IELTS Mock Test 2023 October

Reading Practice Test 4

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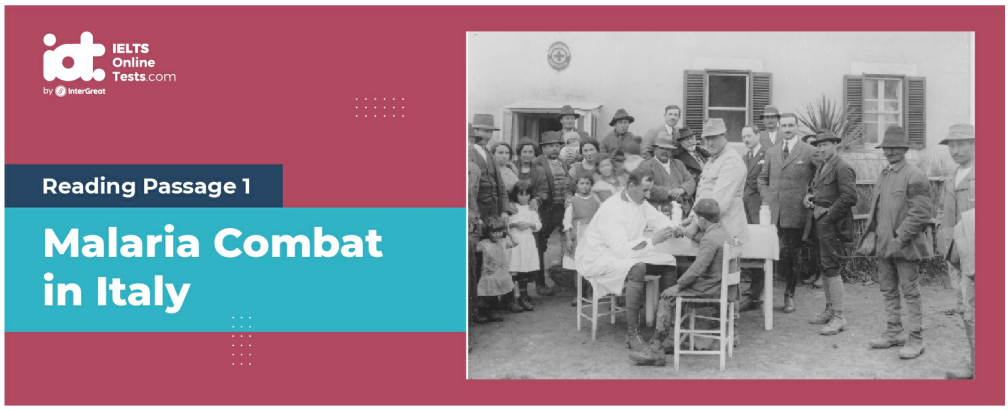
READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on ***Questions 1-14****, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below.*



Malaria Combat in Italy

A

Mal-aria. Bad air. Even the world is Italian, and this horrible disease marked the life of those in the peninsula for thousands of years. Giuseppe Garibaldi's wife died of the disease, as did the country's first prime minister, Cavour, in 1861. Yet by 1962, Italy was officially declared malaria-free, and it has remained so ever since. Frank Snowden's study of this success story is a remarkable piece of historical work. Original, crystal-clear, analytical and passionate, Snowden (who has previously written about cholera) takes us to areas historians have rarely visited before.

B

Everybody now knows that malaria is carried by mosquitoes. Malaria has always been the subject of research for medical practitioners from time immemorial. However, many ancient texts, especially medical literature, mention of various aspects of malaria and even of its possible link with mosquitoes and insects. Early man, confronting the manifestations of malaria, attributed the fevers to supernatural influences: evil spirits, angered deities, or the black magic of sorcerers. But in the 19th century, most experts believed that the disease was not produced by unclean air ("miasma" or "poisoning of the air"). Two Americans, Josiah Clark Nott and Lewis Daniel Beauperthy, echoed Crawford's ideas. Nott in his essay "Yellow Fever Contrasted with Bilious Fever," published in 1850, dismissed the miasma theory as worthless, arguing that microscopic insects somehow transmitted by mosquitoes caused both malaria and yellow fever. Others made a link between swamps, water and malaria, but did not make the further leap towards insects. The consequences of these theories were that little was done to combat the disease before the end of the century. Things became so bad that 11m Italians (from a total population of 25m) were "permanently at risk". In malarial zones, the life expectancy of land

workers was a terrifying 22.5 years. Those who escaped death were weakened or suffered from splenomegaly – a “painful enlargement of the spleen” and “a lifeless stare”. The economic impact of the disease was immense. Epidemics were blamed on southern Italians, given the widespread belief that malaria was hereditary. In the 1880s, such theories began to collapse as the dreaded mosquito was identified as the real culprit.

C

Italian scientists, drawing on the pioneering work of French doctor Alphonse Laveran, were able to predict the cycles of fever but it was in Rome that further key discoveries were made. Giovanni Battista Grassi, a naturalist, found that a particular type of mosquito was the carrier of malaria. By experimenting on healthy volunteers (mosquitoes were released into rooms where they drank the blood of the human guinea pigs), Grassi was able to make the direct link between the insects (all females of a certain kind) and the disease. Soon, doctors and scientists made another startling discovery: the mosquitoes themselves were also infected and not mere carriers. Every year, during the mosquito season, malarial blood was moved around the population by the insects. Definitive proof of these new theories was obtained after an extraordinary series of experiments in Italy, where healthy people were introduced into malarial zones but kept free of mosquito bites – and remained well. The new Italian state had the necessary information to tackle the disease.

D

A complicated approach was adopted, which made use of quinine – a drug obtained from tree bark which had long been used to combat fever but was now seen as a crucial part of the war on malaria. Italy introduced a quinine law and a quinine tax in 1904, and the drug was administered to large numbers of rural workers. Despite its often terrible side-effects (the headaches produced were known as the “quinine-buzz”), the drug was successful in limiting the spread of the disease, and in breaking cycles of infection. In addition, Italy set up rural health centres and invested heavily in education programmes. Malaria, as Snowden shows, was not just a medical problem, but a social and regional issue, and could only be defeated through multi-layered strategies. Politics was itself transformed by the anti-malarial campaigns.

E

It was originally decided to give quinine to all those in certain regions – even healthy people; peasants were often suspicious of the medicine being forced upon them. Doctors were sometimes met with hostility and refusal, and many were dubbed “poisoners”. Despite these problems, the strategy was hugely successful. Deaths from malaria fell by some 80% in the first decade of the 20th century and some areas escaped altogether from the scourge of the disease.

F

Shamefully, the Italian malaria expert Alberto Missiroli had a role to play in the disaster: he did

not distribute quinine, despite being well aware of the epidemic to come. Snowden claims that Missiroli was already preparing a new strategy – with the support of the US Rockefeller Foundation – using a new pesticide, DDT. Missiroli allowed the epidemic to spread, in order to create the ideal conditions for a massive, and lucrative, human experiment. Fifty-five thousand cases of malaria were recorded in the province of Littoria alone in 1944. It is estimated that more than a bird of those in the affected area contracted the disease. Thousands, nobody knows how many, died.

G

With the war over, the US government and the Rockefeller Foundation were free to experiment. DDT was sprayed from the air and 3m Italians had their bodies covered with the chemical. The effects were dramatic, and nobody really cared about the toxic effects of the chemical. By 1962, malaria was more or less gone from the whole peninsula. The last cases were noted in a poor region of Sicily. One of the final victims to die of the disease in Italy was the popular cyclist, Fausto Coppi. He had contracted malaria in Africa in 1960, and the failure of doctors in the north of Italy to spot the disease was a sign of the times. A few decades earlier, they would have immediately noticed the tell-tale signs; it was later claimed that a small dose of quinine would have saved his life.

H

As there are still more than 1m deaths every year from malaria worldwide, Snowden's book also has contemporary relevance. This is a disease that affects every level of the societies where it is rampant. As Snowden writes: "In Italy, malaria undermined agricultural productivity, decimated the army, destroyed communities and left families impoverished." The economic miracle of the 50s and 60s which made Italy into a modern industrial nation would not have been possible without the eradication of malaria. Moreover, this book convincingly argues that the disease was "an integral part of the big picture of modern Italian history". This magnificent study, beautifully written and impeccably documented, deserves an audience beyond specialists in history, or in Italy. It also provides us with "a message of hope for a world struggling with the great present-day medical emergency".

Questions 1-4

Complete the following summary of the paragraphs of Reading Passage.

Using **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the Reading Passage for each answer.

*Write your answers in boxes **1-4** on your answer sheet.*

Theories for malaria origin have always been the issue of research for medical practitioners from ancient time. Although the link between malaria and mosquito was established lately, it has been recorded in words that 1 _____, including mosquito, may play the major culprits. In the 19th century, most experts rejected the

idea of the miasma theory which related malaria to 2 _____ . Even another widespread theory arose that southern Italians were blamed, to whom malaria was 3 _____ . In southern Italy, the situation became so severe that near half the Italians population was thought to be “permanently at risk”. In malarial areas the 4 _____ . Of rural workers was surprisingly shorter. In the 1880s, such theories began to withdraw as the mosquito was identified as the true cause.

Show workspace

Questions 5-8

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Reading Passage?

In boxes **5-8** *on your answer sheet write*

YES	if the statement agrees with the views of the writer
NO	if the statement contradicts the views of the writer
NOT GIVEN	if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

5 [ ] The volunteers in Grassi experiments were from all parts over Italy.

6 [ ] Healthy people could remain safe in malaria – infectious zone if they did not have mosquito bites.

7 [ ] Quinine is an effective drug which had long been used to combat malaria.

8 [ ] Eradicating malaria was a goal combined both medical and political significance.

Questions 9-14

Reading Passage has 8 paragraphs, **A-H**.

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter **A-H** *in boxes* **9-14** *on your answer sheet.*

A	A
B	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
G	G

9 [ ] A breakthrough was found that mosquito was the carrier of malaria

10 [ ] A scientist intentionally failed to restrict the epidemic area.

11 [ ] This successful story still holds true for today's readers worldwide.

12 [ ] One of the final cases reported dying of malaria in Italy

13 [ ] The negative symptoms of the highly effective drug

14 [ ] A list of the speculative hypothesis was cited.

READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on ***Questions 15-27****, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below.*

Development of Public management theory

Bureaucracy management: The classic one

{A} Several theories bridged the gap between strictly private and public sector management. One good example is Max Weber exploring sociologist, who explored the ideal bureaucracy in The Protestant ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism. Bureaucratic Theory was developed by a German. Sociologist and political economist Max Weber (1864-1920). According to him, bureaucracy is the most efficient form of organization. The organization has a well-defined line of authority. It has clear rules and regulations which are strictly followed. according to Max Weber, there are three types of power in an organization: 1. Traditional Power, 2. Charismatic power, and 3. Bureaucratic Power or Legal Power.

The Characteristics or Features of Bureaucracy Organisation

{B} Weber admired Bureaucracy for its trustworthiness. The Bureaucracy was constituted by a group of professional, ethical public officials. These servants dedicate themselves to the public in return for the security of job tenure among the many advantages of public employment. There is a high degree of division of Labour and specialization as well as a defined Hierarchy of authority. There are well-defined rules and regulations that follow the principle of Rationality, Objectively, and Consistency. These rules cover all the duties and rights of the employees. These rules must be strictly followed. Impersonal relations among the member of the organization. Interpersonal relations are based on positions and not on personalities

{C} Bureaucracy organization is a very rigid type of organization. Too much emphasis on rules and regulations which are rigid and inflexible. It does not give importance to human relations. No importance is also given to informal groups which nowadays play an important role in all

business organizations. Yet, too much importance is given to the technical qualifications of the employees for promotion and transfers. The dedication and commitment of the employee are not considered. It is suitable for government organizations. It is also suitable for organizations where change is very slow. There will be unnecessary delays in decision-making due to formalities and rules. It is appropriate for static organizations. There is difficulty in coordination and communication.

{D} Herbal Simon, Chester Barnard, and Charles Lindblom are among the first of those recognized as early American public administrators. These men ushered in an era during which the field gained recognition as independent and unique, despite its multidisciplinary nature. Simon contributed theoretical separation to discern management, decisions based on values. since one cannot make completely responsible decisions with public resources based solely on personal values, one must attempt to upon objectively determined facts. Simon developed other relevant theories as well. Similar to Lindblom's subsequently discussed critique of comprehensive rationality, Simon also taught that a strictly economic man, one who maximizes returns or values by making decisions based upon complete information in unlimited time, is unrealistic. Instead, most public administrators use a sufficient amount of information to make a satisfactory decision: they" satisfice."

{E} In decision-making, Simon believed that agents face uncertainty about the future and costs in acquiring information in the present. These factors limit the extent to which agents can make a fully rational decision, thus they possess only" bounded rationality" and must make deci9sion by "Satisficing," or choosing that which might not be optional but which will make them happy enough. " Rational behavior, in economics, means that individuals maximize their utility function. Under the constraints they face (e.g. their budget constraint, limited choices,.....) in pursuit of their self-interest.

{F} Chester Barnard was also one of the watershed scholars. Barnard published "The Economy of Incentives"(1938), in an attempt to explain individual participation in an organization. Barnard explained organizations as systems of exchange. Low-level employees must have more incentive to remain with the organization for which they exchange their labor and loyalty. The organization (and higher-level employees) must derive sufficient benefit from its employees to keep them, The net pull of the organization is determined by material rewards, environmental conditions, and other intangibles like recognition. He gives great importance to persuasion much more than to economic incentives. He described four general and four specific incentives including Money and other material inducements; Personal non-material opportunities for distinction; DESIREABLE PHYSICal conditions of work; Ideal benefactions, such as pride of workmanship, etc.

A New Humanist Era: Rethinking Power and Management

{G} Humanists embrace a dynamic concept of employee and management techniques. This requires a theoretical shift away from the idea that an employee is a cog in the industrial machine. Rather, employees are unique individuals with goals, needs desires, etc.

{H} The humanist era ushered in other possible interpretations of such topics as power and management. One of the most significant was Douglas McGregor's "Theory X and TheoryY. " McGregor's work provided a basis for a management framework, a structure upon whose rungs the classic and new-age management might be hung. first, commonly held by early management theorists, Theory X begins with the assumption that humans possess an inherent aversion to work. Employees must therefore be coerced and controlled if management expects to see results. Further, lazy humans prefer direction bordering micromanagement whenever possible.

{I} Theory Y is much more compatible with the humanist tradition. This begins with the assumption that work is as natural for humans as rest or play. Further, employees will direct and control themselves as they complete objectives. Humans learn naturally and seek responsibility. Consequently, managers need only to steer employees in a cooperative manner toward goals that serve the organization. There is room for many to create and share power.

{J} The Z- Organization can be thought of as a complimentary third element to McGregor's dichotomy. Z- organizations are Japanese organizations that are a Japanese organizational model. Similar to Theory Y management, Z organizations place a large degree of responsibility upon the employees. Further, relatively low-level employees are entrusted with the freedom to be creative, " wander around the organization" and become truly unique, company-specific employees. However, employees achieve only after "agreeing on a central set of objectives and ways of doing business" In Z Organizations, decision-making is democratic and participatory. Despite the many ADVANTAGES OF THIS ORGANIZATIONAL MODEL, THERE ARE SEVERAL DRAW-BACKS. THESE INCLUDE THE DEPREDATION OF A LARGE PROFESSIONAL DIstance-de personalization is impossible in Z-organizations. Since, in reality, there is a high percentage of workers who would like to work for the financial return than the job objectives. A high level of self-discipline is also necessary.

Questions 5-6

Choose **Two** appropriate letters and fill in boxes **1-2**

What are the features and advantages of Bureaucratic Management?

A ☐ There are equal opportunities coming from little hierarchy of authority among companies

B ☐ employees' promotion can be much fairer which is based on job duties not on characters

C ☐ employees enjoy a greater freedom of duties than their strict right

D ☐ selection and Promotion is based on mastery of new technology

E ☐ these employees can dedicate themselves to the public for stability of a long term job

READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on ***Questions 28-40****, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below.*

Water Treatment 2: Reed Bed

In recent years, it has been shown that plants, more accurately roots, play a crucial part in purifying dirty water before it enters seas and rivers. In 15th-century Britain, dirty water was purified by passing through the wetlands. People began to realize that the “natural” way of water purification was effective. Nowadays subsurface flow wetlands (SSFW) are a common alternative in Europe for the treatment of wastewater in rural areas, Mainly in the last 10 to 12 years there has been a significant growth in the number and size of the systems in use. The conventional mechanism of water
purification used in big cities where there are large volumes of water to be purified is inappropriate in rural areas.

The common reed has the ability to transfer oxygen from its leaves, down through its stem and rhizomes, and out via its root system. As a result of this action, a very high population of microorganisms occurs in the root system, in zones of aerobic, anoxic, and anaerobic conditions. As the waste water moves very slowly through the mass of reed roots, this liquid can be successfully treated. The reason why they are so effective is often because within the bed’s root sector, natural biological, physical and chemical processes interact with one another to degrade or remove a good range of pollutants.

Dirty water from households, farms and factories consume a lot of oxygen in the water, which will lead to the death of aquatic creatures. Several aquatic plants are important in purifying water. They not only absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen into the water, improving the environment for fish, but absorb nutrients from the welter as well. Britain and the G.S. differ in their preference of plants to purify water. Bulrushes (Scirpus spp.) and rushes (Juncus spp.) are excellent water purifiers. They remove excess nutrients from the water as well as oil and

bacteria such as Escherichia coli and Salmonella. However, algae grow freely in summer and die off in winter. Their remains foul the bottom of the pool.

Artificial reed beds purify water in both horizontal and downflow ways. The reeds succeed best when a dense layer of root hairs has formed. It takes three years for the roots to fully develop. Which type of wetland a certain country applies varies widely depending on the country in Europe and its main lines of development. Besides the development of horizontal or vertical flow wetlands for wastewater treatment, the use of wetlands for sludge treatment has been very successful in Europe. Some special design lines offer the retention of microbiological organisms in constructed wetlands, the treatment of agricultural wastewater, treatment of some kinds of industrial wastewater, and the control of diffuse pollution.

If the water is slightly polluted, a horizontal system is used. Horizontal-flow wetlands may be of two types: free-water surface-flow (FWF) or sub-surface water-flow (SSF). In the former the effluent flows freely above the sand/gravel bed in which the reeds etc. are planted; in the latter effluent passes through the sand/gravel bed. In FWF-type wetlands, effluent is treated by plant stems, leaves and rhizomes. Such FWF wetlands are densely planted and typically have water-depths of less than 0.4m. However, dense planting can limit the diffusion of oxygen into the water.

These systems work particularly well for low strength effluents or effluents that have undergone some forms of pretreatment and play an invaluable role in tertiary treatment and the polishing of effluents. The horizontal reed flow system uses a long reed bed, where the liquid slowly flows horizontally through. The length of the reed bed is about 100 meters. The downside of horizontal reed beds is that they use up lots of land space and they do take quite a long time to produce clean water.

A vertical flow (downflow) reed bed is a sealed, gravel filled trench with reeds growing in it. The reeds in a downflow system are planted in a bed 60cm deep. In vertical flow reed beds, the wastewater is applied to the top of the reed bed, flows down through a rhizome zone with sludge as a substrate, then through a root zone with sand as a substrate, followed by a layer of gravel for drainage, and is collected in an under drainage system of large stones.

The effluent flows onto the surface of the bed and percolates slowly through the different layers into an outlet pipe, which leads to a horizontal flow bed where it is cleaned by millions of bacteria, algae, fungi, and microorganisms that digest the waste, including sewage. There is no

standing water so there should be no unpleasant smells.

Vertical flow reed bed systems are much more effective than horizontal flow reedbeds not only in reducing biochemical oxygen demanded (BOD) and suspended solids (SS) levels but also in reducing ammonia levels and eliminating smells. Usually considerably smaller than horizontal flow beds, they are capable of handling muc stronger effluents which contain heavily polluted matters and have a longer lifetime value. A vertical reed bed system works more efficiently than a horizontal reed bed system, but it requires more management, and its reed beds are often operated for a few days then rested, so several beds and a distribution system are needed.

The natural way of water purification has many advantages over the conventional mechanism. The natural way requires less expenditure for installation, operation and maintenance. Besides, it looks attractive and can improve the surrounding landscape. Reed beds are natural habitats found in floodplains, waterlogged depressions and estuaries. The natural bed systems are a biologically proved, an environmentally friendly and visually unobtrusive way of treating wastewater, and have the extra virtue of frequently being better than mechanical wastewater treatment systems.

Over the medium to long term reed bed systems are, in most cases, more cost effective to install than any other wastewater treatment. They are naturally environmentally sound protecting groundwater, dams, creeks, rivers and estuaries.

Question 28 - 30

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?
In boxes 14-16 on your answer sheet, write

TRUE	if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE	if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN	If there is no information on this

28 [ ] The reed bed system is a conventional method for water treatment in urban areas.

29 [ ] In the reed roots, there is a series of processes that help break down the pollutants.

30 [ ] Escherichia coli is the most difficult bacteria to eliminate.

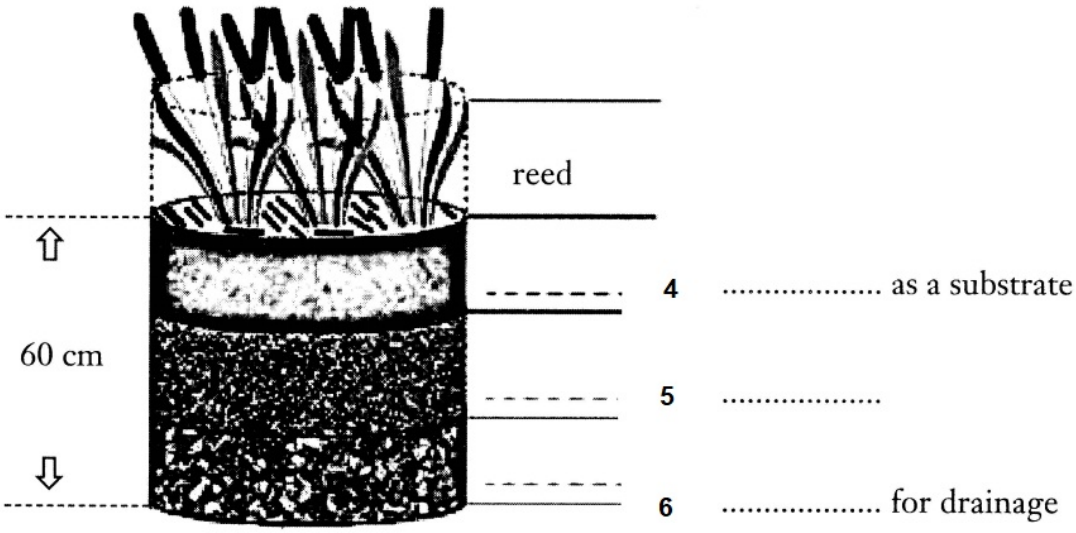
Questions 31-33

Complete the diagram below.
Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

31 _____

32 _____

33 _____



Questions 34-38

Use the information in the passage to match the advantages and disadvantages of the two systems: horizontal flow system and down-flow system (listed A—H) below.
Write the appropriate letters A-H in boxes **34-38** on your answer sheet.

A	it requires several beds
B	it is easier to construct
C	it builds on a gradient
D	it doesn't need much attention
E	it produces less sludges
F	it isn't always working
G	it needs deeper bed
H	it can deal with more heavily polluted water

The advantage of the downflow system is 34 [ ] ; however, 35 [ ] and 36 [ ] . The two advantages of the horizontal

system are 37 [ ] and 38 [ ] . In comparison with the downflow system, the horizontal system is less effective.

Question 39 - 40

Choose two correct letters, from the following A, B, C, D or E
Write your answers in boxes **12-13** on your answer sheet
What are the **TWO** advantages of the natural water purification system mentioned in the passage:

- A ☐ It uses micro-organisms
- B ☐ It involves a low operating cost
- C ☐ It prevents flooding
- D ☐ It is visually good-looking
- E ☐ It can function in all climates

Solution:

Part 1: Question 1 - 14

1. insects
2. unclean air
3. hereditary
4. life expectancy
5. NOT GIVEN
6. YES
7. NO
8. YES
9. C
10. F
11. H
12. G
13. D
14. B

Part 2: Question 15 - 15

15/16. B,E

Part 3: Question 28 - 39

28. FALSE
29. TRUE
30. NOT GIVEN
31. sludge
32. sand
33. gravel
34. H
35. A

36 F

37 B

38 D

39/40 B,D