

Answer Key & Explanations

Academic Reading Paper 46 — Load Lines, Ears and Trials

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	TRUE	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
2	FALSE	C1	Overstatement — hedge removed	Paragraph 2.
3	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
4	TRUE	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 3.
5	compulsory	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 5.
6	position	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph 6.
7	formula	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
8	density	E2	Answer sits after its own distractor	Paragraph 6.
9	Convention	F2	Word limit decides which words are the answer	Paragraph 7.
10	desertion	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 2.
11	suspended	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 4.
12	master	A5	Wrong agent for the action	Paragraph 7.
13	quay	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph 8.
14	G	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph G.
15	D	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph D.
16	F	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph F.
17	C	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph C.
18	E	F1	Answers out of order + repeats allowed	Paragraph E.
19	pitch	E1	Synonym substitution, passage keyword parked on a decoy	Paragraph B.
20	damped	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph D.

Q	Answer	Code	Mechanism	Where
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21	milliseconds	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph E.
22	length	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph F.
23	B	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph C.
24	B	D1	Statement moved from another paragraph	Paragraph D.
25	B	A6	Direction of change reversed	Paragraph F.
26	B	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph G.
27	NO	C2	The extreme version the writer explicitly refused	Paragraph 6.
28	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 7.
29	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
30	YES	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 6.
31	NO	B1	Relation swap	Paragraph 5.
32	NOT GIVEN	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 1.
33	A	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 2.
34	B	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 2.
35	C	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 5.
36	D	E4	Minimal-pair options	Paragraph 7.
37	C	R	Straight retrieval — no trap	Paragraph 3.
38	A	B4	Cause supplied by the reader	Paragraph 4.
39	E	B2	Adjacent proposition on the same subject	Paragraph 8.
40	B	A6	Direction of change reversed	Paragraph 3.

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 TRUE · Paragraph 1.

'A vessel could be insured for more than it was worth, so that a bad ship which sank returned more to its owner than a bad ship which did not.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

2 FALSE · Paragraph 2.

'the courts did not accept his opinion of the vessel as a defence'. Remove the word *always* and the statement is still false, but the word is what makes it worth reading twice.

Mechanism C1 — Overstatement — hedge removed

3 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 3.

The passage says he was sued and that he raised money from the public to meet the costs. How the cases ended is not stated.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

4 TRUE · Paragraph 3.

'not all of the attacks were unfair: parts of his tabulation were loose'. The passage says it with two negatives and the question says it with none.

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

Questions 5–9

5 compulsory · Paragraph 5.

'The Merchant Shipping Act of 1876 followed and made a load line **compulsory** on British vessels.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

6 position · Paragraph 6.

'The **position** was left to the owner, who was the person the mark existed to restrain.' The sentence before it says the Act required the mark to be *painted*, which is the word a quick scan lands on first.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

7 formula · Paragraph 6.

'gave the Board of Trade the power to fix the position by a **formula**'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

8 density · Paragraph 6.

'with different allowances for the season of the year and for the **density** of the water'. The question supplies the first of the two allowances, so the word you match on stands in front of the answer.

Mechanism E2 — Answer sits after its own distractor

9 **Convention** · Paragraph 7.

'the first International Load Line **Convention** was signed in 1930'. One word only, so the four-word name has to be cut down to the part the question has not already given you.

Mechanism F2 — Word limit decides which words are the answer

Questions 10–13

10 **desertion** · Paragraph 2.

'could be prosecuted for **desertion** and sent to prison'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

11 **suspended** · Paragraph 4.

'He was **suspended** from the Commons.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

12 **master** · Paragraph 7.

'could sail down to any depth its **master** chose'. Owners are named twice in the paragraphs on either side, and they are not the person this sentence gives the decision to.

Mechanism A5 — Wrong agent for the action

13 **quay** · Paragraph 8.

'into something a person standing on a **quay** could settle by looking at it'. The question turns the clause round and keeps the one word that carries it.

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

Questions 14–18

14 G · Paragraph G.

'absent is the condition of every cochlea he was able to examine, because the amplifier dies within minutes of the tissue'.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

15 D · Paragraph D.

'an ear containing one ought sometimes to produce sound of its own. Nobody followed it up. The paper was short, it appeared in a journal read by the wrong people.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

16 F · Paragraph F.

'They turned out to do something no other cell in the body does: they change length in response to voltage.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

17 C · Paragraph C.

'It was not a technical problem, and better measurements made it worse.'

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

18 E · Paragraph E.

'The measurement is now made routinely on newborn infants, because an ear that answers back is an ear whose amplifier is working.' Paragraph G also mentions something clinicians see, but that is an observation about damaged hearing rather than a test.

Mechanism F1 — Answers out of order + repeats allowed

Questions 19–22

19 pitch · Paragraph B.

'Pitch is therefore encoded as a position, and the ear works as a map.' The question turns that sentence round, so the word you are given is the answer's partner rather than the answer.

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

20 damped · Paragraph D.

'would be so heavily **damped** that sharp tuning was impossible in principle'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

21 milliseconds · Paragraph E.

'recorded a faint sound emerging a few **milliseconds** afterwards'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

22 **length** · Paragraph F.

'they change **length** in response to voltage, shortening and lengthening at audio frequencies'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 23–26

23 **B** · Paragraph C.

'The model explained the map and did not explain the resolution.' A is the half of that sentence the model did explain, and it is put first for that reason.

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

24 **B** · Paragraph D.

'The paper was short, it appeared in a journal read by the wrong people, and its author never worked on hearing again.' D contradicts the sentence immediately before, where the prediction is described as what made the claim testable.

Mechanism D1 — Statement moved from another paragraph

25 **B** · Paragraph F.

'The gain is greatest for the quietest sounds and falls away as sound grows louder.' D keeps the second half of that sentence and turns it round.

Mechanism A6 — Direction of change reversed

26 **B** · Paragraph G.

'the amplifier dies within minutes of the tissue'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 27–32

27 NO · Paragraph 6.

'an organisation that abandons trials because trials are unreliable has drawn the wrong lesson twice over'. The whole paragraph exists to refuse this reading of the first half.

Mechanism C2 — The extreme version the writer explicitly refused

28 YES · Paragraph 7.

'under the five conditions listed above almost anything works, and a pilot that succeeds has told you very little'.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

29 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 1.

Both fields are named in the same sentence as places where the pattern occurs. They are never set against each other.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

30 YES · Paragraph 6.

'There are also things that genuinely cannot be tested in one place, because their value depends on everybody having them at once.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

31 NO · Paragraph 5.

'The gap between the two is not a failure of implementation. It is the difference between a person and a manual.' The passage names the explanation and then names what it is instead.

Mechanism B1 — Relation swap

32 NOT GIVEN · Paragraph 1.

The passage says they continue to be run and quoted in the same way. Whether there are more of them than there used to be is not raised.

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

Questions 33–36

33 A · Paragraph 2.

'A pilot is run in a site that volunteered.' E is the neighbouring option and describes the result rather than how the site came to be chosen.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

34 B · Paragraph 2.

'under the attention of senior management'. F is what management also supplies, and is not what this sentence says.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

35 C · Paragraph 5.

'It is a **document**, carried out by people who have never met the designer.'

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

36 D · Paragraph 7.

'that argues for designing it to **fail**'. H is the other purpose the passage names, in the final paragraph, and it is the one this sentence is contrasted with.

Mechanism E4 — Minimal-pair options

Questions 37–40

37 C · Paragraph 3.

'It is the one that was already better run, or the one whose manager wanted this particular thing.'

Mechanism R — Straight retrieval — no trap

38 A · Paragraph 4.

'The rollout, by definition, cannot look at everybody, so whatever part of the result came from attention is not merely reduced at scale; it is removed.'

Mechanism B4 — Cause supplied by the reader

39 E · Paragraph 8.

'The only requirement is that everybody says which of the two they are running.'

Mechanism B2 — Adjacent proposition on the same subject

40 B · Paragraph 3.

'the more convincingly a pilot is staffed the less it can tell you'. D is the same sentence with the direction reversed, and it is what most readers expect a well-staffed trial to be worth.

Mechanism A6 — Direction of change reversed