

Answer Key & Explanations

Academic Reading Paper 43 — Scrolls, Currents and Copies

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	Bedouin	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 1.
2	financial	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
3	1956	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph 2.
4	fifteen thousand / 15,000 / 15000	F2	Word limit decides which words are the answer	Paragraph 2.
5	TRUE	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 2.
6	FALSE	C1	Overstatement — hedge removed	Paragraph 4.
7	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
8	FALSE	A6	Direction of change reversed	Paragraph 7.
9	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
10	adhesive tape / tape	F2	Word limit decides which words are the answer	Paragraph 5.
11	editorial	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
12	palaeography / paleography	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 7.
13	forgeries	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 8.
14	E	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph E.
15	B	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph B.
16	G	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph G.
17	C	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph C.
18	A	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph A.
19	F	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph F.
20	A	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph B.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
21	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph C.
22	C	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph D.
23	D	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph G.
24	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraphs D and E.
25	B	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph E.
26	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph G.
27	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
28	B	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph 2.
29	A	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 3.
30	B	B1	Relation swap	Paragraph 5.
31	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
32	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 8.
33	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 4.
34	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
35	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 7.
36	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 7.
37	E	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 6.
38	C	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 7.
39	A	C3	A conditional fact stated as universal	Paragraph 8.
40	B	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	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 1–4

1 **Bedouin** · Paragraph 1.

'found by **Bedouin** who were not looking for manuscripts'. The question says *had no interest in* where the passage says *were not looking for*.

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

2 **financial** · Paragraph 1.

'eventually placed a small advertisement in an American **financial** newspaper in 1954'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

3 **1956** · Paragraph 2.

'Between 1947 and **1956** eleven caves in the same area were searched.' Three other years stand within a few lines of this one, and 1947 has already been used by the question.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

4 **fifteen thousand / 15,000 / 15000** · Paragraph 2.

'The rest arrived as something like **fifteen thousand** fragments.' Two words, or the figure written out — either is inside the limit, but *fifteen thousand fragments* would not be.

Mechanism F2 — Word limit decides which words are the answer

Questions 5–9

5 **TRUE** · Paragraph 2.

'Only a handful of scrolls came out whole.' *A small number for a handful, intact for whole*.

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

6 **FALSE** · Paragraph 4.

'The scrolls do not all agree with each other ... some follow none of these.' Take out the word *all* and the sentence would be true of part of the collection.

Mechanism C1 — Overstatement — hedge removed

7 **NOT GIVEN** · Paragraph 1.

The passage gives the price and says the seller had been unable to find a buyer in the region. What he hoped to receive is never mentioned.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

8 **FALSE** · Paragraph 7.

'the castor oil applied in the 1950s carried modern carbon into the samples and made them read **younger**'. The contamination is in the passage; the direction of the error is reversed here.

Mechanism A6 — Direction of change reversed

9 TRUE · Paragraph 6.

'Within weeks the monopoly was over.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 10–13

10 adhesive tape / tape · Paragraph 5.

'Fragments were joined with **adhesive tape**, pressed flat between plates of glass.' Two words is the limit and the phrase is exactly two.

Mechanism F2 — Word limit decides which words are the answer

11 editorial · Paragraph 6.

'A small **editorial** team was granted the exclusive right to publish, and it published slowly.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

12 palaeography / paleography · Paragraph 7.

'**Palaeography** places a hand in a period by the shape of its letters.' The question turns the definition round and asks for the name of the method.

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

13 forgeries · Paragraph 8.

'concluded that all sixteen of the pieces it had acquired were modern **forgeries**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 14–19

14 E · Paragraph E.

'Once enough floats had been released and their tracks averaged, the eddies cancelled and the mean flow that remained was ... the one Stommel had described.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

15 B · Paragraph B.

'The method has an obvious limit, which is that it tells you where water came from and not how quickly it is travelling now.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

16 G · Paragraph G.

'Broecker also spent his later years attacking it ... A diagram that made the subject communicable had outlived its own accuracy, and its author said so.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

17 C · Paragraph C.

'The prediction concerned a part of the ocean that nobody had instruments in, and it was made from a piece of physics rather than from data.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

18 A · Paragraph A.

'which it has no business being, since nothing at that latitude could have cooled it'.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

19 F · Paragraph F.

'once it sinks, the exchange stops and the radiocarbon in it decays at a known rate, so the amount left is a clock'.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

Questions 20–23

20 A · Paragraph B.

'Georg Wüst, who worked up the measurements, treated those two properties as labels.' The question replaces *treated as* with *used as* and names what the labels were for.

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

21 B · Paragraph C.

'In 1958 Henry Stommel argued from the rotation of the Earth that the deep return flow ... would have to be concentrated into narrow currents running along the western side.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

22 C · Paragraph D.

'John Swallow designed a float that could be weighted to hang at a chosen depth ... and made to emit a sound that a ship could track.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

23 D · Paragraph G.

'Wallace Broecker then drew the picture that everybody knows ... Broecker also spent his later years attacking it.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 24–26

24 B · Paragraphs D and E.

'What the floats had found was that the deep ocean is full of eddies.' A is taken straight from the paragraph before, where the passage says the observations, read at face value, refuted the prediction — which is the reading it then corrects.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

25 B · Paragraph F.

'Water at the surface exchanges carbon with the air; once it sinks, the exchange stops.' D is the neighbouring claim: radiocarbon supplies the age, and it is the age that lets the route be worked out.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

26 B · Paragraph G.

'the ribbon suggests a delicate mechanism with a single switch, which is a picture the measurements do not support'. C and D are contradicted in the same paragraph, which names the Atlantic and calls the figure one of the most reproduced in the earth sciences.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

Questions 27–31

27 B · Paragraph 1.

'His defence was to confess to a different crime: the painting was not a Vermeer, he had made it himself.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

28 B · Paragraph 2.

'Nothing about the objects changed on the day of the confession. If the value of a painting is in the painting, something has gone badly wrong with the account.' C sits one step away: the point is about where value is located, not about whether the picture was any good.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

29 A · Paragraph 3.

'the trained eye has failed too often and has failed on exactly the works where the stakes were highest'. The wrong options are each built from something the passage says elsewhere about experts and about other kinds of object.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

30 B · Paragraph 5.

'The object may be beautiful and the report is untrue, and those are separate properties that the word fake runs together.' A names the property the passage explicitly says is left alone.

Mechanism B1 — Relation swap

31 B · Paragraph 6.

'They contain the taste of the time they were made in, which is invisible to the people who share it and unmistakable fifty years later.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 32–36

32 YES · Paragraph 8.

'a good copy may deliver it, and sometimes deliver it better, in a room with decent light and no crowd'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

33 NO · Paragraph 4.

That is the second position, stated in order to be refused: 'This is the more fashionable position and it is also wrong, though it takes longer to say why.'

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

34 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 1.

The passage records the charge, the defence and the demonstration in custody. What the writer thinks the court should have done is never indicated.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

35 YES · Paragraph 7.

'an authentication business whose income depends on the scarcity it certifies'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

36 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 7.

Prices appear once, as a cost of insisting on originals. They are never compared with prices of anything else.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 37–40

37 E · Paragraph 6.

'as objects they are worthless and as evidence about their own period they are excellent'. D is assembled from the same discussion of forgers' skill and says something the passage never claims.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

38 C · Paragraph 7.

'works held in vaults because they are too valuable to hang'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

39 A · Paragraph 8.

'then the object's history is the entire content and a copy has none of it'. G turns the passage's conditional into a rule that holds in every case, which is what the previous sentence denies.

Mechanism C3 — A conditional fact stated as universal

40 B · Paragraph 8.

'Most arguments about authenticity are two people answering different questions and assuming, on the strength of one shared word, that they disagree.'

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject