Grade 12 Adv. Term 1 – Reading Comprehension 3

Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answer:

Smoking is the single largest preventable cause of death worldwide. It is killing about 2200 people in India every day; that means one every forty seconds. It is alarming that, despite this, smoking is increasing among the youth of India. According to a World Bank study, India, Indonesia, and China are the only countries in the world where the incidence of smoking is going up. It is increasing not only in cities but also in towns and villages. Higher education groups are also taking to smoking more readily. Since smoking enjoys social acceptance, it is easy to get cigarettes. What starts as an experiment soon turns into a habit. It is difficult to give up smoking because, unlike other drugs, the craving for it is immediate. Nicotine in cigarettes brings structural changes in the brain. Its non-availability can cause symptoms of agitation. Smoking also has a strong associational aspect. People smoke while reading, after meals, or with a cup of coffee.

1. ***Which of the following best summarizes the primary concern presented in the passage?***
   A) The rising popularity of smoking among different demographics.
   B) The health risks associated with smoking.
   C) The social acceptance of smoking in India.
   D) The increase in smoking-related deaths in India.

2. ***What is indicated as a significant reason for the difficulty in quitting smoking, according to the passage?***
   A) The financial cost of purchasing cigarettes.
   B) The immediate craving for nicotine.
   C) The lack of support from family and friends.
   D) The influence of media advertisements.

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3. ***The passage states that higher education groups are taking to smoking more readily. What inference can be drawn from this statement?***
   A) Education leads to higher smoking rates due to stress.
   B) Smoking is more accepted among educated individuals.
   C) Higher education has no impact on smoking behavior.
   D) There is a correlation between education and lower smoking rates.

4. ***Which of the following statements about nicotine is true according to the passage?***
   A) Nicotine has no physiological effects on the brain.
   B) Nicotine induces long-term changes in brain structure.
   C) Nicotine is less addictive than other drugs.
   D) Nicotine is readily available in the environment.

5. ***What does the phrase "strong associational aspect" imply in the context of smoking?***
   A) Smoking is commonly linked with specific social activities.
   B) Smoking is associated with negative health outcomes.
   C) Smoking has no relation to personal habits.
   D) Smoking is considered an individualistic choice.

6. ***How does the passage frame the relationship between smoking and social acceptance?***
   A) Social acceptance of smoking has declined in recent years.
   B) Social acceptance facilitates easier access to cigarettes.
   C) Social acceptance has no effect on smoking rates.
   D) Social acceptance leads to increased regulations on smoking.

7. ***What statistical figure does the passage provide to highlight the severity of smoking-related deaths in India?***
   A) 2200 deaths every month.
   B) 2200 deaths every day.
   C) One death every minute.
   D) One death every forty seconds.

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8. ***The author expresses alarm regarding smoking trends in India. What evidence supports this concern?***
   A) Smoking is decreasing in urban areas.
   B) The youth demographic is increasingly taking up smoking.
   C) Public health campaigns are effectively reducing smoking rates.
   D) Only a few countries are experiencing a rise in smoking.

9. ***The passage implies that people smoke in various situations. What does this suggest about smoking as a behavior?***
   A) It is primarily a stress-relief activity.
   B) It is integrated into daily routines and rituals.
   C) It is an isolated and individualistic choice.
   D) It is mainly a response to peer pressure.

10. ***According to the passage, why might smoking be perceived as less harmful among the youth?***
    A) Due to a lack of awareness of health risks.
    B) Because of positive media portrayal.
    C) As a result of family influence.
    D) Due to peer support groups.

- *Test your reading comprehension skills. To check your answers, WhatsApp me to get the answer key.*

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