

Answer Key & Explanations

Academic Reading Paper 44 — Stars, Scurvy and Species

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	thirty-five thousand / 35,000 / 35000	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
2	telegraph	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph 2.
3	seven	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
4	advertisements / advertising	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 4.
5	bills	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 6.
6	three thousand / 3,000 / 3000	A1	Quantity re-attached to another noun	Paragraph 1.
7	workbench	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
8	star	F3	Grammatical fit — tense, number, comparative	Paragraph 5.
9	journey	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 5.
10	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
11	FALSE	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 4.
12	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
13	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
14	iii	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph A.
15	iv	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph B.
16	v	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph C.
17	i	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph D.
18	vi	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph E.
19	vii	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph F.
20	viii	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph G.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
21	diet	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph B.
22	perspiration	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph C.
23	administration	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph D.
24	limes	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph E.
25	copper	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph E.
26	test	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph G.
27	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 7.
28	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
29	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraphs 1 and 6.
30	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 6.
31	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
32	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 5.
33	C	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 1.
34	A	B1	Relation swap	Paragraph 3.
35	E	B4	Cause supplied by the reader	Paragraph 5.
36	B	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph 6.
37	B	C1	Overstatement — hedge removed	Paragraph 1.
38	B	C3	A conditional fact stated as universal	Paragraph 4.
39	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph 5.
40	B	A2	Scope widened or narrowed by dropping a qualifier	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 **thirty-five thousand / 35,000 / 35000** · Paragraph 1.

'**thirty-five thousand** copies were printed'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

2 **telegraph** · Paragraph 2.

'the mechanics, the depots where fuel could be bought, the doctors, the **telegraph** offices and the places a traveller might sleep'. The question hands you three items from that list and asks for the fourth, so the words you scan for arrive before the answer does.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

3 **seven** · Paragraph 4.

'in 1920 the guide was put on sale at **seven** francs'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

4 **advertisements / advertising** · Paragraph 4.

'**Advertisements** were removed at the same time.' The question says *taken out for removed*.

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

5 **bills** · Paragraph 6.

'employed inspectors who eat anonymously and **pay their own bills**'. *Settle* stands in for *pay*, which is the only part of the phrase the question does not reuse.

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

Questions 6–9

6 **three thousand / 3,000 / 3000** · Paragraph 1.

'somewhere around **three thousand** motor vehicles in the whole country'. The other figure in the same sentence, thirty-five thousand, belongs to the copies and not to the cars.

Mechanism A1 — Quantity re-attached to another noun

7 **workbench** · Paragraph 4.

'found copies of his own book being used to prop up a **workbench**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

8 **star** · Paragraph 5.

'From 1926 a single **star** marked an establishment thought worth stopping at.' The sentence frame requires the singular.

Mechanism F3 — Grammatical fit — tense, number, comparative

9 journey · Paragraph 5.

'three for one worth making a **journey** to'. The three definitions differ by one phrase each — stopping at, going out of your way for, making a journey to — and the question specifies the highest.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

Questions 10–13

10 TRUE · Paragraph 1.

Three thousand vehicles, thirty-five thousand copies: 'a ratio that tells you the book was not a response to demand'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

11 FALSE · Paragraph 4.

'Neither decision was made in order to look impartial, but that is what the combination produced.' The effect is in the passage; the intention is denied in the same sentence.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

12 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 6.

The passage says the inspectors are employees, that they eat anonymously and that they pay their own bills. What they earn, and what anybody else earns, is not mentioned.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

13 TRUE · Paragraph 6.

'How many inspectors work in a given country is not disclosed.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 14–20**14** **iii** · Paragraph A.

'What made the disease so hard to think about was that it behaved unreliably.' x is about speed of spread, which this paragraph never raises — the point is that two identical ships could differ.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

15 **iv** · Paragraph B.

The trial and its result: 'Within six days the pair given the fruit were well enough to nurse the others.' What Lind himself made of it is the next paragraph, which is why iv and v sit together in the list.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

16 **v** · Paragraph C.

'Lind did not conclude what he is credited with concluding ... He recommended citrus among other things rather than instead of them.'

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

17 **i** · Paragraph D.

'A policy resting on a mistaken theory of the disease was carried out reliably enough to end it.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

18 **vi** · Paragraph E.

'it was lost by a decision about supply ... the Navy moved from Mediterranean lemons to limes'.

Option i is the near miss here, because this paragraph is also about a remedy and about being wrong; but the wrong reasons in i are the ones the remedy was adopted for, and that is paragraph D.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

19 **vii** · Paragraph F.

'The bill for that arrived in the Antarctic. The British expeditions of 1901 and 1910 sailed with no working theory of the disease at all.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

20 **viii** · Paragraph G.

'guinea pigs, which are among the few mammals that cannot manufacture the vitamin themselves ... For the first time there was a test that did not require a ship.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 21–26

21 **diet** · Paragraph B.

'put them on the same **diet**, divided them into six pairs'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

22 **perspiration** · Paragraph C.

'goes on discussing blocked **perspiration** and foul air as causes'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

23 **administration** · Paragraph D.

'What changed the practice was **administration** rather than argument.' The question says *altered* for *changed* and drops the contrast that follows.

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

24 **limes** · Paragraph E.

'the Navy moved from Mediterranean lemons to **limes** grown in the West Indies'. The word you scan for is the one you are moving away from, and it stands in the sentence before the answer.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

25 **copper** · Paragraph E.

'The juice was also now pumped through **copper** piping and stored for long periods.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

26 **test** · Paragraph G.

'For the first time there was a **test** that did not require a ship, a two-year voyage and a crew willing to fall ill.'

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

Questions 27–32

27 NO · Paragraph 7.

'Caring more about some animals than others is not a failure of reasoning, and treating it as one is both wrong and a poor way to talk to the people paying.' The concession paragraph exists to refuse this.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

28 YES · Paragraph 3.

'There is a real defence of this and it deserves to be stated at full strength rather than dismissed.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

29 NOT GIVEN · Paragraphs 1 and 6.

The passage is about how a budget is divided and how the division is justified. Whether the total should rise is never raised.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

30 NO · Paragraph 6.

'Saving everything is not a policy but a way of declining to prioritise, and declining to prioritise does not prevent prioritisation.'

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

31 YES · Paragraph 4.

'The organisations making it are also, as a rule, the organisations best placed to check it, and they are not the ones who publish the answer.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

32 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 5.

New Zealand is praised for being honest about what its system implies, and an objection to triage follows immediately. Whether others should copy it is not stated either way.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 33–36

33 C · Paragraph 1.

'amphibians, which are the most threatened vertebrate class on the planet ... receive a share so small that in some accounts it rounds to nothing'. D is built from the same discussion and is never claimed anywhere in the passage.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

34 A · Paragraph 3.

'the charismatic animal is not the beneficiary but the instrument: an advertisement that funds a system'. The whole item turns on which side of that sentence you take.

Mechanism B1 — Relation swap

35 E · Paragraph 5.

'the income being allocated was raised by exactly the appeal that triage proposes to discard, and a scheme that spends its own funding base is not efficient'.

Mechanism B4 — Cause supplied by the reader

36 B · Paragraph 6.

'it simply moves the decision to whoever runs the loudest campaign, where it is made without criteria and cannot be argued with'.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

Questions 37–40

37 B · Paragraph 1.

'The pattern is not a secret and it is not seriously disputed.' A and D each reverse a statement made in that sentence and the one before it.

Mechanism C1 — Overstatement — hedge removed

38 B · Paragraph 4.

'The defence is offered as though it were a principle when it is a prediction, and predictions can be checked.' A is the stronger claim the passage refuses: 'Some flagship campaigns have plainly bought and defended large areas.'

Mechanism C3 — A conditional fact stated as universal

39 B · Paragraph 5.

'has been unusually honest about what it implies, which is that some species will be allowed to go'. A is assembled from the objection that follows in the same paragraph, which is not about abandonment.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

40 B · Paragraph 8.

'publish what proportion of that money reached the system, and how much habitat it secured, and what else lives there'. A is the larger demand the final paragraph is careful not to make.

Mechanism A2 — Scope widened or narrowed by dropping a qualifier