PTE READING QUESTION TYPES SAMPLE WITH ANSWERS

Multiple Choice, Single Answer

Question 1

Passage:
Vertical farming represents a revolutionary approach to agriculture, utilizing stacked layers in controlled indoor environments. This method dramatically reduces water consumption by up to 95% compared to traditional farming while eliminating pesticide dependence. LED technology enables year-round production regardless of climate, making it particularly valuable for urban areas with limited land. However, high initial setup costs and substantial energy requirements remain significant barriers to widespread adoption.

Question: According to the passage, what is the main advantage of vertical farming for urban environments?

A) It eliminates the need for fertilizers
B) It provides fresh produce throughout the year despite space constraints
C) It reduces labor costs significantly
D) It requires minimal technological expertise

Correct Answer: B
Explanation: The passage emphasizes year-round production and suitability for urban areas with limited land—space constraints being the key urban challenge addressed.

Question 2

Passage:
Neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to reorganize itself by forming new neural connections, challenges earlier beliefs that brain structure remained fixed after childhood. Research demonstrates that learning new skills, even in advanced age, triggers physical changes in brain architecture. Musicians show enlarged auditory cortex regions, while London taxi drivers exhibit increased hippocampal volume from memorizing complex routes. This discovery has transformed rehabilitation approaches for stroke patients and individuals with brain injuries.

Question: What does the passage suggest about earlier scientific understanding?

A) Scientists knew neuroplasticity existed only in children
B) Researchers believed brain structure remained unchanged after early development
C) Early theories focused exclusively on musicians' brains
D) Previous studies proved rehabilitation was impossible

Correct Answer: B
Explanation: The passage states neuroplasticity "challenges earlier beliefs that brain structure remained fixed after childhood"—directly pointing to previous misconceptions.

Multiple Choice, Multiple Answers

Question 3

Passage:
Microplastic pollution has emerged as one of the 21st century's most pervasive environmental threats. These particles, smaller than 5mm, infiltrate marine ecosystems through cosmetic products, synthetic clothing fibers, and degraded plastic waste. Studies reveal microplastics in 90% of table salt samples, bottled water, and even human bloodstreams. Marine life ingests these particles, causing intestinal blockages and toxin accumulation that travels up the food chain. Current wastewater treatment plants lack technology to filter particles below 20 microns, allowing billions to flow into oceans daily.

Question: According to the passage, which are sources of microplastic pollution?

A) Industrial chemical spills
B) Beauty and personal care products
C) Agricultural runoff
D) Clothing made from synthetic materials
E) Decomposed plastic items

Correct Answers: B, D, E
Explanation: The passage explicitly mentions "cosmetic products" (B), "synthetic clothing fibers" (D), and "degraded plastic waste" (E). Options A and C are not mentioned.

Question 4

Passage:
The gig economy has fundamentally altered employment landscapes, offering flexibility that attracts millennials and Gen Z workers seeking work-life balance. Platforms like Uber, Upwork, and DoorDash enable income generation without traditional office constraints. However, this model strips workers of benefits including health insurance, paid leave, and retirement contributions. Job insecurity intensifies during economic downturns when demand

plummets. Governments worldwide grapple with regulatory frameworks that protect gig workers while preserving platform innovation.

Question: Which challenges do gig economy workers face according to the passage?

A) Excessive working hours
B) Absence of healthcare coverage
C) Lack of pension schemes
D) Unemployment during recessions
E) Limited career advancement opportunities

Correct Answers: B, C, D
Explanation: Text states workers lack "health insurance" (B), "retirement contributions" (C), and face "job insecurity...when demand plummets" during downturns (D). Options A and E are not discussed.

Re-order Paragraphs

Question 5

Jumbled Paragraphs:

A) This process, called photosynthesis, produces oxygen as a byproduct that sustains most life forms on Earth.

B) Plants capture sunlight through chlorophyll pigments in their leaves, converting light energy into chemical energy.

C) Without this mechanism, atmospheric oxygen levels would plummet, making aerobic respiration impossible for animals.

D) The chemical energy gets stored in glucose molecules, which plants use for growth and energy.

Correct Order: B - A - D - C

Explanation:

- **B** introduces the topic (photosynthesis process begins)

- **A** follows with "This process" (referencing B's light capture)

- **D** details what happens to chemical energy (logical continuation)

- **C** concludes with broader impact ("Without this mechanism" refers to entire process)

Question 6

Jumbled Paragraphs:

A) Consequently, global coffee prices fluctuate dramatically, affecting millions of farmers' livelihoods.

B) Ethiopia and Colombia rank among the top producers, but climate change threatens cultivation zones.

C) Coffee production depends heavily on specific temperature ranges and rainfall patterns.

D) Rising temperatures force farmers to relocate plantations to higher altitudes, increasing costs.

E) These disruptions create supply chain instabilities that ripple through international markets.

Correct Order: C - B - D - A - E

Explanation:

- **C** establishes topic (coffee production requirements)

- **B** provides examples and introduces problem (climate threat)

- **D** explains farmers' response ("Rising temperatures" continues climate theme)

- **A** shows economic result ("Consequently" links to D's farmer struggles)

- **E** expands impact ("These disruptions" refers to A's price changes)

Reading: Fill in the Blanks (Drag-and-Drop)

Question 7

Passage:
Blockchain technology offers _____ solutions for supply chain transparency by creating immutable records of product journeys. Each transaction gets _____ across distributed networks, preventing single points of failure. Companies can _____ authenticity and reduce counterfeit goods, particularly in pharmaceutical and luxury industries. However, _____ concerns about energy consumption persist.

Word Box: verified, significant, trace, legitimate, environmental, recorded, minor

Correct Answers:

1. **legitimate** (adjective + noun collocation)

2. **recorded** (past participle fits passive voice)

3. **trace** (verb fits "can + verb" structure)

4. **environmental** (adjective modifies "concerns")

Question 8

Passage:
Quantum computing represents a _____ leap beyond classical computing capabilities, utilizing quantum bits that exist in multiple states simultaneously. This _____ enables complex calculations that would take traditional supercomputers millennia. Financial institutions explore quantum algorithms for _____ optimization, while pharmaceutical companies accelerate drug discovery. Despite immense potential, practical _____ face obstacles like error correction and temperature requirements.

Word Box: portfolio, paradigm, implementations, property, minimal, breakthrough, phenomenon

Correct Answers:

1. **paradigm** (common collocation "paradigm leap/shift")

2. **property** (refers to quantum mechanics characteristic)

3. **portfolio** (finance context, "portfolio optimization")

4. **implementations** (noun fits "practical + noun" pattern)

Reading & Writing: Fill in the Blanks (Dropdown)

Question 9

Passage:

Space tourism has transitioned from science fiction to commercial reality, with companies like SpaceX and Blue Origin conducting _____ [civilian / military / experimental / educational] flights. Tickets costing millions currently _____ [attract / restrict / eliminate / encourage] access to ultra-wealthy adventurers, though proponents envision _____ [declining / escalating / stable / fluctuating] prices as technology matures. Critics argue resources should prioritize Earth's _____ [economic / environmental / political / technological] challenges rather than recreational space travel.

Correct Answers:

1. **civilian** (context indicates non-military passengers)

2. **restrict** (high cost limits access)

3. **declining** (prices expected to fall as tech improves)

4. **environmental** (critics' common argument focuses on Earth's ecological issues)

Question 10

Passage:

The Mediterranean diet, rich in olive oil, fish, and vegetables, has been _____ [extensively / rarely / moderately / superficially] studied for cardiovascular benefits. Research indicates populations following this dietary pattern _____ [exhibit / ignore / reject / question] lower rates of heart disease and diabetes. Antioxidants in olive oil _____ [accelerate / reduce / maintain / eliminate] inflammation, while omega-3 fatty acids from fish support brain health. Nutritionists _____ [discourage / recommend / challenge / dismiss] adopting these principles for longevity.

Correct Answers:

1. **extensively** (diet is well-researched)

2. **exhibit** (populations "show" lower rates)

3. **reduce** (antioxidants decrease inflammation)

4. **recommend** (nutritionists support the diet for health benefits)

Question 11

Passage:

Artificial intelligence has _____ [revolutionized / complicated / hindered / delayed] diagnostic medicine by analyzing medical images with _____ [inferior / superior / equivalent / random] accuracy compared to human radiologists in certain cases. Machine learning algorithms _____ [identify / overlook / fabricate / distort] patterns in mammograms and CT scans that might escape human detection. However, ethical _____ [advantages / benefits / concerns / innovations] about algorithmic bias and patient privacy require careful regulation.

Correct Answers:

1. **revolutionized** (AI has transformed medicine positively)

2. **superior** (context suggests better accuracy than humans)

3. **identify** (algorithms detect patterns)

4. **concerns** (ethical issues need addressing)

Answer Key Summary

Question	Type	Correct Answer(s)
1	MC Single	B
2	MC Single	B
3	MC Multiple	B, D, E
4	MC Multiple	B, C, D
5	Re-order	B-A-D-C
6	Re-order	C-B-D-A-E
7	Fill Blanks	legitimate, recorded, trace, environmental
8	Fill Blanks	paradigm, property, portfolio, implementations
9	RW Fill Blanks	civilian, restrict, declining, environmental
10	RW Fill Blanks	extensively, exhibit, reduce, recommend
11	RW Fill Blanks	revolutionized, superior, identify, concerns

Practice Tips:

- Time each task: MC Single (1 min), MC Multiple (1.5 min), Re-order (2 min), Fill Blanks (1 min)

- Review explanations for incorrect answers to identify pattern weaknesses

- Focus on vocabulary building for fill-in-the-blank questions

- Practice elimination techniques for multiple choice questions

- Use linkers and pronouns to solve re-order paragraphs efficiently

Score Yourself:

- 9-11 correct: Excellent (75+ band potential)

- 6-8 correct: Good (65-74 band range)

- Below 6: Needs improvement (focus on weak areas)