

Answer Key & Explanations

Academic Reading Paper 33 — Clocks, Continents and Advice

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	day	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
2	daylight	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
3	temperature	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 2.
4	tooth	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Paragraph 3.
5	hour	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph 3.
6	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
7	FALSE	C1	Overstatement — hedge removed	Paragraph 1.
8	NOT GIVEN	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraphs 2 and 3.
9	FALSE	A7	Time relation reversed	Paragraph 7.
10	bell	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 5.
11	1656	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 6.
12	seconds	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph 6.
13	wide	A6	Direction of change reversed	Paragraph 7.
14	i	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section A.
15	iii	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section B.
16	v	E4	Minimal-pair options	Section C.
17	vii	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section D.
18	viii	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section E.
19	ix	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section F.
20	x	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section G.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
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21	B	D2	Intermediate actor named beside the originator	Section C.
22	C	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section D.
23	D	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Section E.
24	A	A5	Wrong agent for the action	Section A.
25	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Section D.
26	B	B1	Relation swap	Section G.
27	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 3.
28	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
29	NOT GIVEN	A2	Scope widened or narrowed by dropping a qualifier	Throughout.
30	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 8.
31	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 7.
32	success	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
33	removed	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
34	method	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 5.
35	control	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
36	cases	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 7.
37	A	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 2.
38	B	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 3.
39	B	C3	A conditional fact stated as universal	Paragraph 2.
40	A	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 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 **day** · Paragraph 1.

'An hour meant a twelfth of the working **day**.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

2 **daylight** · Paragraph 1.

'the sensible arrangement for a society whose work was **daylight** work'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

3 **temperature** · Paragraph 2.

'the rate at which it flows through an opening changes with the **temperature** of the room'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

4 **tooth** · Paragraph 3.

'catching and releasing one **tooth** at a time'. The wheel is the part being released, not the part the question asks for.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

5 **hour** · Paragraph 3.

'anything from fifteen minutes to half an **hour** in a day'. Fifteen minutes is the other end of the range and is handed to you in the stem.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

Questions 6–9

6 **TRUE** · Paragraph 3.

'worse than a good sundial on a clear afternoon, and everybody involved knew it'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

7 **FALSE** · Paragraph 1.

'This was not a defect. It was the sensible arrangement for a society whose work was daylight work', and 'a perfectly good definition as long as nobody needs to compare one day with another'.

Mechanism C1 — Overstatement — hedge removed

8 **NOT GIVEN** · Paragraphs 2 and 3.

The passage says the pressure came from religious observance and that nobody knows who produced the escapement. Who the inventor worked for is not merely unknown to us; it is not in the text at all.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

9 FALSE · Paragraph 7.

'the hand followed the accuracy'. Before a mechanism could hold a minute, marking minutes would have been a decoration rather than a measurement.

Mechanism A7 — Time relation reversed

Questions 10–13

10 bell · Paragraph 5.

'the word we use for them comes from the medieval word for a **bell**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

11 1656 · Paragraph 6.

'Christiaan Huygens applied the pendulum to clockwork in **1656**'. The clock dates in this passage run 1275, 1300, the 1380s and 1656, and only one of them belongs to the pendulum.

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

12 seconds · Paragraph 6.

'from about fifteen minutes a day to about fifteen **seconds**'. The same figure appears twice in one sentence with two different units, and the second is the answer.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

13 wide · Paragraph 7.

'since a **wide** swing is where the remaining inaccuracy lives'. The anchor allowed a small swing, which is the remedy rather than the fault.

Mechanism A6 — Direction of change reversed

Questions 14–20

14 i · Section A.

'Taken one at a time each of these can be explained away; taken together they are a considerable weight.' Heading ii reverses that relation exactly.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

15 iii · Section B.

'the objection was the right objection to make at the time'. Heading iv is the reading the section is written to prevent.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

16 v · Section C.

Holmes's convection proposal was 'published in a respectable place, never refuted by anybody, and largely ignored'. Heading vi describes an outcome the section says did not occur.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

17 vii · Section D.

Tharp working at a desk in New York from numbers gathered by ships she was not allowed on.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

18 viii · Section E.

Hess's plates 'remove Wegener's difficulty entirely, since nothing has to force its way through anything'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

19 ix · Section F.

The magnetic stripes: a specific prediction about symmetry and width that the surveys could have contradicted and did not.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

20 x · Section G.

'it does not support that reading' — the lone thinker against the hidebound establishment.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 21–24

21 B · Section C.

1929, and largely ignored. Wegener is the name attached to the whole idea of moving continents, which is what makes A tempting; the mechanism he proposed was a different and impossible one.

Mechanism D2 — Intermediate actor named beside the originator

22 C · Section D.

The contours of the Atlantic floor, and the valley running down the middle of the ridge.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

23 D · Section E.

Hess, 1962.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

24 A · Section A.

The 1912 case and the 1915 book. Hess assembled a different set of pieces half a century later, which is why D is offered here.

Mechanism A5 — Wrong agent for the action

Questions 25–26

25 B · Section D.

'when the same feature turned up, in the same place, in the pattern of earthquake locations he had been plotting separately'. D reverses the order: Hess came a decade later.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

26 B · Section G.

'Wegener was right about the movement and wrong about everything else.' A swaps the two halves of that sentence.

Mechanism B1 — Relation swap

Questions 27–31

27 NO · Paragraph 3.

'This is not true and it does not survive contact with anyone who has actually learned a craft. Some things transfer very reliably.'

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

28 YES · Paragraph 6.

'They can report their method accurately and their causation badly.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

29 NOT GIVEN · Throughout.

The passage divides advice by its kind — method against choice — and by how many cases the giver has seen. How the advice is delivered is never discussed.

Mechanism A2 — Scope widened or narrowed by dropping a qualifier

30 NO · Paragraph 8.

'the useful question to ask of any advice is not whether the person succeeded. It is how many cases they have seen.'

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

31 YES · Paragraph 7.

'These people are reporting a distribution rather than an anecdote. They have seen the failures as well.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 32–36

32 success · Paragraph 1.

'a sample of the cases in which following it was followed by **success**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

33 removed · Paragraph 4.

'The conditions that made the risk sensible are precisely the conditions their success **removed**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

34 method · Paragraph 5.

'a craftsman's advice about **method** survives a century and their advice about which trade to enter does not survive a decade'.

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

35 **control** · Paragraph 6.
'they ran the experiment once, without a **control**'.
Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

36 **cases** · Paragraph 7.
'where the giver has seen many **cases** rather than one'.
Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 37–40

37 **A** · Paragraph 2.
'the armour belonged in the places with no holes, because the aircraft hit there were not in the sample'. C attributes an error of measurement, which the passage does not.
Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

38 **B** · Paragraph 3.
Named in paragraph 3 as 'the opposite error' produced by stopping at survivorship. A, C and D are all claims the passage makes.
Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

39 **B** · Paragraph 2.
'the missing cases leave no trace anywhere in the data. There is no column for the aircraft that did not land.' A is contradicted by the passage calling the reasoning 'not difficult once stated'.
Mechanism C3 — A conditional fact stated as universal

40 **A** · Paragraph 8.
Stated in the final paragraph. C is the error refused in paragraph 3, and the passage nowhere proposes B or D.
Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused