1ST SEMESTER TEST BANK
& MOCK EXAM

GRADE 10

QUESTIONS

GRADE 10 – UNIT ONE – READING COMPREHENSION

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

How do you remember the way to your friend's house? Why do your eyes **blink** without you ever thinking about it? Your brain is in charge of these things. In fact, your brain is the boss of your body. It runs and controls just about everything you do, even when you're asleep. It's not bad for something that looks like a big grey wrinkly sponge.

The brain has many different parts that work together, such as the cerebrum, brain stem, pituitary gland, and hypothalamus. The biggest part of the brain is the cerebrum. The cerebrum is the thinking part of the brain, and **it** controls your voluntary muscles, which move when you want them to. So, you need your cerebrum to dance or kick a ball. You need your cerebrum to solve math problems or draw a picture. Your memory is stored in the cerebrum — both short-term memory and long-term memory. The cerebrum has two halves. Scientists think that the right half helps you think about abstract things like music, colours, and shapes. The left half is more analytical, helping you with math, logic, and speech.

There are other important parts of the brain, such as the cerebellum, which is a lot smaller than the cerebrum. It controls balance, movement, and coordination, how your muscles work together. Because of your cerebellum, you can stand upright, keep your balance, and move around. Think about a surfer riding the waves on his board. He needs his cerebellum to stand and control his movement. Another part is the brain stem, which is in charge of all the functions that your body needs to stay alive, such as breathing air, digesting food, and circulating blood. The pituitary gland is very small. Its job is to produce and release hormones into your body. The hypothalamus is like your brain's inner thermostat.

The hypothalamus knows what temperature your body should be. If your body is too hot, the hypothalamus tells it to sweat. If you're too cold, the hypothalamus gets you shivering.

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

1. The best **title** for this passage could be:
    a. Parts of the Body
    b. Parts of the Brain
    c. Abstract Knowledge
    d. The Pituitary Gland

2. The underlined word **"blink"** in the **1st** paragraph means:
    a. close and open
    b. succeed and fail
    c. run and stop
    d. start and finish

3. The underlined word **"it"** in the **2nd** paragraph refers to:
    a. the brain stem
    b. the brain
    c. the hypothalamus
    d. the cerebrum

4. According to the **3rd** paragraph, the pituitary gland:
    a. controls everything.
    b. keeps your body on low temperatures.
    c. produces and releases hormones into your body.
    d. helps you remember the way to your friend's house.

5. All of the following statements about are true **EXCEPT**:
    a. We blink without thinking about it.
    b. We need the cerebellum to solve problems or draw pictures.
    c. We need cerebellum to stand and control our movement and stand straight.
    d. We need the hypothalamus to allow our bodies to sweat whenever we feel hot.

6. The purpose of the writer in writing this passage is to:
    a. analyse different parts of the brain and their functions.
    b. tell us how the brain works.
    c. explain how to keep fit and healthy.
    d. state the benefits of sleeping.

B) Answer the following questions according to the passage:

7. What is the function of the brain stem?

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8. Which part of the brain is important for solving math problems?

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GRADE 10 – UNIT TWO – READING COMPREHENSION

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

Persuasion is the art of convincing someone to agree with your point of view. According to the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, there are three basic tools of persuasion: ethos, pathos, and logos.

Ethos is a speaker's way of convincing the audience that he/she is a credible source. An audience will consider a speaker **credible** if he/she seems trustworthy, reliable, and sincere. This can be done in many ways. For example, a speaker can develop ethos by explaining how much experience or education he/she has in the field. After all, you would consult a dentist, not a firefighter, for a toothache. A speaker can also create ethos by convincing the audience that he/she is a good person who has their best interests at heart. If an audience cannot trust you, you will not be able to persuade them.

Pathos is a speaker's way of connecting with an audience's emotions. For example, a speaker who is trying to convince an audience to vote for him might say that he alone can save the country. These words are intended to fill the audience with fear, thus making them want to vote for him. Similarly, a charity organisation that helps animals might show an audience picture of injured dogs and cats. These images are intended to make viewers feel pity, making **them** donate money.

Logos is the use of facts, information, statistics, or other evidence to make your argument more convincing. An audience will be more likely to believe you if you have data to support your claims. For example, a soap commercial might tell you that laboratory tests have shown that soap kills all 7,000,000 bacteria living on your hands right now. This piece of information might make you more likely to buy their brand of soap. Presenting this evidence is much more convincing than simply saying, "Our soap is the best!". Using logos can also increase a speaker's ethos; a speaker's use of more facts in his argument makes you more likely to think that he/she is educated and trustworthy.

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

1. The **best** title for the passage is:
    a. Writing Speeches
    b. Convincing Others
    c. Wise Aristotle
    d. Speaking Fluently

2. The underlined word "**credible**" in the **2nd** paragraph means:
    a. boring
    b. terrible
    c. believable
    d. horrible

3. The underlined word "**them**" in the **3rd** paragraph refers to:
    a. images
    b. animals
    c. viewers
    d. words

4. According to the **1st** paragraph, you may understand:
    a. The art of convincing others is very old.
    b. Only ancient Greeks used persuasion in their speeches.
    c. Aristotle developed persuasion using three different tools.
    d. Convincing and persuading others is used only among old men.

5. According to the passage, speakers can develop ethos by:
    a. connecting with an audience's emotions.
    b. convincing an audience to vote for them.
    c. explaining how much experience or education they have.
    d. showing images that are intended to make viewers feel pity.

6. The purpose of the writer in writing this passage is to:
    a. persuade readers to read about ancient philosophers.
    b. analyse Aristotle's writing style.
    c. convince others to buy soap.
    d. inform the audience of the tools of persuasion.

B) Answer the following questions:

7. How does the pathos tool work?

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8. How can logos help in building the ethos tool?

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GRADE 10 – UNIT THREE – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully, then answer the questions below:

Most serious health problems in modern America can be linked to poor diet. Many people regularly consume foods high in sodium, sugar, and saturated fats, which not only increases their chances of obesity but also increases their risks of developing heart disease or diabetes. There are many reasons for having a poor diet. Some people do so knowingly. A significant portion of the population remains undereducated about proper nutrition. Moreover, individuals who live in food desert areas, specifically in low-income neighbourhoods, may not even have the opportunity to obtain nutritious food.

Food deserts are located in high-poverty areas, such as rural areas or densely populated, low-income urban centres away from modern neighbourhoods. Food deserts most often develop when major supermarket chains either relocate out of these areas or simply refrain from building stores there. This means that those who live in high-poverty areas often also live miles away from the fresh meats, dairy products, and fresh fruits available at supermarkets. Residents of these areas who do not have cars are thus forced to travel long distances on public transportation to do **their** grocery shopping. They are limited to the food available at local convenience stores which sell packaged and processed foods that offer little nutritional value.

Fast food restaurants are extremely concentrated in low-income areas because individuals who live in food deserts tend to get their meals from fast food restaurants or convenience stores, they often suffer from a variety of health issues. Research has found that individuals who live in low-income neighbourhoods are much more likely to develop problems with obesity, diabetes, and hypertension than those who live in more **affluent** neighbourhoods.

A solution to the problem of food deserts seems obvious: more supermarkets should be built in low-income neighbourhoods. Of course, it is difficult to lure supermarket chains into poor areas because poorer people have less money to spend on food and supermarket chains do not consider them to be attractive customers. One way that the government can help to settle this issue is by offering tax breaks or other incentives for supermarkets in low-income areas. Moreover, community gardens and farmers' markets should offer local initiatives to solve the problem.

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

1. The **main idea** of the **1st** paragraph is:
    a. The risks of developing heart disease or diabetes.
    b. The bad effects of obesity on the American people.
    c. The solutions to the food deserts problem.
    d. The reasons for having a poor diet in America.

2. The underlined word "**affluent**" in the **3rd** paragraph means:
    a. low
    b. updated
    c. wealthy
    d. distant

3. The underlined word **"their"** in the **2nd** paragraph refers to:
    a. residents
    b. products
    c. distances
    d. supermarkets

4. According to the passage, if supermarkets opened locations in more low-income areas:
    a. members of low-income households would not go there.
    b. the supermarkets would be unable to compete with the fast-food chains.
    c. the convenience stores in the area would stop their business.
    d. the health of low-income residents would be more likely to improve.

5. According to the passage, one of the following statements is **NOT TRUE**:
    a. People who live in high-poverty areas often live miles away from fresh food.
    b. Major supermarket chains refrain from building stores in low-income areas.
    c. Convenience stores sell packaged and processed foods.
    d. Fast food restaurants are concentrated in high-income areas.

6. The purpose of the writer in writing this passage is to:
    a. inform us about supermarkets' contributions to obesity in America.
    b. warn us about the dangers of fast food.
    c. highlight the problem of food deserts and suggest solutions.
    d. encourage readers to live in low-income areas.

B) Answer the following questions:

7. What are the suggested solutions for food deserts?

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Where do individuals who live in food deserts get their meals?

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GRADE 10 – UNIT FOUR – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully, then answer the questions below:

Normal life never stays normal for long simply because it is stressful. Stress is often described as a feeling of being overloaded, wound up, tense, and nervous. We all experience stress at times. It can sometimes be positive and help motivate us to finish a task or perform well. But stress can also be harmful if we become overstressed, and it interferes with our ability to continue with our normal lives for too long.

When we face a stressful event, our bodies respond by activating the nervous system and releasing hormones such as adrenaline and cortisol from the adrenal glands. These hormones cause physical changes in the body which help us react quickly and effectively to get through stressful situations. They prepare our bodies to stay and fight or flee the situation. This is sometimes called the 'fight or flight' response. The hormones increase our heart rate, breathing, blood pressure, metabolism and muscle tension.

While these changes help people try to meet the challenges and effects of stressful situations, **they** can cause negative physical or psychological symptoms if stress is not controlled. These symptoms can include headaches, other aches and pains, anxiety, anger, depression, high blood pressure, heart diseases, lack of confidence and many other symptoms.

Learning to handle stress in healthy ways is very important. Fortunately, it is easy to learn simple techniques. These include **recognising** the causes of stress (some stress is natural), taking steps to deal with the problem, tackling the symptoms and most importantly, asking for help from a friend or a professional. The worst thing about stress is trying to take control of uncontrollable things. Because when we fail — since it's beyond our control — we only get more stressed out and feel helpless. Doing what's within our power moves us forward and is empowering and energising. In addition to that, having certain routines throughout the day helps us to relax, better enjoy what we have in our lives and manage the harmful effects of stress. These routines include regular times for exercise and relaxation and planning ahead to do certain jobs on specific days of the week.

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

1. The best **title** for this passage could be:
    a. The Daily Routines
    b. All About Physical Activities
    c. The Nervous System
    d. How to Deal with Stress

2. The underlined word **"recognising"** in the **4th** paragraph means:
    a. knowing
    b. tackling
    c. learning
    d. including

3. The underlined word **"they"** in the **3rd** paragraph refers to:
    a. effects
    b. changes
    c. challenges
    d. situations

4. According to the **2nd** paragraph**,** stress affects our bodies by:
    a. decreasing cortisol in our bodies.
    b. making our bodies release hormones.
    c. helping us react slowly and effectively.
    d. raising our heartbeat and lowering blood pressure.

5. According to the passage, all the following statements are **TRUE** except:
    a. The nervous system is activated in stressful events.
    b. Adrenaline lowers metabolism in stressful situations.
    c. The heart is responsible for controlling the adrenal glands.
    d. Stress activates the nervous system to release the necessary hormones.

6. The purpose of the writer in writing this passage is to:
    a. inform readers about the types of stress.
    b. teach readers how bodies release hormones.
    c. show readers the effects of stress on our blood pressure.
    d. tell readers about stress, its effects and ways to control it.

B. Answer the following questions:

7. Why shouldn't we try to take control over uncontrollable things?

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8. How can we handle stress in healthy ways?

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GRADE 10 – UNIT FIVE – READING COMPREHENSION

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

It was one of those terribly hot days in Baltimore. We always had those for a month between July and August. That day was particularly hotter than I could remember it had ever been. The weatherman on the radio said the temperature would reach 50°!

Needless to say, it was too hot to do anything outside. But it was also **scorching** in our apartment. This was 1962, and I would not live in a place with an air conditioner till ten years later. So, my brother and I decided to leave the apartment to go to a cooler place. I suggested the drugstore where I could get a soda or any kind of juice. But he reminded me that the shopkeeper in the drugstore would not let you sit there all day. My brother instead suggested watching a movie. It was a brilliant plan.

Movie theatres were one of the few places where you could sit for a long time and, more importantly, sit in air conditioning. In those days, you could buy one ticket and sit through both movies of a double feature. Then, the theatre would show the same two movies again after that. If you wanted to, you could sit through them twice. Most people did not do that, but the manager at our theatre, Mr. Bellow, did not mind if you did. That particular day, my brother and I watched both movies twice, trying to escape the heat. We sat and watched The Music Man, followed by The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance. We'd already seen the second movie once before. **It** had been shown at the theatre since January because Mr. Bellow loved anything with John Wayne in it. Watching it again was better than going outside, and at least The Music Man was new to us. We left the theatre around 8 PM, just before the evening shows began. We returned the next day and saw the same two movies again, twice more. And we did it the next day too.

Finally, on the fourth day, the heat wave broke. To this day, I can sing half the songs in The Music Man and quote half of John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart's dialogue from The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance! Those memories are some of the few I have of the heat wave of 1962.

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

1. The **main idea** of the **3rd** paragraph is:
    a. the importance of movies during the hot days.
    b. what kind of movies they watched.
    c. the effects of childhood memories.
    d. the importance of drugstores.

2. The **opposite** of the underlined word "**scorching**" in the **2nd** paragraph is:
    a. falling
    b. observing
    c. dropping
    d. freezing

3. The underlined word "**it**" in the **3rd** paragraph refers to:
    a. the heat
    b. the theatre
    c. the second movie
    d. that particular day

4. The idea that the writer first suggested wasn't nice because:
    a. the shopkeeper didn't let children enter drugstore.
    b. there was no air conditioner in the drugstore.
    c. the drugstore wouldn't let people stay there for a long time.
    d. they wanted to watch a movie.

5. According to the passage, one of the following statements is **NOT TRUE**:
    a. The boys watched the movies more than once.
    b. They didn't want to stay home.
    c. The weather was too hot during that day.
    d. The manager didn't like John Wayne's movies.

6. The purpose of the writer in writing the passage is to:
    a. persuade the readers to go to the cinema.
    b. inform us about how movie theatres used to work.
    c. tell us about one of his memories during hot days.
    d. show us why childhood memories are important.

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

7. What happened on the fourth day?

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8. Why did the writer and his brother decide to leave the apartment?

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GRADE 10 – UNIT SIX – READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer the questions below:

The village seems almost unchanged. A large area of green vegetation goes around the villagers' homes. Through the trees, you can still see in the main street the same shops that were there when you and I went away. Most of the older villagers have been happy enough to spend their whole lives here. Now, of course, they are used to the place, so they do not want to live away or travel far.

But for many young people, life here is not varied enough to satisfy them. Their parents tell them that city life is very hard and is too **competitive** to suit them, but the young men and women believe that conditions in the country are too limited to offer them opportunities for making a good living. Their parents naturally want to keep them. **They** say work on the land is peaceful. They are very friendly with their neighbours. They share their joys and sorrows. They help each other in misfortune. They are never lonely.

Very often the young men and women do not listen to them. The city has too many attractions to offer, with its busy streets, fine shops, bright lights, cinemas, and other entertainment. Many young villagers earn quite enough money in the city to have a comfortable life. However, they do not know how difficult it is to get to work, and what temptations await them. Some succeed, but many more fail. Also, life in the big city is fast-paced, fun, and exciting, but the cost of living is typically higher in big cities, and it can cost you a lot of money to rent a small apartment in a decent area of the city.

Although diversity is a good thing, the number of people can be a bit overwhelming if you are not accustomed to it. There will always be crowds and people around. Some people enjoy this, while others prefer the peace and quiet of a small town. There is always more crime in a big city, causing you to second-guess your decision to live in a big city. You are much more likely to be a victim of a crime living in a big city than in a small town. However, many people still prefer to stay in the city and say they couldn't live anywhere else.

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

1. The best **title** for the passage could be:
    a. City and Village Life
    b. Old Village People
    c. City Attractions
    d. Young and Old People

2. The underlined word **"they"** in the **2nd** paragraph refers to:
    a. young men and women
    b. parents
    c. villagers
    d. people

3. The underlined word **"competitive"** in the **4th** paragraph means:
    a. difficult
    b. ambitious
    c. interesting
    d. easy

4. According to the passage, the different attractions of the city are:
    a. green vegetation around all houses.
    b. cinemas and other entertainment.
    c. narrow dark streets.
    d. peace and quietness

5. According to the passage, all the following statements are **NOT TRUE** except:
    a. Young villagers leave because life in the village is not varied enough.
    b. Because the conditions in the city are too limited.
    c. Because the city seems almost unchanged**.**
    d. All people prefer to stay in the city.

6. The writer wrote the article to show:
    a. the differences between generations.
    b. the enlargement of modern cities.
    c. the attractions or difficulties one faces in a city.
    d. young people prefer to stay in the village.

B) Answer the following questions:

7. What are the benefits of staying in the village?

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8. Why are the older villagers happy enough to spend their whole lives in the village?

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