



# IELTS Mock Test 2023

## November

### Reading Practice Test 3

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# READING PASSAGE 1

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



## Grimm's Fairy Tales

The Brothers Grimm, Jacob and Wilhelm, named their story collection Children's and Household Tales and published the first of its seven editions in Germany in 1812. The table of contents reads like an A-list of fairy-tale celebrities: Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Snow White, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Rumpelstiltskin, Hansel and Gretel, the Frog King. Drawn mostly from oral narratives, the 210 stories in die Grimm's' collection represent an anthology of fairy tales, animal fables, rustic farces, and religious allegories that remain unrivalled to this day.

Such lasting fame would have shocked the humble Grimms. During their lifetimes the collection sold modestly in Germany, at first only a few hundred copies a year. The early editions were not even aimed at children. The brothers initially refused to consider illustrations, and scholarly footnotes took up almost as much space as the tales themselves. Jacob and Wilhelm viewed themselves as patriotic folklorists, not as entertainers of children. They began their work at a time when Germany had been overrun by the French under Napoleon, who was intent on suppressing local culture. As young, workaholic scholars, single and sharing a cramped flat, the Brothers Grimm undertook the fairy-tale collection with the goal of serving the endangered oral tradition of Germany.

For much of the 19th century teachers, parents, and religious figures, particularly in the United States, deplored the Grimms' collection for its raw, uncivilized content. Offended adults objected to the gruesome punishments inflicted on the stories' villains. In the original "Snow White" the evil stepmother is forced to dance in red-hot iron shoes until she falls down dead. Even today some protective parents shy from the Grimms' tales because of their reputation for violence.

Despite its sometimes rocky reception, Children's and Household Tales gradually took root with

the public. The brothers had not foreseen that the appearance of their work would coincide with a great flowering of children's literature in Europe. English publishers led the way, issuing high-quality picture books such as *Jack and the Beanstalk* and handsome folktale collections, all to satisfy a newly literate audience seeking virtuous material for the nursery. Once the Brothers Grimm sighted this new public, they set about refining and softening their tales, which had originated centuries earlier as earthy peasant fare. In the Grimms' hands, cruel mothers became nasty stepmothers, unmarried lovers were made chaste, and the incestuous father was recast as the devil.

In the 20th century the Grimms' fairy tales have come to rule the bookshelves of children's bedrooms. The stories read like dreams come true: handsome lads and beautiful damsels, armed with magic, triumph over giants and witches and wild beasts. They outwit mean, selfish adults. Inevitably the boy and girl fall in love and live happily ever after. And parents keep reading because they approve of the finger-wagging lessons inserted into the stories: keep your promises, don't talk to strangers, work hard, obey your parents. According to the Grimms, the collection served as "a manual of manners".

Altogether some 40 persons delivered tales to the Grimms. Many of the storytellers came to the Grimms' house in Kassel. The brothers particularly welcomed the visits of Dorothea Viehmann, a widow who walked to town to sell produce from her garden. An innkeeper daughter, Viehmann had grown up listening to stories from travellers on the road to Frankfurt. Among her treasure was "Aschenputtel" -Cinderella. Marie Hassenpflug was a 20-year-old friend of their sister, Charlotte, from a well-bred, French-speaking family. Marie's wonderful stories blended motifs from the oral tradition and from Perrault's influential 1697 book, *Tales of My Mother Goose*, which contained elaborate versions of "Little Red Riding Hood", "Snow White", and "Sleeping Beauty", among others. Many of these had been adapted from earlier Italian tales.

Given that the origins of many of the Grimm fairy tales reach throughout Europe and into the Middle East and Orient, the question must be asked: How German are the Grimm tales? Very, says scholar Heinz Rolleke. Love of the underdog, rustic simplicity, creative energy—these are Teutonic traits. The coarse texture of life during medieval times in Germany, when many of the tales entered the oral tradition, also coloured the narratives. Throughout Europe, children were often neglected and abandoned, like Hansel and Gretel. Accused witches were burned at the stake, like the evil mother-in-law in "The Six Swans". "The cruelty in the stories was not the Grimm's fantasy", Rolleke points out "It reflected the law-and-order system of the old times".

The editorial fingerprints left by the Grimms betray the specific values of 19th-century Christian, bourgeois German society. But that has not stopped the tales from being embraced by almost every culture and nationality in the world. What accounts for this widespread, enduring popularity? Bernhard Lauer points to the "universal style" of the writing, you have no

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concrete descriptions of the land, or the clothes, or the forest, or the castles. It makes the stories timeless and placeless,” The tales allow us to express ‘our utopian longings’,” says Jack Zipes of the University of Minnesota, whose 1987 translation of the complete fairy tales captures the rustic vigour of the original text. They show a striving for happiness that none of us knows but that we sense is possible. We can identify with the heroes of the tales and become in our mind the masters and mistresses of our own destinies.”

Fairy tales provide a workout for the unconscious, psychoanalysts maintain. Bruno Bettelheim famously promoted the therapeutic of the Grimms’ stories, calling fairy tales the “great comforters. By confronting fears and phobias, symbolized by witches, heartless stepmothers, and hungry wolves, children find they can master their anxieties. Bettelheim’s theory continues to be hotly debated. But most young readers aren’t interested in exercising their unconsciousness. The Grimm tales, in fact, please in an infinite number of ways, something about them seems to mirror whatever moods or interests we bring to our reading of them. The flexibility of interpretation suits them for almost any time and any culture.

## Questions 1-6

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?

In boxes 1-6 on your answer sheet, write

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

1  The Grimm brothers believed they would achieve international fame.

2  The Grimm brothers were forced to work in secret.

3  Some parents today still think Grimm fairy tales are not suitable for children.

4  The first edition of Grimm’s fairy tales sold more widely in England than in Germany.

5  Adults like reading Grimm’s fairy tales for reasons different from those of children.

6  The Grimm brothers based the story “Cinderella” on the life of Dorothea Viehmann

## Questions 7-9

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

Write your answers in boxes **7-9** on your answer sheet.

7 In paragraph 4, what changes happened at that time in Europe?

- A** Literacy levels of the population increased.
- B** The development of printing technology made it easier to publish.
- C** Schools were open to children.
- D** People were fond of collecting superb picture books.

8 What changes did the Grimm Brothers make in later editions?

- A** They made the stories shorter
- B** They used more oral language
- C** The content of the tales became less violent.
- D** They found other origins of the tales.

9 What did Marie Hassenpflug contribute to the Grimm's Fairy tales?

- A** She wrote stories.
- B** She discussed the stories with them.
- C** She translated a popular book for the brothers using her talent for languages.
- D** She told the oral stories that were based on traditional Italian stories.

## Questions 10-14

Write the correct letter, **A-H**, in boxes **10-14** on your answer sheet.

10  Heinz Rolleke said the Grimm's tales are "German" because the tales

11  Heinz Rolleke said the abandoned children in tales

12  Bernhard Lauer said the writing style of the Grimm brothers is

universal because they

13

Jack Zipes said the pursuit of happiness in the tales means they

14

Bruno Bettelheim said the therapeutic value of the tales means that the fairy tales

# READING PASSAGE 2

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



## IS AID HURTING AFRICA?

Despite its population of more than one billion and its rich land and natural resources, the continent of Africa remains poor. The combined economies of its 54 states equal that of one European country: the Netherlands.

It is difficult to speak of Africa as a unit as its states differ from each other in culture, climate, size, and political system. Since mid-20th-century independence, many African states have pursued different economic policies. Yet, none of them has overcome poverty. Why might this be?

One theory says Africa is unlucky. Sparsely populated with diverse language and culture, it contains numerous landlocked countries, and it is far from international markets. Dambisa Moyo, a Zambian-born economist, has another theory. In her 2009 book, *Dead Aid*, she proposes that international aid is largely to blame for African poverty because it has encouraged dependence and corruption, and has diverted talented people from the business. One of her statistics is that from 1970-98, when aid to Africa was highest, poverty rose from eleven to 66%. If aid were cut, she believes Africans would utilise their resources more creatively.

When a state lacks the capacity to care for its people, international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), like Oxfam or the Red Cross, assume this role. While NGOs distribute food or medical supplies, Moyo argues they reduce the ability of the state to provide. Furthermore, during this process, those in government and the military siphon off aid goods and money themselves. Transparency International, an organisation that surveys corruption, rates the majority of African states poorly.

Moyo provides another example. Maybe a Hollywood star donates American-made mosquito nets. Certainly, this benefits malaria-prone areas, but it also draws business away from local

African traders who supply nets. More consultation is needed between do-gooder foreigners and local communities.

Moyo also suggests African nations increase their wealth by investment in bonds, or by increased co-operation with China.

The presidents of Rwanda and Senegal are strong supporters of Moyo, but critics say her theories are simplistic. The international aid community is not responsible for geography, nor has it anything to do with the military takeover, corruption, or legislation that hampers trade. Africans have had half a century of self-government and economic control, yet, as the population of the continent doubled, its GDP has risen only 60%. In the same period, Malaysia and Vietnam threw off colonialism and surged ahead economically by investing in education, health, and infrastructure; by lowering taxes on international trade; and, by being fortunate to be surrounded by other successful nations.

The economist Paul Collier has speculated that if aid were cut, African governments would not find alternative sources of income, nor would they reduce corruption. Another economist, Jeffrey Sachs, has calculated that twice the amount of aid currently given is needed to prevent suffering on a grand scale.

In *Dead Aid*, Moyo presents her case through a fictitious country called 'Dongo', but nowhere does she provide examples of real aid organisations causing actual problems. Her approach may be entertaining, but it is hardly academic.

Other scholars point out that Africa is dominated by tribal societies with military-government elites. Joining the army, rather than doing business, was the easiest route to personal wealth and power. Unsurprisingly, military takeovers have occurred in almost every African country. In the 1960s and 70s, European colonials were replaced by African 'colonials' – African generals and their families. Meantime, the very small, educated bourgeoisie has moved abroad. All over Africa, strongmen leaders have ruled for a long time, or one unstable military regime has succeeded another. As a result, business, separate from the military government is rare, and international investment limited.

Post-secondary education rates are low in Africa. Communications and transportation remain basic although mobile phones are having an impact. The distances farmers must travel to market are vast due to poor roads. High cross-border taxes and long bureaucratic delays are par for the course. African rural populations exceed those elsewhere in the world. Without a decent infrastructure or an educated urbanised workforce, a business cannot prosper. Recent World Bank statistics show that in southern Africa, the number of companies using the internet for business is 20% as opposed to 40% in South America or 80% in the US. There are 37 days each year without water whereas there is less than one day in Europe. The average cost of sending one container to the US is \$7600, but only \$3900 from East Asia or the Pacific. All



these problems are the result of poor state planning.

Great ethnic and linguistic diversity within African countries has led to tribal favouritism. Governments are often controlled by one tribe or allied tribes; civil war is usually tribal. It is estimated each civil war costs a country roughly \$64 billion. Southern Africa had 34 such conflicts from 1940-2000 while South Asia, the next-affected region, had only 24 in the same period. To this day, a number of bloody conflicts continue.

Other opponents of Moyo add that her focus on market investment and more business with China is shortsighted. The 2008 financial crisis meant that countries with market investments lost money. Secondly, China's real intentions in Africa are unknown, but everyone can see China is buying up African farmland and securing cheap oil supplies.

All over Africa, there are untapped resources, but distance, diversity, and low population density contribute to poverty. Where there is no TV, infrequent electricity, and bad roads, there still seems to be money for automatic weapons just the right size for 12-year-old boys to use. Blaming the West for assisting with aid fails to address the issues of continuous conflict, ineffective government, and little infrastructure. Nor does it prevent terrible suffering.

Has aid caused problems for Africa, or is Africa's strife of its own making or due to geography? Whatever you think, Dambisa Moyo's book has generated lively discussion, which is fruitful for Africa.

## Questions 15-25

Complete the chart on the following page.

Choose **ONE WORD OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.

(image Q28-38)

15 \_\_\_\_\_

16 \_\_\_\_\_

17 \_\_\_\_\_

18 \_\_\_\_\_

19 \_\_\_\_\_

20 \_\_\_\_\_

21 \_\_\_\_\_

22 \_\_\_\_\_

23 \_\_\_\_\_

24 \_\_\_\_\_

25 \_\_\_\_\_

### AFRICA'S PROBLEMS

Africa has a lot of people, 28 \_\_\_\_\_, and natural resources.



Yet it is still 29 \_\_\_\_\_.



Moyo's theory
International 30 _____ is largely responsible. States now depend on it, and are corrupt as a result. Talented people have been drawn away from 31 _____ by working for NGOs. If foreigners help, they ought to involve local 32 _____ more. African states should buy into bond markets, and have a closer relationship with 33 _____.

Other scholars' theories
This is because Africa is unfortunate due to its 34 _____. It is a long way from international markets. It is also culturally and politically diverse. However, corrupt military-government elites control most of the economy. Many African business-people have left. There is little international 35 _____. 36 _____, communications, and transportation remain under-developed. Numerous civil wars, mostly tribal, have been costly. From 1940-2000, there were 37 _____ of these.



#### Without international aid:

Moyo's theory
Africa would use its resources more creatively.

Other scholars' theories
Africans would experience enormous 38 _____.

### Questions 26-27

Choose **TWO** letters: A-E.


Which of the statements does the writer of Passage support?

- A Moyo is right that international aid is causing Africa's problems.
- B Moyo has ignored the role of geography in Africa.

- C Convincing evidence is lacking in Moyo's theory.
- D Most political leaders in Africa agree with Moyo's analysis.
- E Useful discussion about Africa has resulted from Moyo's book.

# READING PASSAGE 3


You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 28-40 which are based on Reading Passage 3.



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Reading Passage 3

## The return of monkey life



## The return of monkey life

Rain forest trees growing anew on Central American farmland are helping scientists find ways for monkey and agriculture to benefit one another.

**A.** Hacienda La Pacifica, a remote working cattle ranch in Guanacaste province of northern Costa Rica, has for decades been home to a community of mantled howler monkeys. Other native primates- white-faced capuchin monkeys and spider monkeys were once common in this area, too, but vanished after the Pan-American Highway was built nearby in the 1950s and most of the surrounding land was cleared for cattle-raising. At Hacienda La Pacifica, however, an enlightened ranch owner chose to leave some strips of native trees growing. He used these as windbreaks to protect both cattle and their food crops from dry-season winds. In the process, the farmer unwittingly founded a unique laboratory for the study of monkeys.

**B.** Ken Glander, a primatologist from Duke University in the USA, is studying La Pacifica's monkeys in an effort to understand the relationship between howlers and regenerating forests at the edges of grazing lands. Studying such disturbed woodlands is increasingly important because throughout much of the New World Tropics, these are the only forests left. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, tropical dry forests once covered most of Central America, but by the 1980s less than two percent remained undisturbed, and less than one percent was protected.

**C.** Howlers persists at La Pacifica, Glander explains, because they are leaf-eaters. They eat fruit when it is available but, unlike capuchin and spider monkeys, do not depend on large areas

of fruiting trees. Glander is particularly interested in howlers' ability to thrive on leaves loaded with toxins- poisonous substances designed to protect the plants. For leaf-eaters, long-term exposure to a specific plant toxin can increase their ability to neutralize the poisonous substances and absorb the leaf nutrients. Watching generations of howlers at La Pacifica has shown Glander that the monkeys keep their systems primed by sampling a variety of plants and then focusing on a small number of the most nutritious food items. The leaves that grow in regenerating forests, like those at La Pacifica, are actually more howler-friendly than those produced by the centuries-old trees that survive farther south. In younger forests, trees put most of their limited energy into growing wood, leaves, and fruit, so they produce much lower levels of toxin than do well-established, old-growth trees.

**D.** The value of maturing forests to primates is also a subject of study at Santa Rosa National Park, about 35 miles northwest of La Pacifica. Large areas of Santa Rosa's forests had at one time been burnt to make space for cattle ranching and coffee farming, thereby devastating local monkey habitat. But in 1971 the government protected the area by designating it a National Park, and species of Indigenous Lees which had been absent for decades began to invade the abandoned pastures. Capuchins were the first to begin using the reborn forests, followed by howlers. Eventually, even spider monkeys, fruit-eaters that need large areas of continuous forest, returned. In the first 28 years following protection of the area, the capuchin population doubled, while the number of howlers increased sevenfold.

**E.** Some of the same traits that allow howlers to survive at La Pacifica also explain their population boom in Santa Rosa, Howler reproduction is faster than that of other native monkey species. They give birth for the first time at about 3.5 years of age, compared with seven years for capuchins, and eight or more for spider monkeys. Also, while a female spider monkey will have a baby about once every four years, well-fed howlers can produce an infant every two years. Another factor is diet. Howlers are very adaptable feeders, and only need a comparatively small home range. Spider monkeys, on the other hand, need to occupy a huge home range. Also crucial is fact that the leaves howlers eat hold plenty of water, so the monkeys can survive away from open streams and water holes. This ability gives them a real advantage over capuchin and spider monkeys, which have suffered during the long, ongoing drought in the area.

**F.** Alejandro Estrada, an ecologist at Estacion de Biologia Los Tuxtlas in Veracruz, Mexico, has been studying the ecology of a group of howler monkeys that thrive in a habitat totally altered by humans: a cacao plantation in Tabasco state, Mexico. Cacao plants need shade to grow, so

40 years ago the owners of Cholula Cacao Farm planted figs, monkeypod and other tall trees to form a protective canopy over their crop. The howlers moved in about 25 years ago after nearby forests were cut. This strange habitat seems to support about as many monkeys as would a same-sized patch of wild forest. The howlers eat the leaves and fruit of the shade trees, leaving the valuable cacao pods alone.

**G.** Estrada believes the monkeys bring underappreciated benefits to such plantations, dispersing the seeds of fruits such as fig and other shade trees, and fertilizing the soil. Spider monkeys also forage for fruit here, though they need nearby areas of forest to survive in the long term. He hopes that farmers will begin to see the advantages of associating with wild monkeys, which could include potential ecotourism projects, ‘Conservation is usually viewed as a conflict between farming practices and the need to preserve nature,’ Estrada says. ‘We’re moving away from that vision and beginning to consider ways in which commercial activities may become a tool for the conservation of primates in human-modified landscapes.’

### Question 28 - 31

Reading Passage has seven paragraphs, A-G.

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter A-G, in boxes 1-4 on your answer sheet.

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

**NB** You may use any letter more than once

28  A reason why newer forests provide howlers with better feeding opportunities than older forests

29  A reference to a change in farmers’ attitudes towards wildlife

30  A description of the means by which howlers select the best available diet for themselves

31  Figures relating to the reduction of natural wildlife habitat over a period of time

### Questions 32-35

Complete the summary below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 32-35 on your answer sheet.

#### Why do howlers have an advantage over other

#### Central American monkeys?

Howler monkeys have a more rapid rate of 32  than either capuchin or spider monkeys.

Unlike the other local monkey species, howlers can survive without eating 33 .

and so can live inside a relatively small habitat area. Their diet is more flexible, and they are able to tolerate leaves with high levels of 34 .

Howlers can also survive periods of 35  better than the other monkey species can.

### Question 36 - 40

Look at the following features (Questions 36-40) and the list of locations below.

Match each feature with the correct location, A, B or C.

Write the correct letter, A, B or C, in boxes 36-40 on your answer sheet.

List of Locations	
A	A
B	B
C	C

**NB** You may use any letter more than once.

36  It has seen the return of native tree species.

37  It supports only one species of native monkey.

- 38  Its monkey population helps the agriculture of the area.
- 39  It is home to populations of all three local monkey species.
- 40  Its landscape was altered by the construction of a transport link.





## Solution:

### Part 1: Question 1 - 14

- |       |             |
|-------|-------------|
| 1 NO  | 2 NOT GIVEN |
| 3 YES | 4 NOT GIVEN |
| 5 YES | 6 NO        |
| 7 A   | 8 C         |
| 9 D   | 10 D        |
| 11 A  | 12 H        |
| 13 E  | 14 B        |

### Part 2: Question 15 - 26

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 15 land        | 16 poor       |
| 17 aid         | 18 business   |
| 19 communities | 20 China      |
| 21 geography   | 22 investment |
| 23 education   | 24 34         |

25 suffering

$\frac{26}{27}$  C,E

**Part 3: Question 28 - 40**

28 C

29 G

30 E

31 B

32 REPRODUCTION

33 FRUIT

34 TOXICS

35 DROUGHT

36 B

37 C

38 C

39 A

40 A