

**B 2 R 3 AC**

**READING PASSAGE 1**

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 1-13, which are based on Reading Passage 1.

Questions 1-4

Reading Passage 1 has four sections A-D.

Choose the best heading for each section from the list of headings below.

Write the correct number, i-viii, in boxes 1-4 on your answer sheet.

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. A new way of discovering your stress levels</li><li>ii. Stress interferes with one of the brain's natural processes</li><li>iii. Stress levels among young people in education</li><li>iv. The positive and negative effects of stress</li><li>v. The reasons stress damages appetite</li><li>vi. The difficulties of diagnosing stress</li><li>vii. The importance of reducing stress in society</li><li>viii. How computer use affects stress levels</li></ul> |
|---|

1. Section A

2. Section B

3. Section C

4. Section D

**New findings on stress**

**A.** In today's highly pressured world, most people are familiar with the physical symptoms of stress. Stress is a natural physical and mental reaction to life experiences, which very few people can avoid completely. Anything from everyday responsibilities like work and family to serious life events such as illness, divorce, or the death of a loved one can trigger stress. For immediate, short-term situations, stress can be beneficial to your health. Your body responds to stress by releasing hormones that increase your heart and breathing rates and ready your muscles to respond. However, if your stress levels stay elevated for longer period, it can be extremely bad for your health. Chronic stress can cause a variety of symptoms including anxiety, depression, headaches, and an inability to sleep.

**B.** In addition to these symptoms, stress can cause a craving for 'comfort food', which is usually high in calories. Researchers at Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney have found that stress can cancel out the brain's natural response to feeling full, leading to non-stop reward signals that lead us to eat more tasty but unhealthy food. This occurs in a part of the brain called the lateral habenula, which when activated usually lessens these reward signals.

What normally happens is that when we have eaten enough, the pleasure gained from eating diminishes. When stress cancels out the brain signals telling us we are full, the brain is continuously rewarded for eating. The Garvan team have demonstrated that chronic stress can lead to increased food intake as well as a preference for sweet, high calorie food, causing weight gain and even obesity. This research highlights how crucial a healthy diet is during times of stress.

In stressful situations it is usual to be hyperactive and the feeling of reward has a calming effect. On such occasions, a boost of energy through food is useful. However, when stress is experienced over a long period of time, it tends to lead to excess calorie intake, which is bad for the body. These findings clearly identify stress as a cause of eating habits that can override the brain's natural ability to balance energy. The researchers emphasise the importance of avoiding a stressful lifestyle, and if you are dealing with long-term stress the absolute necessity of eating a healthy diet.

**C.** It may seem strange, but some people who are suffering from stress are not aware that this is what is happening to them. The physical and mental damage stress causes will be affecting them without their knowledge, which means they do not take steps to manage their stress. Most stress is work-related. In the UK, for example, 79% of working people say they frequently feel stressed. Researchers at ETH Zurich are taking a novel approach to

diagnosing stress in the workplace. They have used machine learning to develop a model that can tell how stressed an employee is from the way they type and use their mouse.

They have found that the way someone types on their keyboard and moves their mouse seems to be a better way of assessing stress levels than heart rate. These findings could potentially be used to predict and prevent stress in the workplace early on. The study shows that people who are stressed move the cursor more often and less precisely and cover longer distances on the screen. Relaxed people, on the other hand, take shorter, more direct routes to reach their destination and take more time doing so. Moreover, people who feel stressed in the office make more mistakes when typing. They write quickly but with many brief pauses. Relaxed people take fewer but longer pauses when typing on a keyboard.

The researchers are aware of potential problems with the app they are developing to monitor stress levels. Although their aim is to help employees check their stress levels and take appropriate action, the technology could potentially be used by companies to spy on their staff. Users would need to be completely confident that their data were protected. If this private data were to get into the wrong hands, it could actually contribute further to stress levels, which the developers agree would be unacceptable.

**D.** Many experts believe that chronic stress is not given the attention it deserves. There are calls for it to be prioritised in education and workplaces. Both students and employees should be taught to monitor and deal with stress, and society as a whole should continually look for ways to make life less stressful. For example, teachers' unions and headteachers should consider whether the large number of examinations students take are all necessary. Employers should be aware that increasing stress on their staff is likely to result in higher staff turnover and more days lost due to sickness. Stress is the curse of the modern world but at least some of it is avoidable. Creating a less stressful life is not only possible but essential for a healthy, happy population.

Questions 5-9

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage 1?

In boxes 5-9 on your answer sheet, write

- TRUE**                    *if the statement agrees with the information*  
**FALSE**                    *if the statement contradicts the information*  
**NOT GIVEN**            *if there is no information on this*

5. It is only long-term stress that causes health problems.
6. The lateral habenula is less effective when a person is stressed.
7. After a period of comfort eating, the body craves healthy food.
8. Unconscious stress does less harm than stress we acknowledge.
9. The app developed in Zurich is for workers who use computers.

Questions 10-13

Complete the notes below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 10-13 on your answer sheet.

<b>Garvan Institute of medical research</b>	<b>ETH Zurich</b>
Stress causes the brain to receive continuous 10. _____, causing people to overeat.	The technology employed in this research is called 12. _____
The findings of this study recommend a 11. _____ for people with chronic stress.	The established way of measuring stress levels through 13. _____ is less effective than monitoring stress by looking at the way workers use computers.

## READING PASSAGE 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14-27, which are based on Reading Passage 2 below

### Droughts in Europe

**A.** In the summer of 2022, Europe suffered its worst drought in 500 years. All across the continent, rivers and reservoirs ran dry. The winter had seen inadequate rainfall, and then there were a series of heatwaves through the summer months. Simon Parry of the UK Centre of Ecology and Hydrology called it a perfect storm of conditions. The dry weather caused millions of trees to go into survival mode, shedding leaves to conserve water and energy. In many parts of Europe, summer looked more like autumn. Crops withered with farmers reporting a fall of around 16% in the yield of maize soya beans and sunflower seeds.

**B.** Energy supplies across the continent were also affected. In France, nuclear power plants had to reduce their output because there wasn't enough water to cool their reactors. Water levels on the river Rhine in Germany and the Netherlands made it challenging to transport coal and petrol by boat. Many barges, which carry both fuel and vital raw materials for industrial giants such as steelmaker Thyssen and chemical company BASF, are already operating at about 25% capacity, raising shipping costs up to fivefold. Norway had to stop exporting power due to its reduced ability to generate hydropower. The river Danube passes through at least ten countries and provides them with both power and drinking water, and the drought has caused hardship in many of these places.

**C.** Many of the areas the iconic rivers of Europe pass through, depend heavily on tourism, particularly in the summer months. The Loire river, for example passes through several important cities in France like Nantes, Orleans, and Tours. The river serves a well-known wine-producing region and offers river boat cruises for tourists who come from all over the globe to enjoy the beautiful scenery. The river Rhine is also a popular destination for river cruises, but at one key location, Kaub in Germany, water levels dropped to just 36 centimetres, making it impossible for ships to pass. This resulted in passengers being transported by bus to their next location. Clare Weedon of Brighton University points out that just as European river cruises are increasing in popularity, they are being threatened by drought. She predicts this may have a detrimental effect on this form of tourism.

**D.** The drought is Jean-Philippe Couasne and other species which live in European rivers. Jean Philippe Couasne, of the local Federation for Fishing and Protection of the Aquatic Environment in France's Burgundy region reports that many species of fish have died in the river Tille. Normally, an average of about 8,000 litres of water per second, flow in this river, but currently it is almost zero. He added that, without significant rain, the river would continue to empty, and all the fish would die. Couasne explained that the fish are trapped upstream and downstream. As there is no water coming in, the oxygen level will keep decreasing as the water volume goes down, leaving fish unable to survive.

**E.** Restrictions on water use are regularly put in place across Europe. The French minister for ecological transition, Christophe Béchu, warned that France would have to cope with up to 40% less water in coming years, adding that the country was already on a 'state of alert' and restrictions in some areas were fully justified. In the summer of 2023, people in four southern regions have been barred from filling swimming pools or washing their cars, while farmers must cut their water consumption by up to half.

**F.** Spain's environment minister, Teresa Ribera, warned of the inescapable reality of the climate emergency, saying the country had to be prepared for longer periods of drought, which are typically followed by flooding. She pointed out that the average amount of available water had fallen by 12% since 1980 with a further drop of between 14% and 40% predicted by 2050. On a more positive note, Simon Parry notes that many countries, including the UK are much more resilient to drought than in 1976, when the worst drought of the 20th century occurred. This means that although water restrictions are unlikely to be as harsh as they were then, they can still cause considerably inconvenience to consumers.

**G.** Niko Wanders of the University of Utrecht, too, suggests that Europeans will have to become more aware of drought and ways to cope with it. His work in other parts of the world reveals a different mindset in countries which have always experienced drought. In agriculture as well as domestic settings, people in such regions collect rainwater as a routine activity, rather than allowing it to be wasted as usually happens in Europe. He also suggests that changes to the infrastructure might be needed, such as building massive reservoirs like those found in traditionally drought-prone areas. Clearly, education in water conservation is urgently needed as droughts and long periods of recovery from them are likely to be the new normal.

Questions 14-19

Reading Passage 2 has 7 paragraphs **A-G**. Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter **A-G**, in boxes 14-19 on your answer sheet.

**NB** You may use any letter more than once.

- 14. How limitations on water use have changed
- 15. How the drought is affecting manufacturing
- 16. A prediction of an ecological disaster
- 17. The need to change attitudes and behaviour
- 18. Present and future impact on the leisure industry
- 19. What often happens after a drought

Questions 20-23

Complete the summary of paragraphs **B** and **C** using the list of words below.

Write the correct letter **A-H**, in boxes 20-23 on your answer sheet.

The droughts have affected the transportation of fuel 20. \_\_\_\_\_ which is a common means of moving it across the continent. Low water levels mean that vessels cannot be loaded to their normal capacity, which has caused a dramatic increase in the 21. \_\_\_\_\_ that rely on 22. \_\_\_\_\_ of moving goods. Countries are badly affected, including one country that has had to cease exports. Cruise ships have also had difficulty navigating the most picturesque waterways of Europe, which has had a negative impact on 23. \_\_\_\_\_. One expert points out that the drought has come at the worst possible time for the owners of cruise ships.

A. coal	B. tourism	C. transportation	D. impossibility
E. hydropower	F. waterways	G. by river	H. cost

Questions 24-27

Choose the correct letter, **A, B, C** or **D**.

Write the correct letter in boxes 24-27, on your answer sheet.

- 24. A perfect storm of conditions' refers to:
  - A. trees losing their leaves at the wrong time of year.
  - B. the windy and wet weather of the previous winter.
  - C. insufficient rain in winter and high summer temperatures.
  - D. the fact that both rivers and reservoirs had no water.
- 25. Jean-Philippe Couasné suggests that:
  - A. there is hope for some species of fish.
  - B. the lack of oxygen is killing the fish.
  - C. even heavy rainfall will not save the fish.
  - D. the river Tille is a slow-flowing river.
- 26. Christophe Béchu:
  - A. disagrees that farmers should use less water.
  - B. wants to extend the restrictions on water use.
  - C. plans to ban the use of swimming pools.
  - D. outlines actions taken by the government.
- 27. Niko Wanders describes:
  - A. Europeans' habit of water conservation.
  - B. differences in water use in homes and on farms.
  - C. the need for a change in attitude.
  - D. how Europe can help drought-prone regions.

### READING PASSAGE 3

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 28-40, which are based on Reading Passage 3 below.

#### Gem mining in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka rivals Brazil and Russia for the honour of being the most prolific provider of coloured gemstones in the world. Sapphires, rubies, and garnets are among the precious and semi-precious stones found on this island in the Indian Ocean. When you compare this tiny nation with the huge area covered by the other two countries, it seems amazing that it produces so many high-quality gemstones. Sri Lanka used to be known as 'RathnaDweepa', which means 'Island of Gems'. Situated off the southern coast of India, this unique island was mentioned in legends and stories across the ancient world including those of Marco Polo, who tells of a ruby as big as the palm of your hand owned by the king.

There has been gem mining in Sri Lanka for at least 2000 years, so there is a wealth of local information and tradition available to local miners. Locating the best place to mine for gems is largely done based on prior experience, folklore and tradition. The rivers and streams are a good place to start, as gemstones that have broken free from rocks are washed there by the rain. Many mines are established informally after farmers discover a gem accidentally when turning over the lush fertile soil. The land will then temporarily become a series of mines. As Sri Lankan gem mining does not use toxic chemicals or heavy machinery, the land will soon be returned to arable use.

Casual gem mining is almost routine in the Ratnapura district, where most of Sri Lanka's gems are found. The mining methods used in Sri Lanka are specifically developed and suited to the terrain. Compared to other gem producing countries, some of the techniques are simple and no longer used elsewhere. However, they are also safe, effective and relatively inexpensive, which permits the greater involvement of less well-off rural communities. The Sri Lankan government has in fact banned the use of heavy, mechanised mining methods in gem mining. This not only prevents the rapid loss of an irreplaceable resource, but also maintains an alternative source of revenue for much of the rural population who otherwise would be dependent almost entirely on agriculture.

One of the simplest ways of extracting gems is river dredging. This involves raking up the river gravel or 'illam' into a shallow pile using a long-handled iron rake-like tool known as a '*mammoty*'. Fine particles are washed away by the river, leaving the coarser gravel to be picked through manually by workers. There is also widespread illegal dredging of rivers, where locals use a gravel bar, an artificial construction, which can damage riverbanks and affect water supply.

Where it is suspected that gems are under the land rather than in water, shallow gem pits are constructed by simply digging down until the 'illam' is reached. The 'illam' is then extracted and washed before being handed to an experienced sorter who picks out the gem minerals. All the labour is carried out by hand, using hand tools and woven baskets, and the 'illam' is washed as soon as it is extracted. Washing is usually carried out using water extracted from the pit or, more rarely, from nearby streams and rivers. When it is a legal, licensed operation then the pit is usually filled back up once mining has finished, particularly when pitting is taking place on agricultural land. This rarely happens if the mining is unlicensed and illegal.

If the '*illam*' is found at a depth greater than about 3 metres then the use of open pits is impractical, and deep, vertical shafts are constructed. Wood, bamboo, and leaves support the walls and numerous cross beams are placed to brace the wall supports and to provide access for the workers. Due to the greater depth, manual extraction of water is not practical and usually an old diesel engine from a truck or bus is used to power a pump. Furthermore, a ventilation pipe, which doubles as a means of communication with those working underground, is used to ensure an adequate air flow to the miners. Lighting is provided by oil lamps or wax candles although this does lead to additional ventilation problems. Usually, a manual winch is used to haul the gem bearing 'illam' to the surface.

Almost all the processing of the '*illam*' (washing and cleaning), gem picking and sorting is carried out by hand. Large wicker baskets with a particular lipped design are used. A portion of the gem gravel is placed in the basket which is then dipped in and out of the water with a gentle swirling action which washes the fine clay, silt, and sand away from the heavier gem minerals which tend to sink towards the base of the sediment. Eventually a skilled washer will reduce the initial '*illam*' down to a heavy mineral concentrate which should contain any gems that are present.

Gemstones are worth millions of rupees to the Sri Lankan economy every year. Perhaps the most famous stone to have come out of this island nation is the iconic sapphire in UK Princess Diana's engagement ring, currently owned by Catherine of Wales, King Charles III's daughter-in-law. The marvel of the Sri Lanka gem industry is that it yields so many colourful stones with minimal damage to the environment and that ordinary people also benefit from opportunities for casual mining.



Questions 28-31

Look at the mining-related activities and the list of statements below. Match each activity with the correct statement. Write the correct letter **A-H** in boxes 28-31 on your answer sheet.

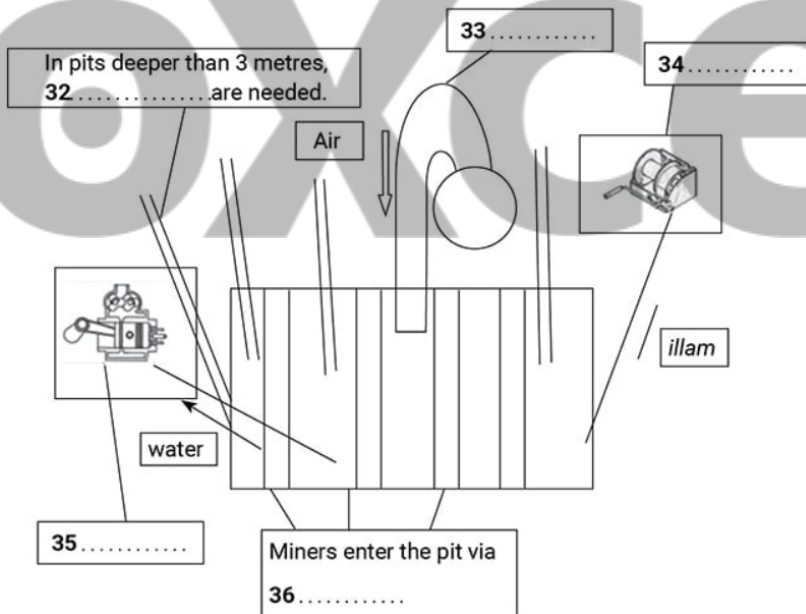
- 28. River dredging
- 29. Extraction (shallow pits)
- 30. Extraction (deep pits)
- 31. Processing

- A. Special equipment is needed to bring the 'illam' up
- B. Vehicles are required to carry out this activity
- C. Washing and separating can be done by any worker
- D. Causes problems for locals when not done lawfully
- E. Only water from rivers is used for washing
- F. Washing the 'illam' takes place without delay
- G. This uses a special container and hand movement
- H. The water extracted is returned to the source

Questions 32-36

Complete the diagram.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 32-36 on your answer sheet.



Questions 37-40

Answer the Questions below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 37-40 on your answer sheet.

- 37. What was the former name of Sri Lanka?
- 38. Which group of people sometimes find gems by chance?
- 39. What is the local name for the piece of equipment used in legal river dredging?
- 40. Who does the best-known blue sapphire from Sri Lanka belong to now?

**Answers – B 2 R 3 AC**

**Reading Passage 1**

**Questions 1-13**

**1.iv**

Section A talks about the positive and negative effects of stress. 'stress can be beneficial to your health', 'can be extremely bad for your health'. To answer this question correctly, you need to recognise 'beneficial' as a synonym of 'positive' and 'extremely bad for' as a synonym of 'negative'.

**2.ii**

The 'natural process' referred to in the heading is the brain sending signals to tell us we are full, which can be affected by stress. The key phrase to understand in order to answer this question correctly is 'interfere with', which has a similar meaning to 'override' and 'cancel out' in the text.

**3.i**

Section C introduces a method of testing stress levels through studying how people type and use the mouse. 'New way' in the question is a paraphrase of 'novel approach' in the text. 'Discovering' in the heading is a synonym of both 'found' and 'diagnosing' in the text. A common error here is to choose vi because it includes the word 'diagnosing'; however, this section is not about 'difficulties'.

**4.vii**

To answer this question correctly, you need to understand the meaning of 'reducing' (becoming less). Section D talks about the problems of stress among students and employees and ends with the assertion that 'Creating a less stressful life is not only possible but essential.' You need to identify 'essential' as a paraphrase of 'the importance of.'

**5. TRUE**

In section A, it says that short-term stress can be 'beneficial'. It is only when 'stress levels stay elevated for longer than is necessary...' that it is 'bad for your health'.

**6. TRUE**

In Section A, we learn that the lateral habenula is the part of the brain which is usually 'activated' when we have eaten enough. Stress 'can cancel out the brain's natural response to feeling full'. To answer this question correctly, you need to understand that 'This occurs' refers back to 'cancel out' and also link this to 'less effective' in the question.

**7. NOT GIVEN**

The text (Section B) explains why the body craves 'sweet, high calorie food' when stressed. References to a 'healthy diet' are to suggest what people should do and do not refer to cravings.

**8. FALSE**

Section C is about diagnosing stress in cases where people are not aware they are stressed. The text says, 'The physical and mental damage stress causes will be affecting them without their knowledge'. In order to answer this question correctly, you need to link 'unconscious' and/or 'acknowledge' in the question with 'not aware' in the text. You also need to recognise 'harm' as a synonym of 'damage'.

**9. TRUE**

To answer this question correctly, you need to understand that the app described diagnoses stress through typing on a keyboard and moving a mouse, and to infer that this is only applicable to people who use a computer.

**10. reward signals**

To answer this question correctly, you need to link 'continuous' in the summary to 'non-stop' in the text. It would also be helpful to understand that 'overeating' in the summary is similar to 'increased food intake' in the text.

**11.a healthy diet**

To answer this question correctly, you need to understand that 'chronic' in the question has a similar meaning to 'long-term' in the text. You also need to link 'recommend' with 'crucial' and/or 'absolute necessity' in the text.

**12. machine learning**

To answer this question correctly, you need to recognise that 'machine learning' is a kind of 'technology' and that 'used' has a similar meaning to 'employed'.

**13. heart rate**

In the phrase seems to be a better way of assessing stress levels than heart rate, the use of the comparative 'better' implies that heart rate is the 'established way'. You need to recognise 'measuring' in the summary as a synonym of 'assessing' in the text.

**Reading Passage 2**

**Questions 14-27**

**14. F**

Paragraphs E and F both talk about water restrictions. Paragraph E mentions changes to the amount of water that will be available in the future, but F says, 'water restrictions are unlikely to be as harsh as they were then' (1976). To answer this question correctly, you need to recognise that 'unlikely to be as harsh as' is describing a change and that 'limitations' in the question has a similar meaning to 'restrictions'

**15. B**

The paragraph starts by talking about energy supplies and goes on to explain that these supplies are needed for industry, giving a 'steelmaker' as an example. You need to identify that 'maker' in the word 'steelmaker' refers to 'manufacturing'

**16. D**

The 'ecological disaster' referred to in the question refers to 'all the fish would die. You need to recognise this as a 'prediction'. Couasné also says the oxygen level will keep decreasing...leaving fish unable to survive'. The use of 'will' should help you identify that this is a prediction.

**17. G**

The parts of the paragraph that you need to link to 'attitudes and behaviour' are 'become more aware', 'collect rainwater as a routine activity, rather than allowing it to be wasted as usually happens in Europe', 'building massive reservoirs', and 'education. Although paragraph E has some reference to changes in behaviour: 'barred from filling swimming pools or washing their cars, while farmers must cut their water consumption by up to half, there is no mention of attitudes.



**18. C**

To answer this question correctly, you need to link 'the leisure industry with tourism. Paragraph C talks about 'river boat cruises' for tourists and that they have already been affected by having to be transported by bus during a 'cruise'. Clare Weedon predicts a 'detrimental effect on this form of tourism in the future. You need to identify 'effect' as a synonym of 'impact' and also that 'predict' refers to the future.

**19. F**

Teresa Ribera warns that there will be longer periods of drought in the future, and these are typically followed by flooding'. You need to link 'often' in the question with 'typically' in the text and 'after' in the question with 'followed by' in the text.

**20. G**

Paragraph B discusses the difficulties of transporting fuel 'by boat'. 'By river' is another way of saying this. 'Waterways' is another word for 'river' but there is no preposition, and it is plural.

**21. H**

In paragraph B, it says that the reduction in capacity raised shipping costs 'up to fivefold'. To answer this question correctly, you need to identify that this refers to a 'dramatic increase' in the summary. A common error is to choose D (impossibility) for this gap, but moving goods by river is not impossible, just 'challenging

**22. E**

The most commonly chosen distractor for this gap is A (coal) because, without studying the text carefully, it seems to fit. The summary mentions 'one country' which refers to Norway in the text. You also need to identify 'cease exports' in the summary as a paraphrase of 'stop exporting power' in the text.

**23. B**

The word 'picturesque' in the summary suggests the idea of 'beautiful scenery' in the text and both terms suggest tourism. Detrimental effect in the text needs to be linked to 'negative impact in the summary. Furthermore, the sentence after the gap mentions 'the owners of cruise ships' which also links to tourism.

**24. C (Paragraph A)**

To identify this answer, you need to connect inadequate rainfall in the text and 'insufficient rain' in the list of options and 'a series of heatwaves' in the text and 'high summer temperatures' in the list of options.

A. Although it is true that trees lost their leaves at the wrong time of year. '*shedding leaves... Summer looked more like Autumn*'. However, this was a result of 'the perfect storm of conditions'. The phrase a/the perfect storm is a figurative expression and does not refer to a real storm.

B. The text mentions that the winter saw 'inadequate rainfall. Rainfall links with 'wet' but 'inadequate rainfall' means it was NOT wet. Wind is not mentioned.

D. The river and reservoirs having no water is a result of the perfect storm of conditions (again, 'storm' is used figuratively).

**25. B** (Paragraph D)

Couasné explains that 'the oxygen level will keep decreasing as the water volume goes down, leaving fish unable to survive'. To answer this question correctly, you need to link 'oxygen level will keep decreasing' in the text with 'the lack of oxygen' in the list of options. You also need to make a connection between 'unable to survive' in the text and 'killing' in the list of options.

A. Couasné says that 'many species of fish had died' but he doesn't suggest a different outcome for different species. He claims that 'without significant rain... all the fish would die'.

C. This option is incorrect because Couasné suggests that the fish could be saved by 'significant rain'

D. The text suggests the opposite. The Tille is normally a fast-flowing river: '8,000 litres per second'.

**26. D** (Paragraph E)

The 'actions taken by the government' in the list of options refers to the ban on filling swimming pools and washing cars and farmers having to cut their water consumption.

A. Christophe Béchu calls the restrictions 'fully justified' so this option is incorrect.

B. Béchu mentions that France would have up to 40% less water available in coming years and supports the restrictions already in place. However, he doesn't suggest extending them.

C. The ban on 'filling (not using) swimming pools is already in place. This option is incorrect because 'plans to ban' refers to the future.

**27. C**

Niko Wanders says that Europeans need to be 'more aware of drought and also need education in water conservation'. To identify this as the correct option, you need to link these to 'a change of attitude' in the list of options.

A. According to Niko Wanders, Europeans tend to waste water, so this option is incorrect.

B. We learn in Paragraph G that water is collected 'in agriculture as well as domestic settings' and this has the same meaning as in homes and on farms in the option. However, the text says they both avoid wasting water and doesn't describe differences between them.

D. You might find this answer attractive because Europe is often in the role of helping less fortunate regions of the world. However, in this case, Europe is learning to conserve water from drought-prone regions.

**Reading Passage 3**

**Questions 28-40**

**28. D**

To answer this question correctly, you need to recognise that 'illegal' in the text is a synonym of 'not...lawfully' in the question. The 'problems for locals' in the question, refers to 'damage riverbanks and affect water supply' in the text.

**29. F**

The text says 'the 'illam' is washed as soon as it is extracted'. To answer this question correctly, you need to identify that 'as soon as' is a paraphrase of 'without delay'

**30. A**

The 'special equipment' referred to in the question is a 'manual winch'. To answer this question correctly, you need to recognise 'bring the 'illam' up' in the question as a paraphrase of 'haul the gem bearing 'illam' to the surface' in the text. B is often chosen because 'vehicles' in the option is linked to 'a truck or bus in the text. However, it is only the engine from such vehicles that is used.

**31. G**

The 'special container' referred to in the option is a large wicker basket 'with a particular lipped design'. The 'hand movement' is a 'gentle swirling action'. C is commonly chosen in error, but the text says a 'skilled washer' not 'any worker' does this work.

**32. (vertical) shafts**

To answer this question correctly, you should understand the word 'vertical' (from top to bottom) and link it to the diagram. Also, you should recognise 'at a depth greater than' in the text as a paraphrase of 'deeper than' in the question.

**33.ventilation pipe**

The text tells us that the ventilation pipe is to ensure an adequate air flow to the miners. The diagram shows air going downwards (i.e. to the miners).

**34. (manual) winch**

The text tells us that 'a manual winch is used to haul the gem bearing illam to the surface. The diagram shows 'illam' going upwards. You should identify 'haul..to the surface' as what is being shown by the up arrow in the diagram.

**35.diesel engine**

The diagram shows water coming out of the pit. The text says that 'manual extraction of water is not practical and usually an old diesel engine from a truck or bus is used to carry out pumping'You should link the upwards arrow showing 'water' to extraction of water' and 'pumping' in the text

**36. crossbeams/cross beams**

The diagram shows crossbeams supporting the pit. You should link 'miners enter the pit via' in the label with 'provide access for the workers' in the text.

**37.RathnaDweepa**

To correctly answer this question, you need to identify 'used to be known as' in the text as a paraphrase of 'the former name of' in the question.

**38.farmers**

To answer this question correctly, you need to recognise 'accidentally' in the text as a synonym of 'by chance' in the question and also connect 'farmers' to 'a group of people'.

**39.mammoty**

Two pieces of equipment are mentioned in the paragraph on river dredging ('mammoty' and gravel bar). We know that a 'gravel bar' is used in 'illegal dredging'. To answer this question correctly, you need to link 'piece of equipment' in the question with 'tool' in the text.

**40. Catherine of Wales**

To answer this question correctly, you need to identify 'most famous' in the text as a paraphrase of 'best-known' in the question, and 'currently owned by' in the text as a paraphrase of 'belong to now' in the question.

**voxcel**<sup>TM</sup>