

PTE Research Offline Practice Test



Offline Practice Test

The Pearson Test of English, PTE, is a computer-based test designed to test your English reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

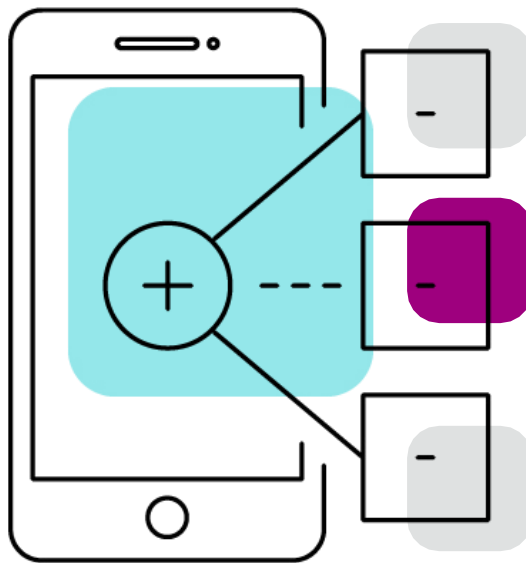
There are **three timed parts** in the PTE Research Test:

Part 1: Speaking and Writing

Part 2: Reading

Part 3: Listening

Each part of PTE Research Test is individually timed and the overall test takes approximately 2.5 hours.



Offline Practice Test

This PTE Research Offline Practice Test includes a combination of tasks covering each of the language skills – speaking, writing, reading and listening – as assessed in the actual test. This Offline Practice Test contains two new question types that people may not be familiar with, *Respond to a Situation* and *Summarize a Discussion*.

The table below shows the question types included in this Offline Practice Test:

Part	Content
Part 1: Speaking	Read Aloud
	Repeat Sentence
	Describe Image
	Re-tell Lecture
	Answer Short Question
	Respond to a Situation
	Summarize a Discussion
Part 1: Writing	Summarize Written Text
	Write Essay
Part 2: Reading	Reading & Writing: Fill in the Blanks
	Multiple Choice, Choose Multiple Answers
	Reorder Paragraph
	Fill in the Blanks
	Multiple Choice, Choose Single Answer
Part 3: Listening	Summarize Spoken Text
	Multiple Choice, Choose Multiple Answers
	Fill in the Blanks
	Highlight Correct Summary
	Multiple Choice, Choose Single Answer
	Select Missing Word
	Highlight Incorrect Words
	Write from Dictation

Some of the test question types that feature in this practice test have accompanying prompts and sample responses files.

Each question type is presented as it appears on screen during an actual test, but as this is an offline test, it does not have the same functionality as the actual test. This test will need to be printed, answers written and spoken responses recorded on mobile phones. Audio countdowns are not included for listening items and there is no recording status countdown for spoken responses. If doing this test under timed considerations, only approximations can be applied.

An Answer Key and Transcripts of recordings for the speaking and listening sections is located at the end of this document. The Answer Key provides the correct answers and/or sample responses to some of the practice items. The sample responses illustrate the Common European Framework of Reference levels of competence B1, B2 and C1. Answers can be checked against the Answer Key and recorded spoken responses compared with the sample responses.

The audio prompt files required for some listening and speaking items are provided within the folder **Prompts** and the sample responses for speaking in the folder **Sample Responses**.

Speaking

Read Aloud

Look at the text below. In 40 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 40 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 39 seconds.

Once most animals reach adulthood, they stop growing. In contrast, even plants that are thousands of years old continue to grow new needles, add new wood, and produce cones and new flowers, almost as if parts of their bodies remained "forever young". The secrets of plant growth are regions of tissue that can produce cells that later develop into specialized tissues.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Repeat sentence

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 10 seconds.

Play audio file *Repeat Sentence_Question_Prompt* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Speaking

Describe Image

Look at the graph below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the graph is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



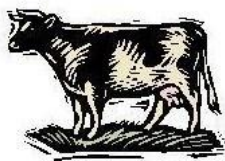
Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Retell Lecture

You will hear an interview. After listening to the interview, in 10 seconds, please speak into the microphone and retell what you have just heard from the interview in your own words. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



Status: Beginning in 2 seconds.

Volume

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 99 seconds.

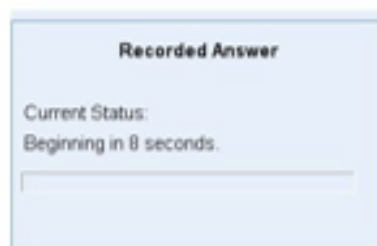
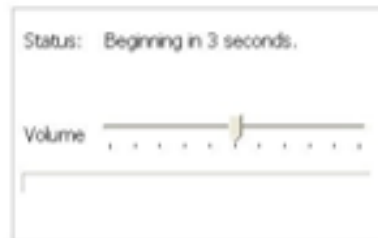
Play audio file *Re-tell Lecture_Question_Prompt* in the Prompts

folder. Re-tell the interview and record your response.

Speaking

Answer Short Question

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.



Play audio file *Answer Short Question_Prompt* in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Speaking

Respond to a Situation *New PTE research question type

Listen to and read a description of a situation. You will have 10 seconds to think about your answer. Then you will hear a beep. You will have 40 seconds to answer the question. Please answer as completely as you can.

You have an essay due tomorrow but you have been feeling sick for the past two weeks. You went to the clinic and got a doctor's note. You feel better but have to ask your professor for an extension over the weekend. You go to your professor's office. What do you say to him?

Status: Beginning in 11 seconds.

Volume



Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 37 seconds.

Play audio file ***Respond to a Situation_Prompt*** in the **Prompts** folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

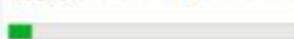
Summarize a Discussion *New PTE research question type

You will hear three people having a discussion. When you hear the beep, summarize the whole discussion. You will have 10 seconds to prepare and 2 minutes to give your response.



Status: Playing

Volume



Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 153 seconds.

Play audio file ***Summarize a discussion_Prompt*** in the **Prompts** folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Writing

Summarize Written Text

Read the passage below and summarize it using one sentence. Type your response in the box at the bottom of the screen. You have 10 minutes to finish this task. Your response will be judged on the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the key points in the passage.

For millions of years, Mediterranean sea turtles have been coming to the shore of southern Lebanon to lay their eggs. Every summer, their babies hatch and literally run for their lives on the strip of sand that separates their nests from the sea. An endangered species, they had been largely ignored in this part of Lebanon until two women set out to protect them.

Mona Khalil was inspired by a walk on the beach during a visit to her homeland, when she first saw the turtles. Upon learning that they were close to disappearing from her country, Khalil decided to "come back and do something about them."

The next year, 2000, she returned and teamed up with Habiba Fayed, who shares her passion for the environment. They opened a bed-and-breakfast in the Khalil family home to finance their efforts. Guests could simply vacation or, in the spirit of ecotourism, they could help the owners protect the turtles' nests and keep the beach clean.

Female turtles travel to the exact spot where they were born to dig their nests in the sand, laying an average of 70 to 100 eggs. This is the moment when the women intervene. They protect the nests from predators by burying an iron grid in the sand above the eggs. The spaces on the grid are large enough to allow the baby turtles to emerge after a month and find their way to the sea... and to a chance at life.

Cut

Copy

Paste

Total Word Count: 0

Write your answer in the box below (5-75 words):

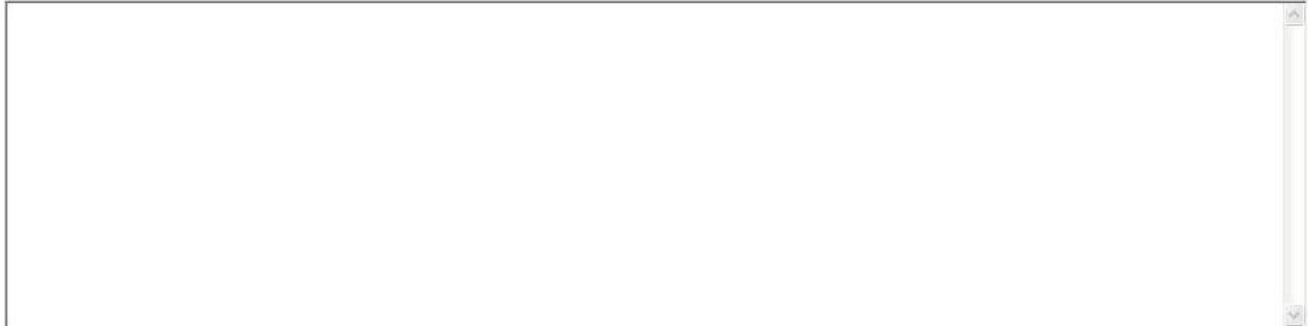
Writing

Write Essay

You will have 20 minutes to plan, write and revise an essay about the topic below. Your response will be judged on how well you develop a position, organize your ideas, present supporting details, and control the elements of standard written English. You should write 200-300 words.

Tobacco, mainly in the form of cigarettes, is one of the most widely-used drugs in the world. Over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day. The long term health costs are high - for smokers themselves, and for the wider community in terms of health care costs and lost productivity.

Do governments have a legitimate role to legislate to protect citizens from the harmful effects of their own decisions to smoke, or are such decisions up to the individual?



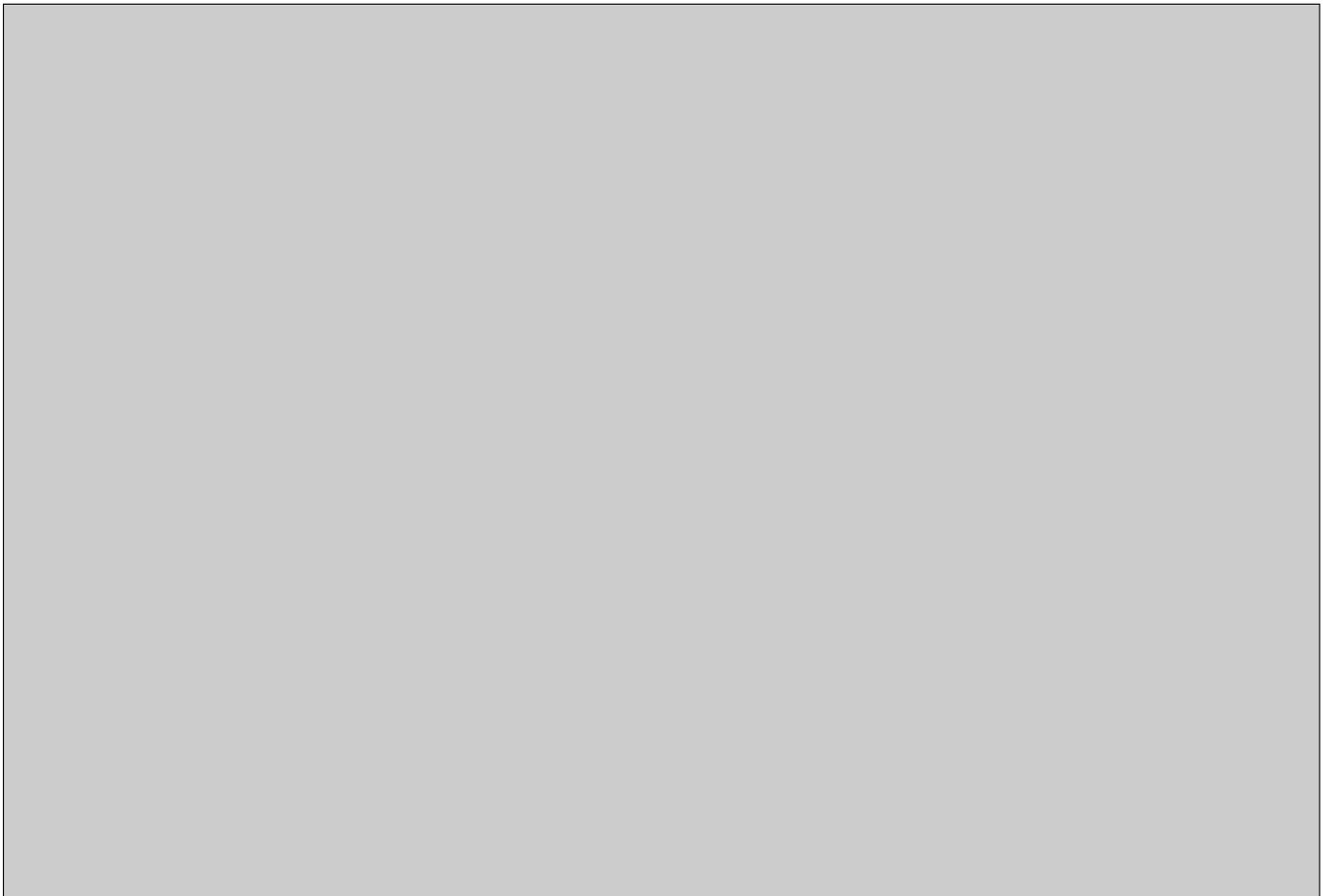
Cut

Copy

Paste

Total Word Count: 0

Write your answer in the box below (200-300 words):



Reading

Reading & Writing – Fill in the blanks

Below is a text with blanks. Click on each blank, a list of choices will appear. Select the appropriate answer choice for each blank.

Umami was first identified in Japan, in 1908, when Dr. Kikunae Ikeda concluded that *kombu*, a type of edible seaweed, had a different taste than most foods. He conducted that found that the high concentration of glutamate in *kombu* was what made it so tasty. From there, he crystallized monosodium glutamate (MSG), the seasoning that would become the world over. Decades later, umami became scientifically defined as one of the five individual tastes sensed by receptors on the . Then in 1996, a team of University of Miami researchers studying taste perception made another breakthrough. They discovered separate taste receptor cells in the tongue for detecting umami. Before then, the concept was uncharted. "Up until our research, the wisdom in the scientific community was that umami was not a separate sense. It was just a combination of the other four qualities (salty, sweet, bitter, sour)", explained Dr. Stephen Roper, the University of Miami physiology and biophysics professor who helped zero in on the taste along with Nirupa Chaudhari, the team's lead researcher.

Tick the words you think best fit the blanks in the box below:

Gap 1

- ☐ A experiences
- ☐ B contests
- ☐ C experiments
- ☐ D attempts

Gap 3

- ☐ A fingers
- ☐ B mouth
- ☐ C tongue
- ☐ D jaws

Gap 2

- ☐ A spread
- ☐ B exported
- ☐ C exclusive
- ☐ D popular

Gap 4

- ☐ A predominate
- ☐ B insignificant
- ☐ C important
- ☐ D erroneous

Reading

Multiple choice, choose multiple answers

Adaptations enable living organisms to cope with environmental stresses and pressures. Adaptation can be structural or behavioral. Structural adaptations are special body parts of an organism that help it to survive in its natural habitat (e.g., skin color, shape, body covering). Behavioral adaptations are the ways a particular organism behaves to survive in its natural habitat. Physiological adaptations are systems present in an organism that allow it to perform certain biochemical reactions (e.g. making venom, secreting slime, being able to keep a constant body temperature). Adaptations are traits that have been selected for by natural selection. The underlying genetic basis for the adaptive trait did not arise as a consequence of the environment; the genetic variant pre-existed and was subsequently selected because it provided the bearer of that variant some advantage.

Read the text and answer the question by selecting all correct responses. **More than one response is correct.**

Which of the following are true statements about adaptations?

- ☐ They can be structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptations.
- ☐ They mostly occur in physical appearances of special body parts of an organism.
- ☐ They are new genes created to increase an organism's chance of survival.
- ☐ They are genes selected due to the benefits they offer in a particular environment.
- ☐ They are created by the environment to help an organism survive in its habitat.

Tick your answer choices.

Reorder paragraph

The text boxes in the left panel have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order by dragging the text boxes from the left panel to the right panel.

Source

Target

But in Scotland three banks are still allowed to issue banknotes.

When this bank was founded in 1695, Scots coinage was in short supply and of uncertain value, compared with English, Dutch, Flemish or French coin.

To face growth of trade it was deemed necessary to remedy this lack of an adequate currency.

The first Scottish bank to do this was the Bank of Scotland.

In most countries it is only the government, through their central banks, who are permitted to issue currency.



Write 1-5 next to each sentence to indicate the order you think is correct.

Reading

Reading - Fill in the Blanks

In the text below some words are missing. Drag words from the box below to the appropriate place in the text. To undo an answer choice, drag the word back to the box below the text.

Master of Science in Information Technology (MSc in IT):

Our programme will develop your [] knowledge of Computer Science and your problem-solving and [] skills, while enabling you to achieve the [] qualification for the IT professional. The programme structure is extremely [], enabling you to personalise your MSc through a wide range of electives.

ultimate

variable

analytical

flexible

theoretical

considerable

decisive

Write your answers in the blanks in the text or note your choice of words in the box below:

Multiple choice, choose single answer

The approach to the methodology of learning and teaching has to be comprehensive, presenting all options in an explicit and transparent way, and avoiding advocacy or dogmatism. It has been our fundamental methodological principle that the methods to be employed in language learning, teaching and research are those considered to be most effective in reaching the objectives agreed in the light of the needs of the individual learners in their social context. Effectiveness is contingent on the motivations and characteristics of the learners as well as the nature of the human and material resources which can be brought into play.

Read the text and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. *Only one response is correct.*

What point is the writer making in this paragraph?

- ☐ Motivation is worth more than intelligence in learning.
- ☐ Language can be effectively learnt through play.
- ☐ There is no single best method for learning.
- ☐ Teachers should regularly change their methods.

Tick your answer choice.

Listening

Summarize Spoken Text

You will hear a short lecture. Write a summary for a fellow student who was not present at the lecture. You should write 50-70 words.

You have 10 minutes to finish this task. Your response will be judged on the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the key points presented in the lecture.

Status: Beginning in 12 seconds.

Volume 

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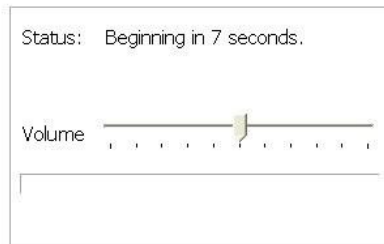
Total Word Count: 0

Play audio file *Summarize Spoken Text_Prompt* in the *Prompts* folder. Write your answer in the box below:

Listening

Multiple choice, choose multiple answers

Listen to the recording and answer the question by selecting all the correct responses. You will need to select more than one response.



What happened as a result of the arrival of colonists?

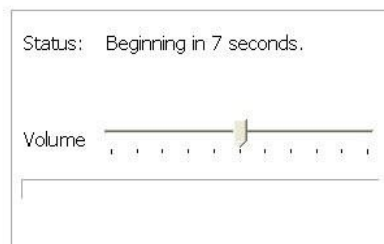
- ☐ Huge areas were deforested.
- ☐ Old farming methods were abandoned.
- ☐ Large expanses were planted with new species.
- ☐ Stone quarries were depleted.
- ☐ Sections of land were delineated with stones.

Play audio file **Multiple Choice Choose Multiple Answers_Prompt** in the **Prompts** folder.

Tick your answer choices.

Fill in the Blanks

You will hear a recording. Type the missing words in each blank.



We've decided to adopt, just as a loose theme for the course, a [] theme so that you can see the [] between chemistry and biology and the things you might consider doing in the future. We want you to think about the [] that are relevant to your body, the processes that occur in your body, the chemistry that's going on and how [] plays a role. And we divided the course into four sections and after each section there will be a mid-term. The first one, or an exam. The first one is about [].

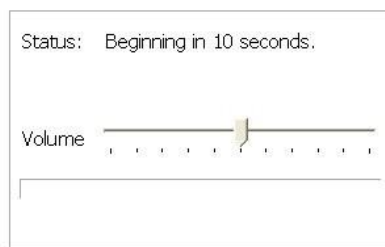
Play audio file **Fill in the Blanks_Question_Prompt** in the **Prompts** folder.

Write your answers in the blanks in the text or note your choice of words in the box below:

Listening

Highlight Correct Summary

You will hear a recording. Click on the paragraph that best relates to the recording.



- ☐ Unless major oil consumers invest in exploration now (which would be the first time major funds have been invested since 1964) global oil production will level out and be unable to meet increased demands from India and China.
- ☐ With the continuation of improvements in technology, geology, and with government support, there is little doubt that further major reserves of oil will be found in the near future. This should result in sustainable oil supplies for a further 150 years.
- ☐ While we are not about to run out of oil, we are certainly past the peak of oil production, which occurred about 40 years ago. This is despite improvements in technology, geology, and with tax-subsidized investment in exploration.
- ☐ Oil consumption reached its first peak in 1964. Since that time the world has become increasingly dependent on oil. It is unlikely that there will be any new major oil discoveries in the immediate future or at any subsequent time.

Play audio file **Highlight Correct Summary_Question_Prompt** in the **Prompts** folder.

Tick your answer choice.

Listening

Multiple choice, choose single answer

Listen to the recording and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. Only one response is correct.

Status: Beginning in 5 seconds.

Volume 

What is the main idea that the speaker is trying to convey in her comments?

- ☐ The dose of opiates needed to treat chronic pain is usually 80 milligrams.
- ☐ The rate of morphine addiction has not increased over the past 18 years.
- ☐ Governments can play a key role in chronic pain management.
- ☐ Authorization for the prescription of opiates is required every thirty days.

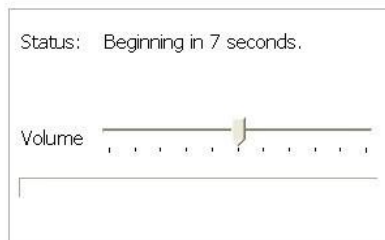
Play audio file *Multiple Choice Choose Single Answer_Question 1_Prompt* in the *Prompts* folder.

Tick your answer choice.

Listening

Select Missing Word

You will hear a recording about meiosis. At the end of the recording the last word or group of words has been replaced by a beep. Select the correct option to complete the recording.



☐ genetics

☐ diversity

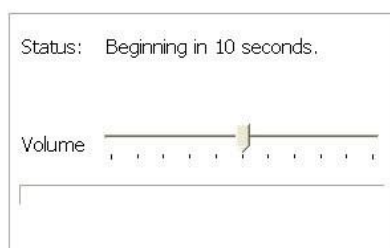
☐ species

Play audio file **Select Missing Word_Question_Prompt** in the Prompts folder

Tick your answer choice.

Highlight incorrect words

You will hear a recording. Below is a transcription of the recording. Some words in the transcription differ from what the speaker(s) said. Please click on the words that are different.



So far in our discussion of chemical equations we have assumed that these reactions only go in one direction, the forward direction, from left to right as we read it in the equation. That's why our arrowhead points from left to right: reactants react together to make products. However, this is not exactly how things occur in reality. In fact, practically every chemical reaction is reversible, meaning the products can also react together to reform the reactants that they were made of. So instead of writing that single arrow facing from right to top, a more appropriate symbol would be a double arrow, one going from left to right and one going from right to left. Reactants are continually - continuously - reacting to form produce. But at the same time as those products are formed, they remake the reactants. They're both going simultaneously, forming each other. This is what we would call a state of equality.

Play audio file **Highlight Incorrect Words_Question_Prompt** in the Prompts folder.

Circle the words in the text that are different to what you hear.

Listening

Write from Dictation

You will hear a sentence. Type the sentence in the box below exactly as you hear it. Write as much of the sentence as you can. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 7 seconds.

Volume

Cut

Copy

Paste

Total Word Count: 0

Play audio file **Write from Dictation_Question 1_Prompt** in the **Prompts** folder.

Write the sentence you hear in the space provided above.

Test Answer Key

Speaking

Read Aloud

Transcript

Once most animals reach adulthood, they stop growing. In contrast, even plants that are thousands of years old continue to grow new needles, add new wood, and produce cones and new flowers, almost as if parts of their bodies remained "forever young". The secrets of plant growth are regions of tissue that can produce cells that later develop into specialized tissues.

Sample responses

B1

Read Aloud_Question_B1_Sample Response

Speech is staccato and labored. The rate of speech is uneven and phrasing is irregular. Inappropriate stress and incorrect pronunciation of some consonants might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker.

B2

Read Aloud_Question_B2_Sample Response

One word is omitted and one word is read inaccurately. Phrasing is somewhat staccato and there are two repetitions. Omission of words or incorrect pronunciation of some consonants does not affect understanding.

C1

Read Aloud_Question_C1_Sample Response

One word is omitted. Speech is spoken at a conversational rate and demonstrates appropriate phrasing. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Repeat Sentence

Transcript

Sydney is Australia's largest city, chief port and cultural center.

Sample responses

B1

Repeat Sentence_Question_B1_Sample Response

Some words in the text are omitted, and some words that are not in the text are added. Speech is slow, includes one long pause and is staccato. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

B2

Repeat Sentence_Question_B2_Sample Response

Some words that are not in the sentence are added. The rate of speech is good, but there is one hesitation and a repetition. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

C1

Repeat Sentence_Question_C1_Sample Response

The response is spoken at a conversational rate and the phrasing is appropriate. There are no repetitions, hesitations or false starts. Pronunciation is standard.

Test Answer Key

Describe Image

Main points to be included in the description

- This graph shows the number of people who have had motor vehicles stolen within the period of 1998 to 2002.
- Car/vehicle theft was highest in 1998.
- It was the lowest in 2002.
- It was about the same in 1999 and 2000.

Sample responses

B1

Describe Image_Question_B1_Sample Response

While the response describes some major aspects of the graph, several key details are not included or misinterpreted. Several hesitations, repetitions and false starts negatively affect fluency. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants makes several words unclear. There is limited control over simple grammatical structures. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

B2

Describe Image_Question_B2_Sample Response

While the response includes a description of the graph, several key details are not included. The rate of speech is acceptable, but has an unnatural rhythm. Most words can be understood, but certain consonants are omitted. This might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker. Language use is weak and grammar errors are present. This response lasts for 38 seconds.

C1

Describe Image_Question_C1_Sample Response

The major aspects of the graph and relationships between elements are accurately discussed. The response is spoken at an acceptable rate of speech, although several phrases are said very quickly. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonant clusters does not affect understanding. This response demonstrates adequate control of standard English grammar. This response lasts for 35 seconds.

Re-tell Lecture

Transcript

Interviewer: What nutritional guidelines should we be following?

Interviewee: Well, probably the best source of nutritional guidelines are those that are issued by the American Cancer Society or the National Cancer Institute. And the American Cancer Society, for example, offers four really basic, simple nutrition guidelines. The first guideline, which in my mind is the most important, is to choose most of the foods that you eat from plant sources, and we can talk in more detail about that in a moment. The second guideline is to limit your intake of high fat foods, particularly from animal sources. The third guideline is to be physically active and achieve a normal, healthy body weight. And the final guideline is to limit consumption of alcoholic beverages if you choose to drink at all.

Interviewer: So Susan, one of the things we always hear about ... from the American Cancer Society is this five-a-day recommendation. Maybe if you could explain to our listening audience what that actually means.

Interviewee: The five-a-day recommendation is a very simple way of communicating the message to increase consumption of these plant foods. And what five-a-day means is five servings per day of fruits and vegetables in total. And some people misunderstand this guideline, and they may think it's okay if I have five glasses of fruit juice a day, and I've met my five-a-day guideline. The goal is really to choose both fruits and vegetables as part of the five-a-day guideline, to vary the fruits and vegetables that you eat on a daily basis, and that alone is a very major step forward in terms of reducing your risk for cancer.

Test Answer Key

Sample responses

B1

Re-tell Lecture_Question_B1_Sample Response

While the response includes some main points, other key information is misrepresented. Intonation is incorrect at times. Multiple hesitations and uneven phrasing negatively affect fluency. Some words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of several vowels and consonants. This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. The vocabulary is basic and the word choice is repetitive. This response lasts 34 seconds.

B2

Re-tell Lecture_Question_B2_Sample Response

While the response includes some main points, other key information from the lecture is omitted. Speech is somewhat slow, and there are a few hesitations and repetitions that negatively affect fluency. Several syllables are skipped and additional sounds are added to words. Certain vowels and consonants are consistently mispronounced. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with very few grammatical errors. This response lasts for 37 seconds.

C1

Re-tell Lecture_Question_C1_Sample Response

While the response includes some main points, other key information is omitted and there is one inaccuracy. There are a few hesitations and repetitions, but overall the response is spoken at a conversational rate. Incorrect pronunciation of some vowels does not affect understanding. The test taker demonstrates adequate control of standard English grammar and there are very few grammatical errors. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

Answer Short Question

Transcript

Which kind of punishment for a crime is the less severe, an imprisonment or community service?

Correct: community service

Incorrect: imprisonment

Respond to a Situation

Transcript

You have an essay due tomorrow but you have been feeling sick for the past two weeks. You went to the clinic and got a doctor's note. You feel better but have to ask your professor for an extension over the weekend. You go to your professor's office. What do you say to him?

Sample response

Hi professor, sorry to bother you. I know we have an essay due tomorrow, but I've been quite sick for the past two weeks. I went to the doctor and have a note. I was wondering if you would give me an extension for the essay. I promise to get it finished by the end of the weekend.

Test Answer Key

Summarize a Discussion

Transcript

F1: The people at the accommodation office want to know who's coming back to live on campus next year. We've got to let them know for sure by next week. It sounds like most people are coming back. What are you guys going to do? Have you decided yet?

M1: Yeah I have. I've decided to keep living on campus in the same place that I'm in now. I've already put my name down actually and so has Jake, my roommate. I really like living here, mainly because I enjoy living with Jake. It's so easy and we just get on really well. We seem to have the same idea about keeping things tidy and we like each other's company. What about you both? What do you think you'll do next year?

F1: I'm pretty happy where I am so I'm going to stay here too. It's so convenient, everything's so close by, the library, the gym and of course there's zero travel time to get to class. I'm still late sometimes though haha. The food isn't the best, maybe that's one thing I'd change if I could but it's no big deal and it's easy being right here so I won't leave till I absolutely have to.

M2: Yeah I know what you mean it's super convenient but sometimes I feel like it's almost too easy. It's great here but I'm at the point where I want to get out into the real world. I'm ready for that next stage of life to start, you know, become a bit more independent, meet some different people.

M1: But there are so many people here. That's why I like it. It's a very social atmosphere, don't you think? There's always someone around and something going on. It's really easy to meet people. I admit though I do like to eat off campus sometimes the food here gets so boring after a while. But if I moved away, I'd miss all the friends I've made here.

M2: It's not very private though is it. I feel like everyone knows what everyone else is doing all of the time. It's been good for the first year, don't get me wrong it's given me a good start and I've met some great people like yourselves. But now I want to try something new, spread my wings a bit. And I want to get some life skills manage my money and all that.

F1: Look, that's fair enough but what's the rush? This stage of life is never going to come again. I've got no responsibilities except study and that is all going to change in a couple of years. So I'm happy to wait until then to get out into the big wide world.

Sample Response

Three students are talking about where they're going to live next year. One of them wants to stay on campus because he's happy with his roommate and likes the social life that he has now; another one appreciates the convenience of living on campus so will stay where she is and the last one wants to try somewhere new, to be more independent. The two that are staying say they don't like the food on campus and also that they are happy to delay taking on more responsibility for a bit longer.

Test Answer Key

Writing

Summarize Written Text

Sample responses

B1

For the millions of years the turtles were coming laying their eggs in summer and the babies run separates their nests, ignoring in war torn until two women set out to protect them and mona khalil saw the turtles and decided to do something so in the end the baby turtle to emerge after a month.

Explanation: While the response includes some main points, other key information from the passage is omitted and information not in the passage is present. This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. The vocabulary is basic. There is one spelling mistake. The response is one sentence of 56 words.

B2

Mediterranean sea turtles which is an endangered species lay their 70 to 100 eggs at the shore of southern Lebanon but now Mona Khalil with her team protecting turtle's egg from dameging or from pradators by burying iron grid in the sand above the nests.

Explanation: The topic has been accurately discussed and the supporting points are included. This response does not receive full credit for grammar because of missing or incorrect use of prepositions and verbs. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. There are three spelling errors. The response is one complete sentence of 45 words.

C1

After millions of years of being endangered in war-torn coast of southern Lebanon, Mediterranean sea turtles were finally protected by two women, Mona Khalil and Habiba Fayed, who opened a bed-and-breakfast and with the help of the guests, protected turtles' eggs by burying an iron grid in the sand above the eggs.

Explanation: The topic has been accurately discussed and the supporting points are included. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with very few grammatical errors. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. All words are spelled correctly and the response is one complete sentence of 52 words.

Write Essay

Sample responses

B1

Cigarettes is one kind of tobacco which actually is one of the most widely-used drugs in the world. It is common in our everyday lives for that there are so many people smoking. However, nowadays more and more people pay much attention to their healthes, so the concept of "Smoking is unhealthy" is accepted by most people who reject in smoking. But there are still over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day that will costs a lot both for smokers themselves and for the wider community in terms of health care costs and lost productivity. Do governments have a legitimate role to legislate to protect citizens from the harmful effects of smoking? The answer will be yes for most of people. The first, smoking will do harm for smokers' health. The second, somking will do harm for people who are around smokers such as families. And smoking is always a lead of a fire desaster. There are many reasons to restrict smoking. The point is how to do this. We know that every policy will make a consequence. If government shut down the tobacco facotories, it will definitely increase the price of cigarettes which will affect smokers—over a billion people—heavily because they won't change their habit just because there are fewer cigarettes. So I think the government should guide these people not t

Test Answer Key

Explanation: This essay minimally answers the question on the topic. The details and examples do not follow a well-developed logic that supports the test taker's position on the topic. The essay does not have a good organizational pattern. The introduction rephrases the topic, the body contains minimal supporting points and the conclusion is unfinished. This essay does not receive full credit for grammar usage and spelling because of missing or incorrect use of verbs and nouns. The vocabulary is limited and imprecise. Some words are not appropriate for the context. Spelling errors are numerous. The word count is 227 words.

B2

These days, statistics have shown that all around the world, over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day. Also, these numbers are expected to increase if nothing is done. It takes two to stop the numbers arising and therefore, the government and the smokers have to cooperate to make the country smoke-free.

The government should control the amount of smokers as the rising numbers could cause lost productivity and an increase in the crime rate. Campaigns should be created and advertisements using the mass media can actually help the smokers realize the disadvantages of smoking.

Besides that, smokers should also learn the gruesome facts on smoking. They should also realize that there's more to life than just smoking and that people near and dear to them could be affected from their habit. Studies have shown that people who have family members who are smokers can actually contract diseases such as cancer and other lung diseases.

Moreover, the increase in the number of smokers can actually mean that there would probably be an increase in crime rates as well. Smoking would then lead to other dangerous issues like drugs, prostitution, theft and even murder. Therefore, the government should act immediately to avoid further damage to society.

Certain smokers who want to quit can find it hard to do so and this is when the government's help can come in handy. That is by increasing the age limit for adolescents to smoke, increasing tax on tobacco products to make it a lot more expensive and also to provide support groups for smokers who wish to quit.

In a nutshell, smoking is indeed a problem to the nation and it takes two to work it out. The government and the smokers themselves should work side by side to solve this issue.

Explanation: This essay answers the question on the topic and is well organized. There is a clear introduction, body and conclusion. In the body, the main ideas and details relate to the main point of the essay. However, some main ideas are not well supported with details, examples or explanations. There are obvious grammatical errors in sentences with complex structures. However, most grammatical errors do not hinder communication. Imprecise vocabulary prevents the response from receiving full credit for general linguistic range. The vocabulary range is good and clichés are used sparingly. There are no significant spelling errors. The word count is 299 words.

C1

Tobacco is one of the most widely-used drugs of the world. Over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day. Tobacco is slowly taking a billion people in the world towards doom. The long term health costs are high for smokers, who suffer from various heart and lung diseases, reduced concentration and continually diminishing immunity.

Non-smokers, accompanying smokers or those who are in their close vicinity, also become "Passive" smokers and bear the toll of various inevitable diseases as they inhale the smoke which has an ill-effect on their respiratory systems. Thus, the health costs are high—for smokers themselves, and for wider community in terms of health care costs and lost productivity.

There has been awareness among people from many years, about the ill-effects of smoking and various campaigns run by the government, NGOs and local bodies to encourage people to quit smoking but the result have not been impressive. The solution is to nip the problem in the bud. School authorities and parents should keep a close eye so that children don't start to smoke because they think it is "cool". They should be made aware about the harmful effects of smoking.

Test Answer Key

Government could play a vital role too. Smoking should not be high-hand in advertisements and movie commercials which have a huge impact on people. It could levy high taxes on tobacco products to keep people away from its reach. Rules for checking children buying such products should be made stringent.

The onus to protect from such products also lie on individuals as will-power always does the trick. The knowledge of importance of being healthy has to be realized from within. It goes a long way to check the problem. Thus, the solution requires both legitimate action of Government and strong individual decisions to eliminate the problem.

Explanation: This essay answers the question on the topic. The roles of the government and the individual are well explained and supporting details are provided. There is good development of ideas and a logical structure. The main ideas are introduced in the first paragraph and the test taker's answer to the question is restated in the conclusion. General linguistic range and vocabulary range are excellent. The vocabulary is precise and expresses subtleties and nuances. Idioms are also used appropriately. Minor grammatical errors prevent this response from receiving full credit for grammar usage and mechanics, although the intended meaning of the sentences is clear. Spelling is excellent. The word count is 300 words.

Reading

Reading & Writing: Fill in the Blanks

Umami was first identified in Japan, in 1908, when Dr. Kikunae Ikeda concluded that *kombu*, a type of edible seaweed, had a different taste than most foods. He conducted **experiments** that found that the high concentration of glutamate in *kombu* was what made it so tasty. From there, he crystallized monosodium glutamate (MSG), the seasoning that would become **popular** the world over. Decades later, umami became scientifically defined as one of the five individual tastes sensed by receptors on the **tongue**. Then in 1996, a team of University of Miami researchers studying taste perception made another breakthrough. They discovered separate taste receptor cells in the tongue for detecting umami. Before then, the concept was uncharted. "Up until our research, the **predominate** wisdom in the scientific community was that umami was not a separate sense. It was just a combination of the other four qualities (salty, sweet, bitter, sour)", explained Dr. Stephen Roper, the University of Miami physiology and biophysics professor who helped zero in on the taste along with Nirupa Chaudhari, the team's lead researcher.

Multiple Choice, Choose Multiple Answers

Question: Which of the following are true statements about adaptations?

Correct: They can be structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptations.

Explanation: This response is correct. The passage describes different types of structural, behavioral and physiological adaptations.

Incorrect: They mostly occur in physical appearances of special body parts of an organism.

Explanation: This response is incorrect because it makes a statement that was not made in the text. The passage says that there are structural and behavioral adaptations but does not say which occur more often or what proportions of each are present in an organism.

Incorrect: They are new genes created to increase an organism's chance of survival.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The passage says the "genetic variant pre-existed," but does not discuss the creation of new genes.

Test Answer Key

Reorder Paragraph

Correct:

1. In most countries it is only the government, through their central banks, who are permitted to issue currency.
2. But in Scotland three banks are still allowed to issue banknotes.
3. The first Scottish bank to do this was the Bank of Scotland.
4. When this bank was founded in 1695, Scots coinage was in short supply and of uncertain value, compared with English, Dutch, Flemish or French coin.
5. To face growth of trade it was deemed necessary to remedy this lack of an adequate currency.

Explanations:

1. In most countries it is only the government, through their central banks, who are permitted to issue currency.

This is the first text box because it provides background information that makes the rest of the information in the passage stand out as significant.

2. But in Scotland three banks are still allowed to issue banknotes.

This is the second text box because it introduces the subject of the passage. However, it is not the first sentence because "But" and "still allowed" signal that this sentence is referring to a restriction described in a previous sentence.

3. The first Scottish bank to do this was the Bank of Scotland.

This is the third text box because it gives an example of one of the three banks in Scotland mentioned in the previous sentence. Also the phrase "to do this" refers to the phrase, "to issue banknotes" in the previous sentence.

4. When this bank was founded in 1695, Scots coinage was in short supply and of uncertain value, compared with English, Dutch, Flemish or French coin.

This is the fourth text box because "this bank" refers to "the Bank of Scotland" mentioned in the third sentence.

5. To face growth of trade it was deemed necessary to remedy this lack of an adequate currency.

This is the fifth text box because it concludes the paragraph by giving a reason why the Bank of Scotland issued its own currency.

Fill in the Blanks

Master of Science in Information Technology (MSc in IT):

Our programme will develop your **theoretical** knowledge of Computer Science and your problem-solving and **analytical** skills, while enabling you to achieve the **ultimate** qualification for the IT professional. The programme structure is extremely **flexible**, enabling you to personalise your MSc through a wide range of electives.

Test Answer Key

Multiple Choice, Choose Single Answer

Question: What point is the writer making in this paragraph?

Incorrect: Motivation is worth more than intelligence in learning.

Explanation: This response is incorrect because the passage does compare the impact of motivation and intelligence on learning.

Incorrect: Language can be effectively learnt through play.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The writer uses the phrase "brought into play" figuratively to refer to the "material resources" which can be used. The text does not suggest a method of language teaching.

Correct: There is no single best method for learning.

Explanation: This response is correct because the writer consistently uses plurals when discussing methodology as in "presenting all options" and "the methods to be employed ... are those considered to be most effective." This indicates that there is more than one method.

Incorrect: Teachers should regularly change their methods.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The passage discusses factors to consider in the selection of teaching methods but does not address how frequently to change these methods.

Listening

Summarize Spoken Text

Transcript

About 20 years ago Kent Anger and Barry Johnson came up with 750 chemicals that could harm the brain during development. Nobody has since then dared to update that number, it's just a guess today, there has to be more than a thousand if there was 750 twenty years ago. But the problem is also that we have put too little emphasis in this type of, uh, research.

For example, it has taken so far the OECD 10 years to devise a battery of tests that they could recommend for systematic testing of chemicals for developmental neurotoxicity. That panel, that battery, has not yet been completed and authorized by OECD so it's taking way, way, way too long because it is complicated. But there is so much at stake.

Children are just losing IQ points and losing their concentration span, memory or motor functions. But in the present world where there's so much emphasis on knowledge and brain functions this can also translate into dollars. The EPA has calculated that every time a child loses one IQ point because of chemical pollution it costs society something like \$8,000 or \$10,000.

Sample summary

About twenty years ago, it was estimated that there are 750 chemicals that can affect the developing human brain, and today there may be over 1000. There is little emphasis on the possible damage caused to developing children from these chemicals. It has taken the OECD ten years to develop an index to test for developmental neurotoxicity. Economically, each IQ point lost to chemical poisoning has an impact of \$8,000-\$10,000.

Test Answer Key

Sample responses

B1

The lecture mentions chemical test for brain development. There are 2 level of chemical test. The first one is conducted by OECD on the systematic test chemical. They found that it takes a long time and too compicated for this test. The second is carried out by EPA which tried to find out some chemical solution.

Explanation: While the response contains several key words, it does not summarize the main issues described by the speaker. It demonstrates weak grammar control which hinders understanding. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. There is one spelling mistake. The word count is 56 words.

B2

About 20 years ago, scientists came up with 750 chemicals that could harm the brain. It might be more than that nowadays. Research on the harmful chemicals is complicated and could take too long. Chemical pollution has various effects on children, for example loss of concentration span, memory and IQ points.

Explanation: While the response includes some main points, other key information from the passage is omitted. This response demonstrates good control of grammar. The use of vocabulary is appropriate within the context. There are no spelling mistakes. The word count is 51 words.

C1

20 years ago, the list of chemicals which affected brain development was numbered at 750. Today, this number has increased to about 1000. There is insufficient research on the testing of such chemicals by OECD. These chemicals cause harmful effects like the lost of IQ, concentration, memory and motor functions. It is estimated that for every lost IQ point of a child, society stands to lose 8,000 to 10,000 dollars.

Explanation: The response is an accurate and detailed summary of the main point and several supporting points discussed in the lecture. The grammar follows standard English conventions. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. There are no spelling mistakes. The word count is 70 words.

Multiple Choice, Choose Multiple Answers

Transcript

We are led to believe that basically much of eastern North America was heavily cloaked in mature forest, forest that today we covet as old growth, and yet at one time, it was the sort of ancestral, um, botanical blanket that covered much of certainly Massachusetts and New England. Certainly one of the first things that happened as increasing waves of colonists arrived was the need to clear the land, um, and this clearing of the land is something that started, um, really in the form of small, subsistence farms, uh, the timber was used for building houses, um for building ships, for firewood, for all manner of things. The boulders, the erratic, ah, the glacial erratic stones that were so much a part of the New England landscape, um, are today sort of, ah, what we find in the latticework of stone walls that one can find practically anywhere in the landscape, ah, if it's in a relatively untouched condition. By the early part of the ,ah, nineteenth century, ah, it's thought that generally the zenith of clearing had taken place, ah, sometime in the 1830s 1840s and the trees and the forests were essentially clear-cut, ah, to an extent that is almost unbelievable.

Answers

Question: What happened as a result of the arrival of colonists?

Correct: Huge areas were deforested.

Explanation: This response is correct. The speaker says that one of the first things that happened as increasing waves of colonists arrived was the clearing of the land. The speaker also says that sometime in the 1830s and 1840s, the trees and the forests were essentially clear-cut.

Test Answer Key

Incorrect: Old farming methods were abandoned.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. Abandonment of old farming methods is not discussed in the recording.

Incorrect: Large expanses were planted with new species.

Explanation: This response is incorrect because new species are not mentioned in the recording.

Incorrect: Stone quarries were depleted.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The speaker does not mention stone quarries in the recording.

Correct: Sections of land were delineated with stones.

Explanation: This response is correct. The speaker says that the glacial erratic stones that were so much a part of the New England landscape are today "sort of" what can be found in the latticework of stone walls that one can find practically anywhere in the landscape. This implies that stones were used to delineate sections of land.

Fill in the Blanks

Transcript and answers

We've decided to adopt, just as a loose theme for the course, a **biological** theme so that you can see the **connections** between chemistry and biology and the things that you might consider doing in the future. We want you to think about the **molecules** that are relevant to your body, the processes that occur in your body, the chemistry that's going on and how **energy** plays a role. And we divided the course into four sections and after each section there will be a mid-term. The first one, or an exam. The first one is about **matter**.

Highlight Correct Summary

Transcript

We're not running out of oil. The first thing that one can say with absolute confidence is that we're not about to run out of oil, we are definitely not. But what we are approaching is the end of the first half, and this is one way to describe it, and this chapter in history lasted about a hundred and fifty years since the first oil was produced. And we're coming to the end of that, and you have to find oil before you can produce it, and when we look back into history, we can find that the peak of discovery was in 1964, and that the discovery of oil has been falling ever since, relentlessly, um, and it's been falling despite the world wide search, always aimed at the biggest and best prospects, no one's looking for the smallest and the worst, the biggest and the best. It's been falling despite amazing technological and geological advances, we understand this business so much more than we did. And finally, it's been falling despite a very happy economic environment, whereby most of the cost of exploration is written off against tax. So I would say in view of all of those incentives, and all of those benefits, if discovery has actually been falling relentlessly, er, there is no good reason to think that this trend is going to change direction. So, in other words, we've passed the peak.

Answers

Incorrect: Unless major oil consumers invest in exploration now (which would be the first time major funds have been invested since 1964) global oil production will level out and be unable to meet increased demands from India and China.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The speaker says "the peak of (oil) discovery was in 1964" and "the discovery of oil has been falling ... despite the world wide search" and all of the advances and tax incentives. The speaker does not mention either India or China and says nothing about increased demand.

Incorrect: With the continuation of improvements in technology, geology, and with government support, there is little doubt that further major reserves of oil will be found in the near future. This should result in sustainable oil supplies for a further 150 years.

Test Answer Key

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The speaker says “oil discovery has been falling ... despite amazing technological and geological advances,” and “there is no good reason to think that this trend is going to change direction.”

Correct: While we are not about to run out of oil, we are certainly past the peak of oil production, which occurred about 40 years ago. This is despite improvements in technology, geology, and with tax-subsidized investment in exploration.

Explanation: This response is correct. The speaker asserts, “We’re not running out of oil” at the beginning of the recording. The speaker then says that the peak of oil discovery was in 1964, and that the rate of oil discovery “has been falling ever since” despite “amazing technological and geological advances.” He also mentions that “most of the cost of exploration is written off against tax.”

Incorrect: Oil consumption reached its first peak in 1964. Since that time the world has become increasingly dependent on oil. It is unlikely that there will be any new major oil discoveries in the immediate future or at any subsequent time.

Explanation: This response is incorrect because the speaker does not discuss the world’s dependence on oil.

Multiple Choice, Choose Single Answer

Transcript

I have chronic pain and at times this is severe, but this is managed with opiates. I know the general public has a very perverted view of opiates because they think street addiction, heroin, drug smugglers. However, if prescribed correctly by doctors in the right dose for your height and weight and you manage it well yourself, I haven't increased my dose of 80 milligrams of morphine in the last 18 years. So that's a fairly good illustration, that no you don't double it every ten minutes the way the general public think. And also it's very well looked after by the government. I have to present myself to my GPs who all get to know me very well every 30 days, and they have to phone to Canberra to have authorization, and I get my monthly dose of opiates to keep me going till the next lot.

Answers

Question: What is the main idea that the speaker is trying to convey in her comments?

Incorrect: The dose of opiates needed to treat chronic pain is usually 80 milligrams.

Explanation: This response is incorrect because the speaker states that the dose of opiates needed varies with height and weight.

Incorrect: The rate of morphine addiction has not increased over the past 18 years.

Explanation: This response is incorrect. The speaker has not increased her morphine dose in 18 years.

Correct: Governments can play a key role in chronic pain management.

Explanation: This response is correct because the details in the recording support this idea. The speaker also states that her opiate use is “very well looked after by the government.”

Incorrect: Authorization for the prescription of opiates is required every thirty days.

Explanation: This response is incorrect because this detail is a supporting point. Although the speaker states that her GP must obtain authorization for her prescription every 30 days, this is not the main idea the speaker is trying to convey.

Test Answer Key

Select Missing Word

Transcript

So what, what meiosis does for every species is generate a lot of diverse individuals. Individuals with different capabilities. In the hope, that by having a population with very diverse individuals that at least some of them will be competent to survive. And, it's wildly successful, almost, almost every species on this planet has meiosis ... has, has a way to create genetically diverse gametes, and they use meiosis to do that. Ok, so, meiosis is extremely important in the evolution of life and the survival of the (species).

Answers

Incorrect: genetics

Explanation: This response is incorrect because "genetics" is not something that evolves or survives. Additionally, the sentence requires a countable noun to follow "the" and "genetics" is an uncountable noun.

Incorrect: diversity

Explanation: This response is incorrect because "diversity" is not a physical thing that can evolve and survive. Additionally, the sentence requires a countable noun to follow "the" and "diversity" is an uncountable noun.

Correct: species

Explanation: This response is correct because the speaker refers to the impact of meiosis on species throughout the recording. Additionally, the sentence requires a countable noun to follow "the" and "species" is a countable noun.

Highlight Incorrect Words

Transcript

So far in our discussion of chemical reactions we have assumed that these reactions only go in one direction, the forward direction, from left to right as we read it in an equation. That's why our arrow points from left to right: reactants react together to make products. However, this is not exactly how things occur in nature. In fact, practically every chemical reaction is reversible, meaning the products can also react together to reform the reactants that they were made of. So instead of writing that single arrow facing from left to right, a more appropriate symbol would be a double arrow, one going from left to right and one going from right to left. Reactants are continually - continuously - reacting to form products. But at the same time as those products are formed, they remake the reactants. They're both going simultaneously, forming each other. This is what we would call a state of equilibrium.

Answers

So far in our discussion of chemical **equations** we have assumed that these reactions only go in one direction, the forward direction, from left to right as we read it in an equation. That's why our **arrowhead** points from left to right: reactants react together to make products. However, this is not exactly how things occur in **reality**. In fact, practically every chemical reaction is reversible, meaning the products can also react together to reform the reactants that they were made of. So instead of writing that single arrow facing from **right to top**, a more appropriate symbol would be a double arrow, one going from left to right and one going from right to left. Reactants are continually - continuously - reacting to form **produce**. But at the same time as those products are formed, they remake the reactants. They're both going simultaneously, forming each other. This is what we would call a state of **equality**.

Write from Dictation – Question 1

Transcript and answer

You must submit your assignments by next Friday at the latest.



PTE Research Offline Practice Test

Overview