

Answer Key & Explanations

Academic Reading Paper 10 — Rubber, Ridges and Dictionaries

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	sulphur / sulfur	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 2.
2	cross-links / crosslinks / cross links	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 2.
3	Kew Gardens / Kew	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
4	spiral	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
5	fortnight	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
6	germinated	F6	A range given, one end wanted	Paragraph 4.
7	1896	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
8	synthetic rubber	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
9	a leaf fungus / leaf fungus / fungus	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 8.
10	FALSE	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Paragraph 2.
11	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
12	NOT GIVEN	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraphs 4 and 5.
13	FALSE	C1	Overstatement — hedge removed	Paragraph 7.
14	E	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Section E.
15	F	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Section F.
16	C	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Section C.
17	D	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Section D.
18	G	D2	Intermediate actor named beside the originator	Section G.
19	A	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section B.
20	C	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section D.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
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21	B	D2	Intermediate actor named beside the originator	Sections B and C.
22	D	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section F.
23	picture	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Section A.
24	drift	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section B.
25	cools	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Section E.
26	assistant	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section H.
27	NO	A5	Wrong agent for the action	Paragraph 1.
28	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 5.
29	NOT GIVEN	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph 2.
30	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
31	NOT GIVEN	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraphs 3 and 6.
32	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 8.
33	A	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 2.
34	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
35	C	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 4.
36	D	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 8.
37	B	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Paragraph 1.
38	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 3.
39	B	C1	Overstatement — hedge removed	Paragraph 5.
40	B	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraphs 6 and 8.

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 **sulphur / sulfur** · Paragraph 2.

'A mixture containing **sulphur** reached a hot stove'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

2 **cross-links / crosslinks / cross links** · Paragraph 2.

'creates **cross-links** between the long molecules'. The stove and the sulphur are both earlier in the paragraph and neither answers this line.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

3 **Kew Gardens / Kew** · Paragraph 4.

'shipped them to **Kew Gardens** in London'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

4 **spiral** · Paragraph 4.

'cutting the bark in a shallow **spiral** that could be reopened each day'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

5 **fortnight** · Paragraph 6.

'most of its supply had gone in a **fortnight**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 6–9

6 **germinated** · Paragraph 4.

'only about **two thousand four hundred** of them germinated'. Seventy thousand is the number collected, and it is the figure the eye lands on first.

Mechanism F6 — A range given, one end wanted

7 **1896** · Paragraph 3.

'which opened in **1896**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

8 **synthetic rubber** · Paragraph 6.

'make rubber out of petroleum ... **synthetic rubber** has supplied more than half the world market'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

9 **a leaf fungus / leaf fungus / fungus** · Paragraph 8.

'so is a **leaf fungus** that attacks it'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 10–13

10 FALSE · Paragraph 2.

He 'spent the rest of his life in litigation over it, and died owing about two hundred thousand dollars'. The figure is real and it is a debt.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

11 TRUE · Paragraph 4.

'a shallow spiral that could be reopened each day without killing the tree'. Reopened is the word doing the work, and it is easy to read past.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

12 NOT GIVEN · Paragraphs 4 and 5.

Plantations are said to produce rubber more cheaply, and wild tapping to damage trees. Quality is never compared, though the paragraph invites the reader to assume it was.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

13 FALSE · Paragraph 7.

Aircraft tyres are given as the case where the natural material's advantage 'is not a preference'. *Entirely* is the word the passage is written to defeat.

Mechanism C1 — Overstatement — hedge removed

Questions 14–18

14 E · Section E.

'If Hess was wrong there was no reason for such a pattern to exist at all.' Matching information does not run in text order.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

15 F · Section F.

Morley's submissions to two journals. Section B also contains a dismissal, but of a finding by a colleague rather than by a journal.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

16 C · Section C.

The rift valley and the earthquake epicentres laid over one another.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

17 D · Section D.

Hess called it 'an essay in geopoetry'.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

18 G · Section G.

Ocean floor at two hundred million years against continental rock running to billions. Section A also mentions age, but as an assumption rather than a measurement.

Mechanism D2 — Intermediate actor named beside the originator

Questions 19–22

19 A · Section B.

Tharp, working from ship profiles, 1952.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

20 C · Section D.

Hess's 1962 paper.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

21 B · Sections B and C.

Heezen's separate plot of epicentres. He is also the person who dismissed Tharp's finding, which makes it easy to remember him only for that.

Mechanism D2 — Intermediate actor named beside the originator

22 D · Section F.

Morley, independently and slightly earlier than Vine and Matthews.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 23–26

23 **picture** · Section A.

'without anybody assembling what they recorded into a **picture**'. The question says *records* where the passage says *recorded*, so the phrase cannot simply be scanned for.

Mechanism E1 — Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy

24 **drift** · Section B.

'since it implied continental **drift**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

25 **cools** · Section E.

'records the direction of the field at the moment it **cools** and locks it in'. The answer sits before the second verb, which is where the eye tends to settle.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

26 **assistant** · Section H.

'listed as an **assistant** on the work she had done'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 27–32

27 NO · Paragraph 1.

'He had set out as a legislator and finished as a recorder', and the preface says so 'with some feeling'.

Mechanism A5 — Wrong agent for the action

28 NO · Paragraph 5.

'the people objecting are not simply wrong, and the descriptive side has a habit of being glib about them'. The concession is the turn the whole argument depends on.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

29 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 2.

They are called volunteers and their method is described. Whether they were paid is never mentioned, and the word *volunteer* invites a reader to settle it either way.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

30 YES · Paragraph 6.

'entirely within its authority and requires no support from lexicography at all'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

31 NOT GIVEN · Paragraphs 3 and 6.

The 1961 controversy over dropping such labels is reported, and the difference between describing and prescribing is argued. What a dictionary should do about labels is never stated.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

32 YES · Paragraph 8.

'being told that a form they were taught to avoid is merely one of several is heard as being told their education was pointless ... it is a better explanation than either side's account of the other'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 33–36

33 A · Paragraph 2.

'a definition was written from the evidence rather than from an opinion about what the word ought to mean ... It reports.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

34 B · Paragraph 6.

'It is making a claim about what that publication will print.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

35 C · Paragraph 4.

'which is to say that it is not a recent decay'. Ending E is the glib position the writer refuses in paragraph 5.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

36 D · Paragraph 8.

'That reaction is not stupidity and it will not be argued away by explaining lexicography.'

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

Questions 37–40

37 B · Paragraph 1.

He began in 1746 and 'By the time he finished, nine years later' — the preface is dated 1755. A gives the starting date and C reverses the nine years.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

38 B · Paragraph 3.

'The complaint was that Webster's had approved of ain't. Webster's had listed it.' Option A is what actually happened, which is why it is offered.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

39 B · Paragraph 5.

'The observation that language changes is true and is not an answer.' C reverses the writer's own use of it.

Mechanism C1 — Overstatement — hedge removed

40 B · Paragraphs 6 and 8.

'A dictionary describes; a style guide prescribes; and the two do not compete.' D is denied by the final paragraph, which says the dispute will keep running.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused