Reading Comprehension

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Read this note. ‘Rina clipped an extra ticket to the blue folder. The map stayed in the yellow envelope.’ Where is the extra ticket?

A. On the blue folder
B. Inside the yellow envelope
C. Under the map
D. Inside a red folder

Correct answer: A. On the blue folder
The first sentence places the extra ticket on the blue folder. The yellow envelope holds the map.

2. Read the directions. ‘Pick up a pencil at the door. Then choose a seat and open the blue booklet.’ What should a visitor do first?

A. Open the booklet
B. Choose a seat
C. Pick up a pencil
D. Return the booklet

Correct answer: C. Pick up a pencil
The directions list picking up the pencil before choosing a seat or opening the booklet.

3. Read the announcement. ‘The club will meet in Room 6 today because the lights in Room 4 are being replaced. The meeting still starts at noon.’ Why will the club meet in Room 6?

A. The meeting will begin later than noon
B. Room 4’s lights are being replaced
C. The club needs a bigger table
D. Room 6 has no lights

Correct answer: B. Room 4’s lights are being replaced
The word ‘because’ introduces the reason for the room change.

4. Read this passage. ‘Miko carried the boxes while Tari held open the storeroom door. Afterward, Tari wrote the number of boxes on a label.’ Who wrote the label?

A. A visitor
B. Miko
C. Both friends
D. Tari

Correct answer: D. Tari
The second sentence states that Tari wrote the number on a label.

5. Read the notice. ‘Paper entries are due on Thursday. Volunteers will sort them on Friday. The judges arrive on Monday.’ When does sorting happen?

A. Thursday
B. Friday
C. Monday
D. Wednesday

Correct answer: B. Friday
The middle sentence gives Friday as the day for sorting the entries.

6. Read this passage. ‘The park borrowed four picnic tables for Saturday’s fair. Volunteers moved them near the stage, added name cards, and set out pencils. By noon, visitors had a place to join each activity.’ Which sentence best summarizes the passage?

A. Volunteers prepared activity spaces at the fair
B. The fair sold picnic tables to visitors
C. A band chose pencils for its concert
D. Volunteers moved the entire fair indoors

Correct answer: A. Volunteers prepared activity spaces at the fair
All the details describe how volunteers set up tables for visitors to use at the fair.

7. Read this passage. ‘The bus stop was empty. Ana looked at her watch, checked the timetable again, and hurried toward the next stop.’ What inference has the most support?

A. Ana had already taken the bus home
B. Ana planned to buy a new watch
C. Ana hoped the next stop would be closed
D. Ana was worried she might miss the bus

Correct answer: D. Ana was worried she might miss the bus
Checking the time and schedule repeatedly and hurrying on suggest concern about catching the bus.

8. Read this passage. ‘Water was scarce at the campsite. The group found only one small container for a long afternoon, so they shared it carefully.’ What does ‘scarce’ mean here?

A. Too cold for the group
B. Stored in several places
C. Available in a small amount
D. Easy to replace in any amount

Correct answer: C. Available in a small amount
The only water mentioned is one small container. The group shares it carefully because there is little available.

9. Read this passage. ‘The old desk seats two people, while the new one seats four. Both desks have drawers, but only the new desk can fold away.’ How is the passage mainly organized?

A. It compares two objects
B. It explains how to build a desk
C. It lists the steps of an experiment
D. It narrates a person’s day

Correct answer: A. It compares two objects
The sentences explain what the two desks share and how they differ.

10. Read this passage. ‘The concert had ended. The stage lights were off, and volunteers stacked the last chairs. Kai waited by the door while the players carried their instruments outside.’ Which detail best supports the idea that the room was being cleared?

A. The building had an entrance
B. Kai stood near the door
C. The stage had lights
D. Volunteers stacked the last chairs

Correct answer: D. Volunteers stacked the last chairs
Stacking the last chairs is direct evidence that people were putting the room back in order.

11. Read two messages. ‘I want the reading bench next to the door, where people can find it,’ said Leena. ‘I want it in the quiet corner so readers can concentrate,’ said Ollie. What do they agree on?

A. Quiet matters more than visibility
B. The bench should go by the door
C. There should be a reading bench
D. The bench should be removed

Correct answer: C. There should be a reading bench
Both speakers want a reading bench. They give different reasons for choosing its location.

12. Read a club report. ‘On Tuesday, the garden club planted three rows of beans and watered all three. On Thursday, the first row had sprouts, but the other rows had none yet.’ Which claim can the report support?

A. Only the first row received water
B. One row had visible sprouts on Thursday
C. The other two rows will never sprout
D. Beans can sprout only on Thursdays

Correct answer: B. One row had visible sprouts on Thursday
The report describes what was visible on Thursday. It gives no outcome for the other rows after that date.

13. Read a notice. ‘Our hall has two recycling bins for six busy rooms. Please ask the committee to add a bin near the entrance so more visitors can find one.’ What is the writer mainly trying to do?

A. Explain why no additional bins are needed
B. Describe how recycling bins are manufactured
C. Tell a story about an old entrance
D. Persuade readers to request a new bin

Correct answer: D. Persuade readers to request a new bin
The writer asks readers to take a specific action and gives a reason for the request.

14. Read this claim. ‘Everyone who took the painting class wants another one. I know because one student told me it was fun.’ Which additional information would best test the claim?

A. Whether each participant wants another class
B. What color the teacher painted the door
C. How old the classroom tables are
D. Whether the student enjoyed a different class

Correct answer: A. Whether each participant wants another class
A statement about every participant calls for evidence about their preferences. One student’s comment about having fun does not address everyone’s choice.

15. Read two notices from the same fair. The morning program says, ‘Ticket desk beside the front gate until 2 p.m.’ The afternoon update says, ‘From 2 p.m., buy tickets beside the gym.’ What explains the different locations?

A. The gym sells tickets only in the morning
B. The notices are for two different fairs
C. The desk changes location at 2 p.m.
D. Both locations close at 2 p.m.

Correct answer: C. The desk changes location at 2 p.m.
The phrases ‘until 2 p.m.’ and ‘from 2 p.m.’ describe consecutive parts of the same schedule.