



**1ST SEMESTER TEST BANK
& MOCK EXAM**

**GRADE
11**

QUESTIONS

GRADE 11 – UNIT ONE – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage, then answer the questions that follow:

Your genes are responsible for your appearance and your health. Half your genes are from your mother, the other half from your father. You are not identical to your mother or your father, but you probably look a bit like both of them. Or you may resemble one of your grandparents. But even if you are like other members of your family, you are unique. Your genes are different from everyone else's genes. The only people who have exactly the same genes are identical twins. They should look exactly the same.

Some of the features you inherit from your parents are hair, eye colour, skin colour and facial features like the size and shape of your nose. You probably have the same hair colour as one of your parents, but this is not always true. Two dark-haired parents can have a blond or red-headed child. This happens when there was a blond or red-headed ancestor. Fifty per cent of men with bald fathers will lose their hair. But the gene for baldness can come from the mother's family too -only boys should look at their mother's father. They may take after him.

The strongest, or **dominant**, gene in eye colour is brown. If both parents have brown eyes, their children probably have brown eyes too. It's also common for two brown-eyed parents to have a blue-eyed child, but unusual for two blue-eyed parents to have a brown-eyed child. As well as eye colour, you can inherit poor eyesight from your parents. So if you're short-sighted, you're probably not the only person in your family who wears glasses.

There are many different skin colours: from black, dark brown, brown, light brown, to white. Most families share the same skin colour, but black parents can give birth to a lighter-skinned child if they have pale-skinned ancestors. Usually, a black and a white parent have dark-skinned children because black is a dominant gene. But twin sisters Hayleigh and Lauren are exceptions. One twin is black and the other is white. Hayleigh looks exactly like her black father, and Lauren is the image of her white mother. This was only possible because their father had a white relative in his past.

Finally, if you are left-handed or if you have dimples in your cheeks or chin, you can thank your genes.

a) From a, b, c, or d, choose the correct answer:

1. What is the best title for the passage?

- a) Human Beings
- b) Features of Twins
- c) A Family Tradition
- d) It's All in the Genes

2. The underlined word "their" in the 2nd paragraph refers to:

- a) boys
- b) men
- c) bald fathers
- d) mother's family

3. The underlined word "dominant" in the 3rd paragraph means:

- a) controlling
- b) appropriate
- c) weak
- d) main

4. From the 1st paragraph, we learn that genes:

- a) are identical in everybody.
- b) specify who your parents are.
- c) determine what you look like.
- d) come mainly from your grandparents' side.

5. According to the 2nd paragraph, ONE of the following statements is TRUE about men:

- a) They nearly always have sons who go bald.
- b) They sometimes inherit baldness from their mother's side.
- c) They always lose their hair because of their father's genes.
- d) They never pass on baldness through their daughter's genes.

B) With reference to the passage, answer the following questions:

6. Which people have exactly the same genes?

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7. What features do you inherit from your parents?

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8. How can you explain that two brown-eyed parents have a blue-eyed child?

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9. According to the 4th paragraph, explain why black and white parents give birth to dark-skinned children.

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GRADE 11 – UNIT TWO– READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage, then answer the questions that follow:

Dyslexia is a learning disorder that involves difficulty reading due to problems identifying speech sounds and learning how they relate to letters and words (decoding). Also called reading disability, dyslexia affects areas of the brain that process language. People with dyslexia have normal intelligence, and they usually have normal vision. Most children with dyslexia can succeed in school with tutoring or a specialised education programme. Emotional support also plays an important role for **them**.

The symptoms of dyslexia can be difficult to recognise before your child enters school, but some early clues may indicate a problem. Once your child reaches school age, your child's teacher may be the first to notice a problem. The condition often becomes **apparent** as a child starts learning to read. Once your child is in school, dyslexia signs and symptoms may become more apparent, including: Reading well below the expected level for age, having problems concerning processing and understanding what he or she hears and having a difficulty to find the right word or forming answers to questions. One thing that can be observed in a dyslexic's writing is that some of the letters will be written backwards.

Dyslexia tends to run in families. It appears to be linked to certain genes that affect how the brain processes reading and language, as well as risk factors in the environment. Scientists have listed some dyslexia risk factors. A family history of dyslexia or other learning disabilities gives an early clue. Early birth or low birth weight of a baby can also lead to dyslexia. Exposure during pregnancy to nicotine, drugs, or infection that may alter brain development in the fetus will surely cause dyslexia. Finally, Individual differences in the parts of the brain that enable reading can negatively affect the reading ability of the child.

Dyslexia is not a medical problem. There is no medication that can heal dyslexia. Dyslexia is a disorder present at birth, and it can be managed with special instruction and support. Early interference to address reading problems is important. Parents must understand that children with dyslexia can learn normally but probably need to learn in different ways than children without the condition. Teaching should be individualised and may involve modelling letters and words in clay or other three-dimensional techniques to help the child learn letters and words. It should be carefully chosen to meet the child's needs.

a- From a, b, c, or d, choose the right answer:

1-The best title for this passage is

- a. Dyslexia: the Reading Disorder
- b. Different Learning Styles
- c. Medical Problems
- d. Dyslexia and Normal Intelligence

2-The underlined word "**apparent**" in the **2nd** paragraph is closest in meaning to

- a. clear
- b. difficult
- c. early
- d. hidden

3-The underlined pronoun "**them**" in the **1st** paragraph refers to

- a. children with dyslexia
- b. people with dyslexia
- c. areas of the brain
- d. speech sounds

4- Dyslexia is a learning disorder that involves difficulty reading due to.....

- a. a hearing and talking problem.
- b. a problem in relating letters and words.
- c. parental and social issues.
- d. strict school instructions and regulations.

5- **ONE** of the following sentences is **FALSE** about dyslexia:

- a. We can treat dyslexia with medicine.
- b. Dyslexia has a connection with genes.
- c. Dyslexia affects areas of the brain.
- d. Letters are written backwards.

B-Answer the following questions:

6-Which areas does dyslexia affect?

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.....

7-When does dyslexia become apparent?

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.....

8-Many problems that can happen during pregnancy may lead to dyslexia. Mention two.

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9-How can dyslexia be managed?

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.....

GRADE 11 – UNIT THREE – READING COMPREHENSION

- Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Most people have heard of Shakespeare and probably know something of the plays he wrote. However, not everybody knows much about this remarkable man, except perhaps that he was born in the market town of Stratford-upon-Avon and that he married a woman called Anne Hathaway. We know nothing of his school life. We do not know, for example, how long it lasted, but we presume that he attended the local grammar school, where the principal subject was Latin. Nothing specific is known of what he did between the time he left school and his **departure** for London. Many legends were told about the reasons that made him leave Stratford, but nobody was sure of them.

Whatever caused him to leave the town of his birth, the world can be grateful that he did so. What is certain is that he set foot on the road to fame when he arrived in London. It is said that at first, he was without money or friends there, but that he earned a little by taking care of the horses of the gentlemen who attended the plays at the theatres. In time, as he became a familiar figure to the actors in the theatre, **they** stopped and spoke to him. They found his conversation so brilliant that finally, he was invited to join the company.

Earlier than 1592, there was no mention of Shakespeare either as an actor or as a playwright. Even the name of the theatre he worked in was not known. However, by this date, he had become one of the three leading members of a company of actors. This company travelled about the country, giving performances in different towns, and also performed plays at the Court. His plays attracted large audiences. He also shared in the profits of the works. Thus, his connections with the theatre made him a wealthy man.

Shakespeare died in 1616. Some years earlier, he chose a gravestone under which he was to be buried. He had a statement engraved on this stone which threatened to bring misfortune to anyone who might steal his grave. It seems strange that he should have had this fear. He must have known how greatly he was respected, even in his lifetime, for the genius that he showed in his plays and poems.

A- From a, b, c, or d, choose the right answer:

1. The best title for the text is:
 - a. A Genius Poet and Playwright.
 - b. A Famous Playwright.
 - c. A Talented Poet.
 - d. A Mystery in a Writer's Life.

2. The underlined word “**departure**” in the 1st paragraph is opposite in meaning to:
 - a. arriving
 - b. leaving
 - c. visiting
 - d. moving

3. The underlined pronoun “**they**” in the 2nd paragraph refers to:
 - a. the actors
 - b. the theatres
 - c. the gentlemen
 - d. the horses

4. The 3rd paragraph sheds light on:
 - a. the reasons why Shakespeare went to London.
 - b. how Shakespeare was fought in London.
 - c. how Shakespeare could make friends in London.
 - d. how Shakespeare became a famous dramatist in London

5. According to the passage, one of the following facts is **NOT TRUE** about Shakespeare:
 - a. Shakespeare died in 1616.
 - b. Shakespeare was a great poet and playwright.
 - c. Shakespeare left school as he was bad at Latin.
 - d. Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon.

B- Answer the following questions:

6. What did Shakespeare learn in the local grammar school in Stratford?

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7. Why did the actors in the theatre ask Shakespeare to join them?

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8. Where did Shakespeare start to become wealthy and famous?

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.....

9. What was the activity that made Shakespeare a rich man?

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GRADE 11 – UNIT FOUR – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage, then answer the questions that follow:

Did you know that some people do not do their reading assignments? Some students do not even read the short texts that they are assigned in class. There are many reasons for this. They may be distracted or bored. They may be unwilling to focus. They may be unconfident readers. Whatever the reason, it must stop today.

Reading **stimulates** your mind. It is like a workout for your brain. When people get old, their muscles begin to deteriorate. They get weaker, and their strength leaves them. Exercise can prevent this loss. The same thing happens to people's brains when they get older. Brain power and speed decline with age. Reading strengthens your brain and prevents these declines.

You can benefit from reading in the near term, too. Reading provides knowledge. Knowledge is power. Therefore, reading can make you a more powerful person. You can learn to do new things by reading. Do you want to make video games? Do you want to design clothing? Reading can teach you all this and more. But you have to get good at reading, and the only way to get good at something is to practice.

Read everything that you can at school, regardless of whether you find it interesting. Reading expands your vocabulary. Even a "boring" text can teach you new words. Having a larger vocabulary will help you better express yourself. You will be able to speak, write, and think more intelligently.

Do not just discount a text because it is unfamiliar to you. Each time you read, you are exposed to new ideas and perspectives. Reading can change the way that you understand the world. **It** can give you a broader perspective on things. It can make you worldlier. You can learn how people live in faraway places. You can learn about cultures different from your own.

Reading is good for your state of mind as it has a calming effect. It can lower your stress levels and help you relax. You can escape from your troubles for a moment when you read, and it is a positive escape. So, do yourself a favour: the next time you get a reading assignment, take as much as you can from it. Squeeze it for every drop of knowledge that it contains. Then move on to the next one.

A. Choose the correct answer from a, b, c, or d:

1. The main idea of the second paragraph is:

- a) Age affects the body in many ways.
- b) Reading deteriorates your muscles.
- c) Reading strengthens your mind.
- d) Working out keeps your body in shape.

2. The word "**stimulates**" in the 2nd paragraph means:

- a) hits
- b) kills
- c) stops
- d) energises

3. The word "**it**" in the 5th paragraph refers to:

- a) way
- b) reading
- c) world
- d) text

4. **According to the 1st paragraph, ONE of the following statements is FALSE:**

- a) Some students do not read the short texts that they are assigned in class.
- b) Students don't do their reading assignments because they feel bored.
- c) Students don't do their reading assignments because they are unwilling to focus.
- d) Students don't do their reading assignments because they may be confident readers.

5. **The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:**

- a) persuade people to read as much as they can.
- b) show the obstacles that face readers.
- c) inform people about the books they should read.
- d) advise people about the time to read books.

B. With reference to the passage, answer the following questions:

6. Why does the author believe that reading is good for your state of mind?

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7. How is reading beneficial in the near term?

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8. How can reading help you think intelligently?

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9. Why does the author encourage readers not to discount unfamiliar texts?

.....

GRADE 11 – UNIT FIVE – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow:

Octopuses are creatures that can do amazing things. They are extremely intelligent, and they can learn new things just like humans. They have even learned a few tricks to get **them** out of sticky situations. If an octopus is threatened by a predator, such as a shark or bird, it can use some pretty **incredible** skills to get away.

Octopuses do not have teeth or sharp claws to defend themselves. Instead, they use more clever ways to fool their attackers. Octopuses like to hide themselves in the sand on the bottom of the ocean floor; the octopus is like a chameleon because it can change the colour of its skin to match the sand. This colour change, or camouflage, happens in less than a minute. Some octopuses like to stay in shallower water where there are rocks and coral. Because octopuses are invertebrates, meaning they do not have backbones, they can squeeze themselves into small spaces between the rocks to get out of reach of their predators. Another way an octopus can hide is by shooting ink. The ink forms a cloud that hides the octopus. By the time the ink clears, and the predator can see again, the octopus has swum away or hidden.

Moreover, if an octopus is being attacked, it can actually make itself look like a venomous sea snake. There is one kind of octopus that has venom to use in defence. The blue-ringed octopus is tiny; it could fit in the palm of your hand. Predators might think this size makes the octopus a great snack, but they know to stay away. It will bury itself in the sand, keeping two arms visible. It will change the colour of those arms to match a sea snake.

But what if there is no time to hide? If an octopus is in trouble, it can break off one of its arms. The arm will then change colours and squirm around in the water to distract the predator while the octopus swims away to safety. The octopus's arm will grow back.

The blue-ringed octopus is very poisonous and can kill predators much larger than itself, including humans. So, the next time you see an octopus in the aquarium or while you're snorkelling, remember that inside that oversized head is a very large brain, making them a clever addition to the sea.

A-From a, b, c, or d, choose the correct answer:

1. What is the best title for the passage?
 - a. A Large Brain
 - b. A Coloured Shark
 - c. A Wonderful Predator
 - d. An Amazing Sea Creature

2. What does the underlined word "**incredible**" in the 1st paragraph mean?
 - a. unfortunate
 - b. unimportant
 - c. unbelievable
 - d. uncomfortable

3. What does the underlined pronoun "**them**" in the 1st paragraph refer to?
 - a. tricks
 - b. things
 - c. humans
 - d. octopuses

4. What does a blue-ringed octopus do if it has no time to hide?
 - a. It will squeeze itself into a small space between a rock.
 - b. It will bury itself in the sand, keeping two arms visible.
 - c. It will change the colour of its arms to match a sea snake.
 - d. It will break off one of its arms to let it squirm around in the water.

5. According to the passage, all the following statements are **TRUE EXCEPT**:
 - a. Octopuses have sharp claws to defend themselves.
 - b. Octopuses are extremely intelligent sea animals.
 - c. Octopuses are threatened by predators under the sea.
 - d. Octopuses use some tricks when they are in trouble.

B-Write with reference to the passage, answer the following questions:

6. Why are octopuses intelligent?

.....

.....

7. Why do some octopuses like to stay in shallow water?

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.....

8. How do blue-ringed octopuses defend themselves?

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9. What happens to an octopus if it breaks off one of its arms?

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GRADE 11 – UNIT SIX – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage, then answer the questions that follow:

Mount Vesuvius, a volcano located between the ancient Italian cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, has received much attention because of its frequent and destructive eruptions. The most famous of these eruptions occurred in A.D. 79.

The volcano had been inactive for centuries. There was little warning of the coming eruption, although one account unearthed by archaeologists says that a hard rain and a strong wind had disturbed the celestial calm during the preceding night. Early the next morning, the volcano **poured** a huge river of molten rock down upon Herculaneum, completely burying the city and filling the harbour with solid lava.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the mountain, cinders, stone, and ash rained down on Pompeii. Sparks from the burning ash quickly ignited the combustible rooftops. Large portions of the city were destroyed in the conflagration. Fire, however, was not the only cause of destruction. Poisonous sulfuric gases saturated the air. These heavy gases were heavy in the atmosphere and therefore sank toward the earth and suffocated people.

Over the years, drilling into Pompeii and Herculaneum has revealed a great deal about the volcano's behaviour. By analysing data, much as a zoologist cuts an animal specimen, scientists have concluded that the eruption changed large portions of the area's geography. For instance, it turned the Sarno River from **its** course and raised the level of the beach along the Bay of Naples. Meteorologists studying these events have also concluded that Vesuvius caused a huge tidal wave that affected the world's climate.

In addition to making these investigations, archaeologists have been able to study the skeletons of victims by using distilled water to wash away the volcanic ash. By strengthening the brittle bones with acrylic paint, scientists have been able to examine the skeletons and draw conclusions about the diet and habits of the residents. Finally, the drilling at both Pompeii and Herculaneum has yielded many examples of classical art, such as jewellery made of bronze, which is an alloy of copper and tin. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius and its tragic consequences have provided everyone with a wealth of data about the effects that volcanoes can have on the surrounding area. Today, volcanologists can locate and predict eruptions, saving lives and preventing the destruction of other cities and cultures.

Choose the correct answer from a, b, c, or d:

1. The best title for the passage is:
 - a. The Great Eruption
 - b. The Huge River
 - c. The Destroying Lava
 - d. The Examined Skeletons

2. The underlined word "**poured**" in paragraph (2) means:
 - a. flowed
 - b. trickled
 - c. dribbled
 - d. dropped

3. The underlined pronoun "**its**" in paragraph (4) refers to:
 - a. the Sarno River
 - b. the eruption
 - c. the geography
 - d. the area

4. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:
 - a. inform readers about Mount Vesuvius volcano eruption.
 - b. persuade people to visit Mount Vesuvius volcano.
 - c. highlight the archaeological sight of Mount Vesuvius.
 - d. show the city atmosphere after the eruption.

5. According to paragraph (5), **ONE** of the following statements is **FALSE**:
 - a. Volcanologists can locate and predict eruptions.
 - b. Archaeologists have been able to study the skeletons of victims.
 - c. Scientists have been able to draw conclusions about the residents.
 - d. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius hasn't shown data on the surrounding area.

B- Write with reference to the passage, answer the following questions:

6. Why did gases sink towards the Earth?

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7. What conclusion have scientists come up with?

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8. What happened to Herculaneum and its harbour after the eruption?

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9. Who has concluded that the volcanic eruption caused a tidal wave?

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