

Answer Key & Explanations

Academic Reading Paper 01 — Ice, Queues and Inventors

Mark your answer sheet before you read this

HOW TO USE THIS

- Mark one point for each correct answer. Spelling must be correct.
- Convert your total with the band table on the next page.
- Then read the explanation for **every** question you got wrong, and for every one you guessed. The explanation names the mechanism the wrong answer was built on.

The band figure is an estimate. A real paper is pre-tested on thousands of candidates and these have not been, so read the band as a position, not a prediction.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
1	F	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph F.
2	D	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph D.
3	B	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph B.
4	C	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph C.
5	G	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph G.
6	4,000 / 4000 / \$4,000	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph A.
7	a third / third	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph C.
8	ten / 10	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph D.
9	double walls	F4	Prose re-sorted into a table; column order ≠ passage order	Paragraph E.
10	FALSE	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Paragraph A, last sentence.
11	FALSE	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Paragraph C.
12	NOT GIVEN	B1	Relation swap	Paragraph E.
13	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph G.
14	i	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section A.
15	iii	E6	A paragraph's claim is confirmed only in the paragraph after it	Section B, confirmed by the first line of C.
16	v	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section C.
17	vi	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section D.
18	viii	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section F.
19	ix	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section G.
20	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section C.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
21	D	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section E.
22	C	D2	Intermediate actor named beside the originator	Section F.
23	A	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section B.
24	A	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Section A, final sentences.
25	B	B1	Relation swap	Section B.
26	C	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Section D.
27	NO	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph 2.
28	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraphs 2 and 6.
29	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
30	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 4.
31	NOT GIVEN	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraphs 6 and 8.
32	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraphs 6 and 8.
33	C	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
34	A	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
35	B	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 4.
36	D	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 4.
37	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
38	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 4, final sentences.
39	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 5.

40	C	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 8.
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Score to band

Raw score out of 40	Estimated band
39–40	9
37–38	8.5
35–36	8
33–34	7.5
30–32	7
27–29	6.5
23–26	6
19–22	5.5
15–18	5
13–14	4.5
10–12	4
8–9	3.5
6–7	3
4–5	2.5

Questions 1–5

1 F · Paragraph F.

The Norwegians renamed a lake Wenham and shipped under that name. Matching information does **not** run in text order, which is the whole difficulty of the task — you cannot use the previous answer to narrow the next.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

2 D · Paragraph D.

'from about thirty cents to ten'. Paragraph C also talks about the economics of the trade but gives no figure — that is the intended near-miss.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

3 B · Paragraph B.

Free ice to bar-keepers, on condition the cold drink cost no more.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

4 C · Paragraph C.

Sawdust made the loss predictable: 'a shipowner could now be told in advance what proportion of a load would arrive'.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

5 G · Paragraph G.

Dirty ponds and mild winters, 'two causes working at once'. Mechanical refrigeration is in the same paragraph but is presented as the alternative that was waiting, not as one of the two causes.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

Questions 6–9

6 4,000 / 4000 / \$4,000 · Paragraph A.

'came home about \$4,000 poorer'. A number counts as one item under the word limit.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

7 a third / third · Paragraph C.

'from about two thirds of a cargo to less than a third'. Read the sentence to the end: the first fraction is the one you are meant to grab by mistake.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

8 ten / 10 · Paragraph D.

'from about thirty cents to ten'. Again the first figure in the sentence is the distractor.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

9 double walls · Paragraph E.

'an ice house with **double walls** and a deep pit'. The order is reversed from the text so that copying the next two words does not work.

Mechanism F4 — Prose re-sorted into a table; column order $\neq$ passage order

Questions 10–13

10 FALSE · Paragraph A, last sentence.

The passage gives 146,000 tonnes as the total shipped 'to foreign ports, **among them** Calcutta'. The figure is real; it has been re-attached to a smaller noun. This is the single commonest trap in the Cambridge samples.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

11 FALSE · Paragraph C.

Losses fell **from** about two thirds **to** less than a third — a reduction of roughly a half. 'By two thirds' takes the starting figure and reports it as the size of the change.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

12 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph E.

The sentence is passive and names nobody: an ice house 'was put up'. Tudor's company supplied the ice, and the reader is invited to slide from *supplied* to *paid for*. Two relations sitting side by side, only one of them stated.

Mechanism B1 — Relation swap

13 TRUE · Paragraph G.

'by 1900 turning out artificial ice more cheaply than nature supplied it in Boston'. Note that both the date and the place have to match, and here they do.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 14–19

14 i · Section A.

The airport lengthened the walk and left the wait alone: 'The total time from gate to bag was unchanged'. Heading *ii* is not merely a worse fit — it is contradicted by the text. The list is built as near-twins, so the pair you must separate is *i* against *ii*, not *i* against everything else.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

15 **iii** · Section B, confirmed by the first line of C.

Maister's eight propositions. Section C opens by telling you they 'concern the individual' — the confirmation sits in the *next* section, which is why heading matching cannot be done section by section in isolation.

Mechanism E6 — A paragraph's claim is confirmed only in the paragraph after it

16 v · Section C.

Larson: dissatisfaction turns on first-come, first-served, 'not duration at all'. *iv* is the trap — the section does discuss people waiting together, but its claim is about fairness beating speed.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

17 vi · Section D.

Supermarkets keep parallel lines because a single line *looks* long. Sections C and D take the twin headings v and vi; getting one wrong normally costs you both.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

18 **viii** · Section F.

Carmon and Kahneman on end-dominance, and the call-centre corollary.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

19 ix · Section G.

The closing warning: the techniques run on credit and can be spent. *x* shares almost every word with *ix* but asserts something the passage never discusses — the cost of measurement.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

Questions 20–23

20 B · Section C.

Larson 'coined the term "queue rage"'.
Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

21 D · Section E.

Norman: 'not the queue but the memory of the queue'.
Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

22 C · Section F.

Carmon, working with Kahneman. Kahneman is deliberately kept off the list: the question asks whose finding it is as the passage reports it.

Mechanism D2 — Intermediate actor named beside the originator

23 A · Section B.

The last of Maister's eight propositions.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 24–26

24 A · Section A, final sentences.

Passengers 'walked for six minutes and stood for two', and the total was 'unchanged at eight minutes'. Every wrong option here uses a real number from the passage and attaches it to the wrong quantity — six is the walk, not the wait; the total did not move at all.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

25 B · Section B.

'The first ... is that unoccupied time feels longer than occupied time', and the airport 'had stumbled on [it] without reading him'. A is the conflation bait — stumbling on a principle is not testing it. C and D are Maister's other propositions, lifted from two lines further down.

Mechanism B1 — Relation swap

26 C · Section D.

'a shopper deciding at the door ... responds to what the queue looks like'. A is true of an individual in section C, but it is not the supermarkets' reason — a true statement moved to the wrong question.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

Questions 27–32

27 NO · Paragraph 2.

'by two **or more** people'. The count 148 is correct and is there to make the statement feel checked; the falsification is in three words at the other end of the sentence.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

28 NOT GIVEN · Paragraphs 2 and 6.

The passage puts two things next to each other — the applications arrived hours apart, and patent law hunts for a first inventor — and leaves you to draw a conclusion it never draws. The writer's target is the premise, not the outcome of that case.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

29 YES · Paragraph 3.

'there is a serious argument behind the shrug, and it deserves to be met rather than waved away'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

30 NO · Paragraph 4.

'no amount of individual brilliance would have closed that gap'.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

31 NOT GIVEN · Paragraphs 6 and 8.

He calls its premise 'strange' for ideas, but every proposal in the last paragraph is about prizes, hiring and history. Criticising an institution is not the same as calling for its abolition, and the difference is where the mark is.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

32 YES · Paragraphs 6 and 8.

The rule was 'written when a physics paper carried one or two names'; 'the instrument simply has no setting for what actually happened'; and he then asks for 'prizes without arbitrary limits'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 33–36

33 C · Paragraph 3.

'Somebody still had to do the **work**.' In a word-box summary the answer need not appear in the passage at all, but here it does.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

34 A · Paragraph 4.

The current, the membrane, the wire industry, the accustomed public: **components** that must already exist. The word itself is not in the passage — that is normal for this task type.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

35 B · Paragraph 4.

'What the adjacent possible fixes is the **timing**.' *Order* is the near-miss: the passage is about when, not about which came first.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

36 D · Paragraph 4.

'What the individual determines is the **name** that gets attached.' *Credit* is the strong distractor, and it is a real theme of the passage — but the sentence being summarised says *name*.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

Questions 37–40

37 B · Paragraph 6.

'a rule written when a physics paper carried one or two names'. A takes the date of the gravitational-wave paper and attaches it to the rule; C takes the word *physics* from the same sentence and turns it into a restriction on the prize.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

38 B · Paragraph 4, final sentences.

'the defence of the lone inventor quietly substitutes the second for the first' — the name for the timing.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

39 B · Paragraph 5.

Wallace is 'the demonstration' that individuals are substitutable in a way institutions deny. C is drawn from paragraph 2 — Darwin had the idea for twenty years — and is true, but it is not the point of the Wallace sentence.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

40 C · Paragraph 8.

'the credit we award should look more like the process we can observe'. A is the overstatement the writer disowns in paragraph 5 — in a global question the extreme option is almost never the answer.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused