



## Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 30 questions, and you will have 25 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

You will be presented with a passage to read, and a statement about that passage. You must select one of the following answers:

**True:** *The statement follows logically from the information or opinions contained in the passage.*

**False:** *The statement is logically false from the information or opinions contained in the passage.*

**Cannot Say:** *It is not possible to determine whether the statement is true or false without further information.*

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. When you are ready, begin the test.

---

Many people are aware that high cholesterol contributes to heart disease, but they may be surprised to learn that cholesterol performs essential functions in the human body. A lipid made in the liver and found in animal cell membranes, cholesterol is used to repair tissues and digest fat, as well as in the manufacture of hormones, bile salts, and Vitamin D. However, problems arise when an excess of cholesterol builds up on blood vessel walls, thus impeding blood flow. A person's blood cholesterol count is comprised of two different types of cholesterol: low-density lipoprotein (LDL), sometimes called "bad" cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein (HDL), known as "good" cholesterol. Whereas HDL carries cholesterol away from the arteries to the liver, LDL carries cholesterol from the liver to the arteries where it accumulates. Although certain foods deriving from animals, such as meat, shellfish, cheese and eggs, are high in dietary cholesterol, it is actually the consumption of the saturated fats found in red meat, full-fat dairy products, cakes and biscuits that raises levels of "bad" cholesterol. Conversely, eating polyunsaturated fats and soluble fibre can lower LDL.

**Q1** Foods that are high in dietary cholesterol raise levels of LDL.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q2** A widely held misconception exists that cholesterol is harmful to one's health.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q3** To ensure good health, HDL levels must be lowered and LDL levels boosted.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q4** Making dietary changes is the only way to lower bad cholesterol levels.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q5** Vegetarians are likely to have lower levels of bad cholesterol, as they do not eat meat.

True                      False                      Cannot say

---

Existentialism is a philosophical and literary movement that gained prominence in the mid-twentieth century. Primarily associated with the work of Jean-Paul Sartre and Parisian café society, existentialism was influenced by the earlier work of the Danish theologian Soren Kierkegaard and the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. Although difficult to define, existentialism can be summarised by its emphasis on human existence over human essence, and the centrality of an individual's freedom of choice. It is an atheist philosophy that rejects moral rules, but not responsibility. Though each individual is free, he or she must co-exist with other individuals' freedom. According to existentialists, the only certainty in life is death, the recognition of which leads to despair. This existential anguish, however, can be transcended when an individual undertakes a project that will give his or her life meaning. Although not a political movement, existentialism's links to social and political causes, such as the opposition of fascism, led to its widespread popularity in the 1960s.

- Q6** The first existentialist ideas originated from Soren Kierkegaard and Friedrich Nietzsche.
- True                      False                      Cannot say
- Q7** Although existentialism eschews moral codes, it does not suggest that individuals act without regard for others.
- True                      False                      Cannot say
- Q8** Followers of existential philosophy suffer from depression.
- True                      False                      Cannot say
- Q9** Existentialism views mortality as life's sole inevitability.
- True                      False                      Cannot say
- Q10** Existentialism became a popular political movement in the 1960s.
- True                      False                      Cannot say

---

Kangaroo culling is a controversial issue in Australia, where the government has implemented culls to control populations. The issue is particularly emotive because of the kangaroo's status as a national icon, with some detractors viewing the culls as an attack on Australia's identity. Although indigenous to Australia, kangaroos are, in some areas, threatening the grassland ecosystem. Overgrazing causes soil erosion thus threatening the survival of certain rare species of lizard. Furthermore, in overpopulated areas, food scarcity is driving kangaroos to damage wheat crops. Protesters typically oppose the cull on grounds that it is inhumane. Instead, they favour the relocation of kangaroos to suitable new habitats, or sterilizing the animals in overpopulated areas. Sterilization, however, will not have an immediate effect on the problems of limited resources and land degradation through grazing. Not only is transporting large numbers of kangaroos an expensive undertaking, critics believe it would potentially traumatize the relocated kangaroos and ultimately threaten the new habitat.

**Q11** The majority of animal rights activists oppose the Australian government's policy of kangaroo culls.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q12** The foremost argument against culling kangaroos is that it threatens Australian national identity.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q13** Kangaroos present a threat to agriculture as well as to the ecosystem.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q14** In overpopulated areas where food is scarce, kangaroos are preying on rare lizards.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q15** Sterilizing kangaroos will not immediately alleviate problems of their over-grazing.

True                      False                      Cannot say

---

Plastics represent the fastest-growing category of waste. Worldwide consumers use 500 billion plastic shopping bags and drink 154 billion litres of bottled water annually. The majority of these bags and bottles are made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a plastic derived from crude oil. Because PET takes over 1,000 years to degrade and leaks dangerous chemicals into the soil, many communities have instituted recycling programmes to reduce the amount of plastic destined for landfill. However, recycling plastic is not a perfect solution. Firstly, there are many different types of plastic, and sorting them makes recycling labour-intensive. Secondly, because the quality of plastic degrades with each reuse, recycled plastic has a low value. For economic reasons, most of Europe's plastic is shipped to China for recycling processing. The downside to this is that the transportation consumes large amounts of energy and working conditions in the Chinese processing factories are poor. While recycling plastic may salve the conscience of western consumers, reducing plastic proliferation is a better solution.

**Q16** It costs less money to recycle plastic in China than it does in European countries.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q17** The passage suggests that finding alternatives to PET is a preferable solution to recycling.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q18** There are both environmental and economic drawbacks to recycling plastic.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q19** The proliferation of shopping bags and water bottles has made plastic the fastest-growing category of waste.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q20** Plastic recycling does not extend the life of the material indefinitely.

True                      False                      Cannot say

---

Although commonly referred to as tidal waves, tsunamis are not caused by tides. A tsunami is a series of fast-moving waves created by a disturbance above or below sea level. Although earthquakes are the most common cause of tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and landslides can also trigger a tsunami. A tsunami can occur in any large body of water, however they typically occur in the Pacific Ocean. In open water, a tsunami travels at speeds of up to 800 km per hour, with wavelengths several hundred kilometres long but wave heights under one metre. When it approaches land, however, a tsunami slows, its wave length compressing and its height increasing. In 2004, a catastrophic tsunami resulting from an earthquake in the Indian Ocean claimed more than 200,000 lives with 20-metres-high waves. While scientists cannot predict when a tsunami will occur, seismologists monitoring submarine earthquakes can forecast a tsunami's arrival and impact using wave theory and measurement technology, thus enabling authorities to issue tsunami warnings.

- Q21** Tidal wave is a widely used misnomer for a tsunami.
- True                  False                  Cannot say
- Q22** Earthquakes below the Indian Ocean represent the main cause of tsunamis.
- True                  False                  Cannot say
- Q23** The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami was the most devastating tsunami in recent history.
- True                  False                  Cannot say
- Q24** As a tsunami reaches the shore, its speed and its wave height increase.
- True                  False                  Cannot say
- Q25** Using wave measurement methodology, scientists can predict when a tsunami will occur.
- True                  False                  Cannot say

---

The United Nations was established in 1945 and today includes nearly every recognized state, each of which has one vote in the General Assembly. The United Nations' Security Council, charged with maintaining international peace and security, is comprised of five permanent members (the P5) - the United States, the United Kingdom, France, China and Russia - as well as ten non-permanent members, elected for two-year terms. The Security Council approves decisions based on an affirmative vote from at least nine of its fifteen members, however each of the five permanent members has ultimate veto power. The P5's veto power is widely criticized as unfair and anachronistic. In the Cold War era, the P5 were the world's only nuclear powers, and the veto both recognized their might and provided incentive for them to support the Security Council's goals. Nuclear proliferation, however, means that the P5 no longer reflects today's geopolitical realities. Opponents of the veto believe it is used to promote national agendas at the expense of international security. Alternatively, rather than abolish the veto, some commentators suggest that the veto should be extended to more countries - for example, Germany.

**Q26** The P5 were granted veto power in recognition of their disproportionate contribution to global security.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q27** Some critics argue that veto power is subject to individual interests.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q28** The passage asserts that some people believe that the veto should be granted to all countries with nuclear arsenals.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q29** The United Nations' Security Council was set up in 1945, with the objective of avoiding another world war.

True                      False                      Cannot say

**Q30** The P5 cannot wield their veto if a resolution is backed by at least nine members of the Security Council.

True                      False                      Cannot say

---

**- End of Practice Verbal Reasoning Test 7 -**