companion to the aborigines. They were hunting companions, guard dogs, and they kept them warm at night.

Some believe they were brought here on rafts or boats by the ancestral aborigines. It has also been suggested that they came with Indonesian or South-East Asian fishermen who visited the northern coast of Australia.

The dingo can be found in all areas of Australia - from harsh deserts to lush rainforest. The highly adaptable dingo is found in every habitat and every state of Australia, except Tasmania. In deserts, access to drinking water determines where the animal can live. Purebred dingo numbers in the wild are declining as man encroaches deeper and deeper into wilderness areas, often accompanied by his domestic dog.

The dingo is different from the modern dog in several ways: it does not bark, it has a different gait, and its ears are always erect. Dingoes are naturally lean, and they are usually cream to reddish-yellow with white points, some are black with tan points. An adult dingo stands more than 60cm high and weighs about 15kg. It is slightly smaller than a German Shepherd.

In its natural state, the dingo lives either alone or in a small group, unlike many other wild dog species which may form packs. Dingoes have a clearly defined territory which they rarely leave and which they protect from other dingoes, but which may be shared with dingoes when they form a group to hunt larger prey. The size of the home territory varies according to the food supply. Dingoes hunt mainly at night. Groups are controlled by dominant male. Members of a group maintain contact by marking rocks and trees within the territory, and by howling, particularly in the breeding season.



The dingo's diet consists of native mammals, including kangaroos, although domestic animals and some farm stock are also on the menu. This makes the animal unpopular with farmers. The dingo is thought to have contributed to the mainland extinction of the thylacine through increased competition for food.

The dingo is an intelligent animal. It is no more dangerous to man than any other feral dog. The natural prey of the dingo is small mammals and ground-dwelling birds, but with the introduction of white settlement, they became such a menace to sheep, calves and poultry that measures had to be taken in an attempt to control them, such as dog-proof fences.

Dingoes start breeding when they reach the age of one or two but only the dominant members within an established group breed. They breed only once a year. Mating usually occurs in autumn/early winter, and after a gestation of nine weeks (same as domestic dogs), a litter averaging 4-5 pups is born, which are reared in a hollow log, a rock-shelter, or an old rabbit warren. Both parents take part in raising the pups. The pups are fully grown at seven months of age. A dingo may live for up to ten years.

Wild dingoes are wary of humans and do not attack unless provoked. They will approach camps in the bush looking for food or perhaps out of curiosity. Dingoes can be kept as pets but should be obtained at a very young age to enable them to bond with humans. Even when raised from pups they never seem to lose their instinct for killing poultry or small animals. Not all states in Australia allow dingoes to be kept as pets and a permit is required. The export of dingoes is illegal.

Dingoes and domestic dogs interbreed freely resulting in very few pure-bred, southern or eastern Australia. This threatens the dingo's ability to survive as a separate species. Public hostility is another threat to the dingo. Because it takes some livestock, the dingo is considered by many to be a pest.

Questions 1-8

Answer the questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

1. What factor decides where the dingo can live in a desert?
2. Which physical characteristic distinguishes a dingo from a domesticated dog?
3. What term refers to a group of wild dogs?
4. What determines the vastness of the area occupied by the dingoes? Which landscape features are used by the group to remain connected?
5. Which landscape features are used by the group to remain connected?
6. What animal might have been wiped out due to the dingo?
7. What has been made to protect the livestock from the dingoes?
8. What do many people regard the dingo as?



The Dingo - An Australian Pest Reading Answers

(Note: The text in *italics* is from the reading passage and shows the location from where the answer is taken or inferred. The text in the regular font explains the answer in detail.)

1. Drinking water (or) access to water

Explanation: Paragraph 3 - In deserts, access to drinking water determines where the animal can live.

The answer is 'drinking water' or 'access to water' and not 'access to drinking water' as the word limit is of three words.

2. (always) (erect) ears

Explanation: Paragraph 4 - The dingo is different from the modern dog in several ways: it does not bark, it has a different gait, and its **ears are always erect**.

3. Packs

Explanation: Paragraph 5 - In its natural state, the dingo lives either alone or in a small group, unlike many other wild dog species which may form **packs**.

4. (the) food supply

Explanation: Paragraph 5 - The size of the home territory varies according to **the food supply**.

5. Trees (and) rocks

Explanation: Paragraph 5 - Members of a group maintain contact by **marking rocks and trees** within their territory,...

6. Thylacine

Explanation: Paragraph 6 - The dingo is thought to have contributed to the mainland extinction of the **thylacine** through increased competition for food.

7. Dog-proof fences

Explanation: Paragraph 7 ... they became such a menace to sheep, calves and poultry that measures had to be taken in an attempt to control them, such as **dog-proof fences**.

8. a) pest

Explanation: Paragraph 10 - Because it takes some livestock, the dingo is considered many to be a **pest**.



Short Answer Questions Practice Exercise 2

Answer questions **1-7** which are based on the reading passage below.

The Halifax Explosion Reading Passage

Before the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, the largest-ever non-natural explosion had taken place in 1917 in the eastern Canadian port city of Halifax. With the outbreak of World War I, Halifax was effectively transformed into a boomtown. Convoys gathered weekly in Bedford Basin (the north-western end of Halifax Harbour) to traverse the Atlantic, and Halifax Harbour became heavy with vessels of one variety or another. This spike in boat traffic was not dealt with efficiently, and collisions became almost normal.

On December 1st, 1917, the French vessel Mont Blanc left New York to join a convoy in Halifax after being loaded with 226,797 kilograms of TNT (an explosive), 223,188 kilograms of benzol (a type of gasoline), 1,602,519 kilograms of wet picric acid (an explosive), and 544,311 kilograms of dry picric acid (another explosive). On December 6th, the Mont Blanc was ushered into Halifax's harbour after the U-boat nets had been raised.

At the same time, the cargoless Norwegian ship, Imo, left Bedford Basin en route to New York in order to pick up relief items for transport to war-torn Belgium. Imo was behind schedule and attempting to remedy that. She passed a boat on the wrong side before sending a tugboat retreating to port. By the time she reached the Narrows, she was in the wrong channel and going too fast. The Mont Blanc sounded her whistle, but the Imo sounded back twice, refusing to alter course. At the last moment, the Mont Blanc veered, and the Imo reversed, but it was too late. From the gash formed in the French boat's hull seeped a noxious spiral of oily, orange-dappled smoke. Mont Blanc's crew rowed to shore on the Dartmouth side, but no one could decipher their warnings. Their fiery vessel then casually drifted toward the Halifax side where it came to rest against one of the piers.

This spectacle drew thousands of onlookers. People crowded docks and windows filled with curious faces. As many as 1,600 died instantly when the boat exploded. Around 9,000 were injured, 6,000 seriously so. Approximately 12,000 buildings were severely damaged; virtually every building in town was damaged to some extent; 1,630 were rendered nonexistent. Around 6,000 people were made homeless, and 25,000 people (half the population) were left without suitable housing.

The Halifax Explosion, as it became known, was the largest manmade detonation to date, approximately one-fifth the ferocity of the bomb later dropped on Hiroshima. It sent up a column of smoke reckoned to be 7,000 metres in height. It was felt more than 480 kilometres away.



It flung a ship gun barrel some 5.5 kilometres, and part of an anchor, which weighed 517 kilograms, around 3 kilometres. The blast absolutely flattened a district known as Richmond. It also caused a tsunami that saw a wave 18 metres above the highwater mark deposit the Imo onto the shore of the Dartmouth side. The pressure wave of air that was produced snapped trees, bent iron rails, and grounded ships. That evening, a blizzard commenced, and it would continue until the next day, leaving 40 centimetres of snow in its wake. Consequently, many of those trapped within collapsed structures died of exposure. Historians put the death toll of the Halifax Explosion at approximately 2,000.

(Adapted from a passage in: A Sort of Homecoming – In Search of Canada by Troy Parfitt)

Questions 1-7

Answer the questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.

1. What cargo, apart from explosives, was the Mont Blanc carrying?
2. What was the final intended destination of the Imo?
3. What part of the Mont Blanc was damaged due to the collision?
4. What was the number of immediate fatalities due to the explosion?
5. Where has the most massive human-made explosion taken place to date?
6. What place was entirely devastated by the explosion?
7. What threw the Imo off to the shore?

The Halifax Explosion Reading Answers

(Note: The text in *italics* is from the reading passage and shows the location from where the answer is taken or inferred. The text in the regular font explains the answer in detail.)

1. Gasoline (or) benzol

Explanation: Paragraph 2 - ...the French vessel Mont Blanc left New York in order a convoy in Halifax after being loaded with 226,797 kilograms of TNT (an expl 223,188 kilograms of **benzol (a type of gasoline)**), 1,602,519 kilograms of wet picric a), and 544,311 kilograms of dry picric acid (another explosive).

2. Belgium

Explanation: Paragraph 3 - At the same time, the cargoless Norwegian ship, Imo, left Basin en route to New York to pick up relief items for transport **to war-torn Belgium**. New York is not the answer because it was a halt on the way to Belgium.



3. Hull

Explanation: Paragraph 3- At the last moment, the Mont Blanc veered, and the Imo reversed, but it was too late. From the **gash** formed in the French boat's **hull** seeped a noxious spiral of oily, orange-dappled smoke.

4. 1600

Explanation: Paragraph 4 - As many as 1,600 died instantly when the boat exploded.

5. Hiroshima

Explanation: Paragraph 5 - The Halifax Explosion, as it became known, was the largest manmade detonation to date, approximately one fifth the ferocity of the bomb later dropped on Hiroshima. In this question, 'Halifax' may seem to be the answer instantly. Although Halifax is mentioned as what ".....was the largest manmade detonation to date.", it is compared to the bomb dropped later on Hiroshima. The intensity of the Hiroshima explosion was five times that of Halifax and so the biggest explosion "to date". "To date" in the question is in reference to the present time.

6. Richmond

Explanation: Paragraph 5 - The blast absolutely flattened a district known as Richmond.

7. (a) wave (or) (a) tsunami

Explanation: Paragraph 5 - It also caused a tsunami that saw a wave 18 metres high-water mark deposit the Imo onto the shore of the Dartmouth side.

Short Answer Questions Practice Exercise 3

Answer questions **1-6** which are based on the reading passage below.

Vancouver Reading Passage

Vancouver is quite different from virtually any other city in North America. Despite the fact it is a large modern cosmopolitan city, it seems to have a relaxed, small-town, close-to-nature feel about it. There is little comparison with other large Canadian cities such as Toronto or Montreal, which are more akin to the large eastern US centres like New York and Chicago. Vancouver, like all large North American cities, is a conglomerate of high-rise cubic office towers, although urban planners have kept the heights down. There are, however, some notable exceptions such as the Marine Building at the north foot of Burrard Street, once the tallest structure in the British Empire, the courthouse at Howe & Robson, and the library at Georgia & Hamilton.

Vancouver offers a wide range of attractions catering to all tastes but those with only a day to spare cannot be better advised than to take one of the many organised excursions recommended by the Vancouver Tourist Office.



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06



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Stanley Park, a 1,000-acre nature preserve, is Vancouver's best-known landmark and a must for any visitor. It was established in 1887 and, in the opinion of many, is the most beautiful urban park in the world. Contrary to popular belief, this park was not established through the foresight of the city council of the day, but at the urging of a real estate developer called Oppenheimer. He is now considered the father of Stanley Park. All areas of the park are accessible to the public except for Dead Man's Island, which has a small naval base.

The Eco Walk is a fun and informative way to see the park. The guide gives information on the trees, plants, birds and animals as well as on the rich aboriginal culture and legends of the park. The walking is medium paced, taking 3 hours to complete and covering 5 miles of relatively flat paved and gravelled trails over the selected seawall and forest paths. This walk is suitable for families, including active seniors.

There is also a world-class aquarium in the park and was the first to have killer whales in captivity and probably the first one to stop making them into a side-show. The aquarium feels the purpose of keeping the whales, namely re-educating the public and stopping the hunting of them, has been accomplished. In 2000, the last remaining killer whale at the aquarium was sold to Sealand in California, where it died shortly after arriving. The main threat to the park is the sheer volume of people who want to be in it. Efforts are being made to restrict the amount of automobile traffic passing through it. One of the ultimate goals is to eliminate the causeway leading to Lions Gate Bridge, but this will not likely occur until well into the 21st century.

Beaches are also a big attraction and temperatures are usually high enough to tempt most people to have a swim. However, one of the biggest days on these beaches is on New Year's Day when the annual "Polar Bear Swim" attracts several hundred die-hard individuals out to prove that Vancouver is a year-round swimming destination.

Chinatown is North America's third largest, in terms of area, after San Francisco and New York. It is steeped in history and is well worth walking around. It is most active on Sundays when people head to any of a wide selection of restaurants that offer dim sum. Chinatown also contains the world's thinnest building at only 1.8 metres wide.

Questions 1-6

Answer the questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.

1. What makes Vancouver similar to the big cities of North America?



2. What famous building was once the highest in the British Empire?
3. What was the profession of the park's founding father?
4. What is one of the final aims of the park?
5. What event tries to encourage people to swim?
6. What can you eat in Chinatown?

Vancouver Reading Answers

(Note: The text in *italics* is from the reading passage and shows the location from where the answer is taken or inferred. The text in the regular font explains the answer in detail.)

1. cubic office towers

Explanation: Paragraph 1 – Vancouver, like all large North American cities, is a conglomerate of high-rise **cubic office towers**

2. Marine Building

Explanation: Paragraph 1 – ...the **Marine Building** at the north foot of Burrard Street, once the tallest structure in the British Empire, the courthouse at Howe & Robson,...

3. Real estate developer

Explanation: Paragraph 3 – ... at the urging of a **real estate developer** called Oppenheimer. He is now considered the father of Stanley Park.

4. eliminate the causeway

Explanation: Paragraph 5 – One of the ultimate goals is to **eliminate the causeway** leading to Lions Gate Bridge, but this will not likely occur until well into the 21st century.

5. Polar Bear Swim

Explanation: Paragraph 6 – However, one of the biggest days on these beaches is on New Year's Day when the annual "**Polar Bear Swim**" attracts several hundred die-hard individuals out to prove that Vancouver is a year-round swimming destination.

6. dim sum

Explanation: Paragraph 7 – Chinatown is North America's third largest, in terms of area, ... It is most active on Sundays when people head to any of a wide selection of restaurants that offer **dim sum**.



Short Answer Questions Practice Exercise 4

Answer questions **1-5** which are based on the reading passage below.

Bovids Reading Answers

A

The family of mammals called bovids belongs to the Artiodactyl class, which also includes giraffes. Bovids are a highly diverse group consisting of 137 species, some of which are man's most important domestic animals.

B

Bovids are well represented in most parts of Eurasia and Southeast Asian islands, but they are by far the most numerous and diverse in the latter. Some species of bovid are solitary, but others live in large groups with complex social structures. Although bovids have adapted to a wide range of habitats, from arctic tundra to deep tropical forest, the majority of species favor open grassland, scrub or desert. This diversity of habitat is also matched by great diversity in size and form: at one extreme is the royal antelope of West Africa, which stands a mere 25 cm at the shoulder; at the other, the massively built bison of North America and Europe, growing to a shoulder height of 2.2m.

C

Despite differences in size and appearance, bovids are united by the possession of certain common features. All species are ruminants, which means that they retain undigested food in their stomachs, and regurgitate it as necessary. Bovids are almost exclusively herbivorous: plant-eating "incisors: front teeth herbivorous".

D

Typically their teeth are highly modified for browsing and grazing: grass or foliage is cropped with the upper lip and lower incisors** (the upper incisors are usually absent), and then ground down by the cheek teeth. As well as having cloven, or split, hooves, the males of all bovid species and the females of most carry horns. Bovid horns have bony cores covered in a sheath of horny material that is constantly renewed from within; they are unbranched and never shed. They vary in shape and size: the relatively simple horns of a large Indian buffalo may measure around 4 m from tip to tip along the outer curve, while the various gazelles have horns with a variety of elegant curves.

E

Five groups, or sub-families, may be distinguished: Bovinae, Antelope, Caprinae, Cephalothin and Antilocapridae. The sub-family Bovinae comprises most of the larger bovids, including the African bongo, and nilgae, eland, bison and cattle. Unlike most other bovids they are all non-territorial. The ancestors of the various species of domestic cattle banteng, gaur, yak and water buffalo are generally rare and endangered in the wild, while the auroch (the ancestor of the domestic cattle of Europe) is extinct.



F

The term 'antelope' is not a very precise zoological name – it is used to loosely describe a number of bovids that have followed different lines of development. Antelopes are typically long-legged, fast-running species, often with long horns that may be laid along the back when the animal is in full flight. There are two main sub-groups of antelope: Hippotraginae, which includes the oryx and the addax, and Antilopinae, which generally contains slither and more graceful animals such as gazelle and the springbok. Antelopes are mainly grassland species, but many have adapted to flooded grasslands: puku, waterbucks and lechwe are all good at swimming, usually feeding in deep water, while the sitatunga has long, splayed hooves that enable it to walk freely on swampy ground.

G

The subfamily Caprinae includes the sheep and the goat, together with various relatives such as the goral and the tahr. Most are woolly or have long hair. Several species, such as wild goats, chamois and ibex, are agile cliff – and mountain-dwellers. Tolerance of extreme conditions is most marked in this group: Barbary and bighorn sheep have adapted to arid deserts, while Rocky Mountain sheep survive high up in mountains and musk oxen in arctic tundra.

H

The duiker of Africa belongs to the Cephalophinae sub-family. It is generally small and solitary, often living in thick forest. Although mainly feeding on grass and leaves, some duikers – unlike most other bovids – are believed to eat insects and feed on dead animal carcasses, and even to kill small animals.

I

The pronghorn is the sole survivor of a New World sub-family of herbivorous ruminants, the Antilocapridae in North America. It is similar in appearance and habits to the Old World antelope. Although greatly reduced in numbers since the arrival of Europeans, and the subsequent enclosure of grasslands, the pronghorn is still found in considerable numbers throughout North America, from Washington State to Mexico. When alarmed by the approach of wolves or other predators, hairs on the pronghorn's rump stand erect, showing and emphasizing the white patch there. At this signal, the whole herd gallops off at a speed of over 60 km per hour.

Questions 1-5

- Answer the questions below.
 - Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the passage for each answer.
 - Write your answers in boxes 1-5 on your answer sheet.
1. What is the smallest species of Bovid called?
 2. Which species of Bovine has now died out?
 3. What facilitates the movement of the sitatunga over wetland?
 4. What sort of terrain do barbary sheep live in?
 5. What is the only living member of the Antilocapridae sub-family?



Bovids with explanation

(Note: The text in italics is from the reading passage and shows the location from where the answer is taken or inferred. The text in the regular font explains the answer in detail.)

1. Answer: (the) royal antelope

Explanation: This diversity of habitat is also matched by great diversity in size and form: at one extreme is the royal antelope of West Africa, which stands a mere 25 cm at the shoulder; at the other, the massively built bison of North America and Europe, growing to a shoulder height of 2.2m. From these lines it is clear that smaller species of bovid are royal antelope, which are about 25 cm in length and smallest compared to bison, growing to height of 2.2m. Hence the given answer is located in the last 4 lines of paragraph B.

2. Answer: (the) auroch

Explanation: Ancestors of the various species of domestic cattle banteng, gaur, yak and water buffalo are generally rare and endangered in the wild. From this line it is evident that auroch speech of bovids are extinct. Hence the given answer is located in the last 3 lines of paragraph E.

3. Answer: long, splayed hooves

Explanation: Antelopes are mainly grassland species, but many have adapted to flooded grasslands: puku, waterbucks and lechwes are all good at swimming, usually feeding in deep water, while the sitatunga has long, splayed hooves that enable it to walk freely on swampy ground. In this line it is mentioned that long, splayed hooves would improve the movements of sitatunga in wetland. Hence the given answer is located in the last 4 lines of paragraph F.

4. Answer: arid deserts

Explanation: Barbary and bighorn sheep have adapted to arid deserts, while Rocky Mountain sheep survive high up in mountains and musk oxen in arctic tundra. From this line it is clear that Barbary sheeps have adapted in arid desert conditions. Hence the given answer is located in the last 2 lines of paragraph G.

5. Answer: (the) pronghorn

Explanation: The pronghorn is the sole survivor of a New World sub-family of herbivorous ruminants, the Antilocapridae in North America. From this line it is evident Antilocapridae sub-family of bovids are almost extinct except pronghorn. Hence that The given answer is located in the first 2 lines of paragraph I.



Short Answer Questions Practice Exercise 5

Answer questions **1-5** which are based on the reading passage below.

Free Market - Boon Or Bane

A A free-market economy is defined as the one where production and sale of goods or services can be promoted without any central government agency controlling or involving itself in the process. Pricing in a free market economy is dictated by supply and demand and not by the government.

B Pierre-Joseph Proudhon and Benjamin Tucker are some of the early socialist advocates of the free market. There was a strong belief among these economists that free markets could not exist under capitalism where conditions were exploitative. Socialists also felt that free-market capitalism results in a vast disparity in the distribution of income, ultimately leading to social instability.

C Economies of a free market are very competitive, leading industries to use their resources astutely and efficiently to make their businesses more profitable. Production by industries will depend entirely on what the consumers want as they have the final say. Businesses, as such, will try to innovate and get ahead of their competitors. The government's role, though limited, is to protect the intellectual property rights of a person. This acts as an incentive to produce better quality goods. There is a higher economic growth rate in a free market. Although there were times in the U.S. when the country was closer to a true free-market economy, today it's a mixed economy.

D Reports from classical economists say that a free-market economy should arm market players with the knowledge that they are safe as far as monopolies and other market tactics are concerned, thus making their transition into a new enterprise easier. Laissez-faire or 'let them be' is a notion that advocates freedom for market players without fear of intervention from government bodies. Milton Friedman's book 'Capitalism and Freedom' published in 1962, identifies with the laissez-faire sentiment. The essential argument that advocates free-market economy comes from Adam Smith's use of the expression 'invisible hand'. The argument behind the expression is that when markets have the capability to regulate themselves, external intervention is not necessary.

E The free market economy has numerous long-term consequences. These include negative external features such as income inequality which in turn sets the stage for mass unrest that can destabilise the nation. History has shown that when the balance of power, be it administrative or financial, tips in favour of a few rich people, it results in unrest leading to revolutions. Cases in point are the Russian and French revolutions. Working on the assumption that mankind has learnt a lesson from these disasters, most economies today are mixed and are subjected to societal and governmental regulation to varying degrees.



F Critics of the free market economy say that there are more chances of failure in an economy which has minimum government regulations. History has demonstrated the failure of new market systems initially. After the Great Depression and the crash of 2008, not only one country but also the whole world was affected. It was a disaster of major proportion when people lost not only their jobs but also their homes. While some were able to get back on their feet, others were not so lucky. Such ensuing periods of recession have needed government intervention to bring it under control. When the economy goes downhill, as was true in the case of the Great Depression of 1930 and the recession of 2008, the government had to step in to help the nation back on its feet. For it to function, the economy needs some government regulation for its smooth functioning. Consequences of market failure are severe.

G To suggest that a free-market economy, when compared with other forms, is at best a mediocre form of a market economy, would be impetuous. Several aspects of the policy are positive. Tremendous deliberation is necessary before deciding the type of economy that a nation should adopt. It would not pay to be hasty when making a judgement.

Questions 1-3

Answer the questions. Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the passage in each gap.

1. Who does NOT play a role in fixing costs in a free market economy?
2. What outcome of the free market economy did socialists anticipate?
3. What is the current nature of the American economy?

Free Market - Boon Or Bane Reading Answers

1. Answer: government

Explanation: The government's role, though limited, is to protect the intellectual property rights of a person. In paragraph C, it is stated that since customers have the last say, industry production will be fully based on what they want. As a result, businesses strive to innovate and outperform rivals. The government's duty, while restricted, is to defend an individual's intellectual property rights. Therefore, the cost factor is not decided by the government.

2. Answer: social instability

Explanation: Free-market capitalism results in a vast disparity in the distribution of income, ultimately leading to social instability. As per paragraph B, socialists also believed that free-market capitalism causes a significant disparity in how income is distributed. Ultimately resulting in social instability.



3. Answer: mixed (or) mixed economy (or) a mixed economy

Explanation: There were times in the U.S. when the country was closer to a true free-market economy, today it's a mixed economy. The greater rate of economic growth in a free market is mentioned in paragraph C. There have been periods when the United States has been closer to a real free-market economy. In contrast, the economy today is mixed.

General Reading Short Answer Questions Practice Exercise 1

Answer questions 1-7 which are based on the reading passage below.

The conquest of malaria in Italy Reading Passage

Malaria is an illness which is caused by Plasmodium parasites. It transmits to humans by the biting of mosquitoes. This horrible disease affected the life of those who have existed on the peninsula for thousands of years. In 1861, Giuseppe Garibaldi's wife died of malaria. Italy was officially declared malaria-free by 1962. Frank Snowden considered this story as a peculiar historical event. Snowden reveals the areas which historians have not uncovered.

Usually everyone is aware that malaria is caused by mosquitoes. Medical practitioners studied malaria for a long time. Ancient texts laid out various aspects of malaria. Early man considered that malaria is caused by supernatural powers such as evil spirits, black magic of sorcerers and deities who are angered. Most experts in medicine believe that malaria is not caused by unclean air (miasma). In 1850, Josiah Clark Nott published an essay called "Yellow Fever Contrasted with Bilious Fever". In that essay, he dismissed the miasma theory and claimed that malaria is infected by microscopic insects

Some experts connect swamps, water and malaria but they don't extend their mind to the insects. These theories only helped a little to tackle the disease. It became so worse when 11 million Italians were "permanently at risk". Land workers life expectancy is found to be 22.5 years in malarial zones. Though some of them escaped death, they have weakened bodies and suffered from painful enlargement of the spleen. This disease affects the economy immensely. Southern Italians were blamed on epidemics as it was believed that malaria was hereditary. These loose theories were diminished after it was found that mosquitoes are the real cause of malaria.

Questions 1-7

Answer the questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.



1. Which parasite causes Malaria ?
2. When was Italy officially declared as malaria-free ?
3. Who has studied malaria for a long time ?
4. Who published an essay called "Yellow Fever Contrasted with Bilious Fever" ?
5. What was the life expectancy of land workers in malarial zones ?
6. Which is the real cause of malaria ?

The conquest of malaria in Italy Reading Answers

(Note: The text in *italics* is from the reading passage and shows the location from where the answer is taken or inferred. The text in the regular font explains the answer in detail.)

1. Plasmodium/ Plasmodium parasites

Explanation: Malaria is an illness which is caused by Plasmodium parasites.

2. 1962

Explanation: Italy was officially declared malaria-free by 1962.

3. Medical Practitioners

Explanation: Medical practitioners studied malaria for a long time.

4. Josiah Clark Nott

Explanation: In 1850, Josiah Clark Nott published an essay called "Yellow Fever Contrasted with Bilious Fever".

5. Land workers

Explanation: Land workers life expectancy is found to be 22.5 years in malarial zones.


6. Mosquitoes

Explanation: These loose theories were diminished after it was found that mosquitoes are the real cause of malaria.




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