

PTE Listening Practice Paper

Multiple Choice, Choose Multiple Answers

Listen to the recording and answer the question by selecting all the correct responses. You will need to select more than one response.

Question: 1

Readjusting to life in your own country after living abroad for some time is a little like recovering from jet lag after a long flight across several time zones. It takes time and research indicates that after nine years of living in a foreign country you never really do readjust. Of course things have changed governments have come and gone. What you knew is countryside has become a suburb. New technologies have changed the way people go about their daily lives. And so on these changes may well have been taking place in your adopted country but they were happening while you were there so you could adapt as you went along. Those are not the main difficulties however. It is in the smaller everyday things that she might experience what is known as Tocchet shock. Although it's not really a shock but puzzling all the same. For example, the precise way to behave at a supermarket checkout may have changed and in ordinary conversation the frames of reference have changed and quite often you find that you don't really know what people are talking about even though they are speaking your native town.

Which of the following are mentioned as being difficult to re-adapt to when returning to your native country after a long absence?

- A. Technological change
- B. More than nine years' absence
- C. The difference in time zones
- D. The way people go about their daily lives
- E. People's terms of reference in conversation
- F. Changes in government

Question: 2

Yes, it's funny you should mention Merwyn until about a year ago. I thought England was the only country that had a poet laureate after all. It's a pretty odd job isn't it. No salary to speak of and just a barrel of wine or something as payment. But he was or is the American poet laureate isn't he. That's right. But quite a few other countries have one too. I know I looked into it a bit. Other countries in the UK for a start Wales as you'd expect with their eisteddfods and long poetic tradition and Ireland and Scotland. I think some places that were colonies or in the Commonwealth have them or Canada for example. And who's that wonderful Caribbean part the one that wrote Almer Ross Derek Walcott. That's him. He was the poet laureate of St. Lucia. But what about the rest of Europe. Both the French have such a thing. No I don't think so. They've got the Academy and you get elected to that if you are considered the best in your field. But I think Germany might have. No it wasn't Germany somewhere else but I don't remember. By the way you are a bit behind the times in thinking what they get paid is a barrel of wine. All that changed long ago. But one of the more recent ones has to have it back.

According to the text, which of the following countries has a Poet Laureate?

- A. the Caribbean
- B. Ireland
- C. Saint Lucia
- D. the USA
- E. Germany
- F. France

Question: 3

Noises are defined as disagreeable sounds but this suggests that they are no more than an annoyance something to be put up with. There is increasing evidence that noise on the scale that people who live in big cities have to deal with is dangerous and can give rise to serious health and social problems some of which such as its effects on people's behavior. And anger levels you might not have thought were caused by noise and health concerns. There is of course the almost constant noise of traffic though this isn't a particularly modern problem. In ancient Rome there were rules to minimize the noise made by the iron wheels of wagons which battered the stones on the pavement causing disruption of sleep traffic noise is one of the health hazards as it can lead to other problems like noise induced hearing impairment. It is also highly distracting interfering with speech communication and leisure time relaxation. And while this doesn't drive you mad in the medical sense it is intensely annoying and can lead to mental health problems. Also noise whether you work in a place where loud machinery is operating or not can have an effect on performance at work though in itself not a health matter. This can lead to other problems.

Which of the following are mentioned as health problems caused by noise?

- A. Extreme irritation
- B. A certain degree on hearing loss
- C. Problems with speech
- D. Mental problems
- E. Behavioral and anger problems

Question: 4

The earliest writers on politics and I'm thinking of Plato and Aristotle here felt free to draw insights from all areas of human knowledge. Unlike modern academic writers who tend to put things into smaller and smaller compartments or focus more closely on one area of inquiry. For example, Plato would examine a whole political system and the philosophy that underlies it whereas modern writers on politics might concentrate on one particular institution. In that system of the House of Lords in England or on voting patterns within a country with this focus the bigger questions that the ancients dealt with what is the best form of government or what is justice tend to get left behind. Many writers on politics these days are university based and so have to have specialized interests and while they may make new and interesting discoveries in their special field it is at the loss of a broader perspective. Not to mention the loss of a general audience or readership in the 19th century there were still writers who used the same freedom of inquiry as the ancients and are all the more readable and relevant because of it.

Which of the following are suggested as reasons why contemporary writers on politics are less readable and relevant than the ancient writers?

- A. They only write about institutions.
- B. They tend to focus on only one aspect of political systems.
- C. Being university-based forces them to specialize.
- D. They ask largely irrelevant questions.
- E. They follow the example of 19th century writers.

Question: 5

Certainly in Europe and the West we tend to think of bread as the staple food in our diet as many proverbs and sayings such as bread is the staff of life attest. Yet for the majority of the world's population the most important staple food is not wheat but rice which is the seed of a different type of grass. The earliest evidence we have of rice being cultivated dates back to eight thousand years ago when rice grains of that period were discovered in a village in China by around six thousand years ago. The cultivation of both long grain and short grain rice had become well-established in China and had just got going in India. The word Rice itself however is derived from the Aramaic or roots and came to us by way of Greek and Arabic. In fact, it was the Arabs who introduced rice to the Spanish territories in the seventh century but it didn't spread to the rest of Europe until much later when in the 15th century Spaniards began to cultivate their own short grain variety. At pizza in Italy.

According to the text, who were originally responsible for popularizing rice in Europe?

- A. the Chinese
- B. the Greeks
- C. the Spanish
- D. the Indians
- E. the Italians
- F. the Arabs

Question: 6

There are two main reasons why parents decide to educate their children at home. Either they dislike schools on principle however or those principles might be or they don't believe their local schools provide an adequate education or the right sort of education for their children. If someone decides to teach their child at home either by themselves or by employing a teacher, they have to convince their local educational authority L E A. The teaching provided is satisfactory schedules. Lesson plans and book lists must be shown and it must also be demonstrated that the child is in fact learning and that they have adequate opportunities for physical education and meeting other children. Furthermore, while there is no formal assessment offices from the LGA will come and inspect what is being done and look at the child's exercise books. If they are not satisfied they may count the school attendance order.

Which of the following conditions need to be met by parents who want to have their children educated at home?

- A. They must provide lesson plans.

- B. They must ensure their child plays a sport.
- C. They must provide regular assessments.
- D. They must provide book lists.
- E. They must keep a record of attendance.

Question: 7

You may not know much if anything about Jean-Jacques Rousseau but you've probably heard the well-known quote Man is born free and everywhere he is in chains. In his early work Rousseau argued that mankind was happiest and at its best in a state of nature that is before the creation of society and civilization. He saw society as artificial and corrupt and that good people were corrupted by it. The social contract is perhaps the most enduring and well known of his books covering pretty well every aspect of man in society. However, in this book his attitude to the condition of man in a state of nature changes in such conditions man is brutish and competitive by nature and there is no law or morality. Therefore, because it is easier to survive by joining forces with others people form societies to better fight anything that might endanger their situation. Rousseau's political philosophy has had a profound influence on Laeta thinkers even though or perhaps especially because it is open to many interpretations. But political philosophy is not everybody's cup of tea in his own time. Rousseau was a best seller with novels such as the new Elouise and especially Emiel. Though even the latter is not free of his constant desire to improve society it illustrates his ideas about the best form of education which involves educating a child's emotions before their reason. This too had a profound influence on educational theorists.

Which of the following statements is true of Rousseau's beliefs in The Social Contract?

- A. Men form societies to better cope with the dangers in life.
- B. Society has a corrupting influence on people.
- C. People were far happier in a "state of nature" before civilization.
- D. By forming societies, law and morality come into force.
- E. Children's emotions should be educated before their intellect.

Question: 8

Technological change has had a profound effect on the way music is made and how it sounds as well as the way we listen to it new technologies and I mean this in the broadest sense not just electronic devices can alter the sound of music and in the case of electronic recording systems affect the economics and distribution of music. For example, the innovation of the valve trumpet in the 19th century changed the sound of the orchestra. Now everyone has easy access to a wide variety of music but it is arguable whether this has increased our understanding of it. Before radio and recorded music those who could afford it would have pianos or pianolas mechanical pianos that played a role of sheet music. So the basic ability to read notes off a page was more widespread. However, these days regardless of whether or not we are musical experts there is no doubt that music enhances life and with the Internet sites to download music from file sharing and so on we have access to more music than ever before and a lot of it for free.

Which of the following technological advances have had an effect on the economics and distribution of music?

- A. piano sales
- B. electronic recording systems
- C. the Internet
- D. the introduction of the valve trumpet
- E. the popularity of pianos
- F. the ability to download music

Question: 9

It now seems likely that the earliest printing presses were in fact simply the common screw presses used for crushing oil seeds and herbs or even for doing more domestic chores such as pressing fabrics adapted for printing other large wooden presses such as those used for crushing the juice from olives and grapes known as beam presses have been around for centuries but proved to be unsuitable for printing due to their size and their necessarily heavy pressure most presses of this type work on the simple principle of direct vertical pressure controlled by a central screw at the lower end of which was attached to a flat board. What later became known as a platen. We know that many of these earliest printing presses were still in regular use in the 17th century and the basic design remained almost unchanged until the 19th century when they were replaced with iron presses.

Which of the following were the presses adapted for printing originally used for?

- A. crushing beans
- B. flattening out boards
- C. pressing clothes
- D. crushing seeds and herbs
- E. pressing grapes
- F. pressing olives for their oil

Question: 10

Political parties in most democracies not only have to win more votes than their rivals to get into power. They also have to persuade the electorate that it is worth going out to vote in the first place. In the UK turnout is frequently low and one reason cited is the weather. Some countries therefore have made voting compulsory. It is against the law not to vote and failing to vote is a punishable offence in Austria for example. Failure to vote results in an automatic fine as it does in Australia as a consequence. Voter turnout is rarely less than 92 percent in both these countries. Other countries have penalties that affect the individual in more practical ways. In Greece for example although it is no longer acted on passports were confiscated or not granted. And in Bolivia non-voters may be banned from using banks or schools for up to three months. The punishment in countries such as France Germany the UK and so on is seeing the government you didn't elect raise your taxes.

Which of the countries listed below continue to enforce punishments for failure to vote?

- A. France
- B. Bolivia
- C. the UK
- D. Australia

- E. Austria
- F. Greece