AILET

English: Reading Comprehension for Law Entrance

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Reading comprehension is essential for **CLAT, MHCET, LSAT, AILET** and other law entrance. Every year there are at least 3-5 questions which are asked on it.

So it becomes mandatory to learn how to answer them correctly for the aspirants so as to secure good marks.

What is reading comprehension?

Reading comprehension is the ability to process text, understand its meaning and integrate with what the reader already knows. It is all about how you process the text written and answer accordingly.

The word ***'comprehend' literally means to understand and interpret*** the meaning of the paragraph. Every passage revolves around the central idea, thus it becomes important to identify the central idea which is implicit in the key sentences of the paragraph.

The topic/heading of the passage is derived from this central idea only.

The length of passages approximately ranges from 500-800 words. The passage can be of any kind. Eg. *it can be a narrative of a story, a bibliography or any paragraph containing static information about a certain topic.*

Types of questions asked from reading comprehensions in law entrance

1. Heading – generally students are asked to provide for the heading of the passage, which can be easily derived once you identify the central idea of the paragraph.
2. Direct – herein the students are required to answer questions asked from the static details of the passage. The answer to such a question can be easily picked from the text of the paragraph directly.

3. Application – these are the questions which are based on the inference of the passage. They can be answered from the implied understanding of the paragraph.
4. Author's view– students are asked to identify the tone or view of the author in the paragraph.
5. Vocabulary– these are the words used in the paragraph whose meaning, synonym or antonym may be asked.

Steps to solve reading comprehension for law entrance

Step 1

Firstly, read the questions carefully. This will provide you with the idea about what you have to search for in the paragraph.

Step 2

Secondly, read the passage in a quick manner and try to find the relevant answers to the questions read before.

Step 3

Thirdly, now when you have read the paragraph, read the questions again properly and try to answer the question. In this step, you will be able to find the answer to direct questions and mark them in the paragraph

Step 4

Fourthly, read the unanswered questions carefully and read the relevant portion of the paragraph to find and interpret the answers.

Step 5

Fifthly, in order to answer the vocabulary question read the sentence in which the concerned word is used and try to interpret the meaning of the sentence with such word.

Read our post on acing the English paper for law entrance

Strategy to solve reading comprehension questions for law entrance

1. Try to find out the main idea of the paragraph and understand the tone used by the author i.e. whether it is optimistic, pessimistic or informative.

2. After reading the questions try to eliminate reading the irrelevant paragraphs.
3. While reading the passage make a point of the specific details about the main characters.
4. Try to devise a logical inference of the passage. This will help in answering the application based questions.
5. Focus on the sentences containing vocabulary questions so as to understand their meaning.
6. Improve the reading speed by practising within a stipulated time. It should take 7-8 minutes to read a passage of 500-800 words.
7. Learn to summarise in your mind the main points of the passage.

Reading Comprehension from CLAT 2016

Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions given after the passage:

1. Often, we passionately pursue matters that in the future appear to be contradictory to our real intention or nature; and triumph is followed by remorse or regret. There are numerous examples of such a trend in the annals of history and contemporary life.
2. Alfred Nobel was the son of Immanuel Nobel, an inventor who experimented extensively with explosives. Alfred too carried out research and experiments with a large range of chemicals; he found new methods to blast rocks for the construction of roads and bridges; he was engaged in the development of technology and different weapons; his life revolved around rockets and cannons and gun powder. The ingenuity of the scientist brought him enough wealth to buy the Bofors armament plant in Sweden.
3. Paradoxically, Nobel’s life was a busy one yet he was lonely; and as he grew older, he began suffering from guilt of having invented the dynamite that was being used for destructive purposes. He set aside a huge part of his wealth to institute Nobel Prizes. Besides honouring men and women for their extraordinary achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine and literature, he wished to honour people who worked for the promotion of peace.
4. It’s strange that the very man whose name was closely connected with explosives and inventions that helped in waging wars willed a large part of his earnings for the people who work for the promotion of peace and the benefit of mankind. The Nobel Peace Prize is intended for a person who has accomplished the best work for fraternity among nations, for abolition or reduction of war and for promotion of peace.

5. Another example that comes to one's mind is that of Albert Einstein. In 1939, fearing that the Nazis would win the race to build the world's first atomic bomb, Einstein urged President Franklin D Roosevelt to launch an American programme on nuclear research. The matter was considered and a project called the Manhattan Project was initiated. The project involved intense nuclear research the construction of the world's first atomic bomb. All this while, Einstein had the impression that the bomb would be used to protect the world from the Nazis. But in 1945, when Hiroshima was bombed to end World War II, Einstein was deeply grieved and he regretted his endorsement of the need for nuclear research.
6. He also stated that had he known that the Germans would be unsuccessful in making the atomic bomb, he would have probably never recommended making one. In 1947, Einstein began working for the cause of disarmament. But, Einstein's name still continues to be linked with the bomb. Man's fluctuating thoughts, changing opinions, varying opportunities keep the mind in a state of flux. Hence, the paradox of life: it's certain that nothing is certain in life.

Questions

Q.1 The Manhattan Project was initiated _____.

1. in honour of Einstein. 2. to protect the Nazis. 3. to bomb Hiroshima 4. to carry out nuclear research

Ans: 4

Approach – after reading the question look directly for the word ' The Manhattan Project' in the passage and read the relevant lines of paragraph 5. **This is a Direct question.**

Q.2 Alfred established the Nobel Prizes to __

1. Remind people of his achievements. 2. Ease his guilt and promote work for the betterment of mankind. 3. Use his wealth for hard-working people. 4. honour only those people who are intelligent

Ans: 2

Approach – find the word 'Nobel Prize' and 'Alfred' in the passage and read the relevant lines. **The answer is not direct but has to be inferred from the text.**

Q.3 In paragraph 4, the word 'accomplished' means _____.

1. completed successfully. 2. worked hard. 3. won awards 4. made an effort to do something

Ans: 1

Approach – find the word in the relevant paragraph mentioned and read the sentence carefully in which **this word is used and try to derive its meaning**.

Q.4 In the fifth paragraph, the word 'endorsement' means 1. expressing one's opposition. 2. expressing one's approval or support. 3. making a promise to do something. 4. expressing one's regret.

Ans: 2

Approach – find the word in the relevant paragraph mentioned and read the sentence carefully in which this word is used and try to derive its meaning.

Q.5 Working with arms and ammunition helped Alfred to amass _____.

1. enemies 2. intelligence 3. wealth 4. popularity

Ans: 3

Approach – this question is based on the analytical reading of the paragraph. The word 'arms and ammunition' is not directly used in the passage, so find a word similar to that. Herein the words 'cannon and gun powder' somewhat reflect the words 'arms and ammunition'. Thus **read the relevant lines and interpret the answer accordingly** i.e. cannons have brought wealth to Alfred, hence 'wealth' will be the answer.

Q.6 Immanuel's interest in dynamites influenced Alfred's inclination for working _____.

1. for humanity 2. with explosives 3. for the Nobel Peace Prize 4. with contradiction

Ans: 2

Approach – find the paragraph which talks about both Immanuel and Alfred and connect the sentences to reach to the answer.

Q.7 One of the paradoxes in Alfred's life was that he was _____.

1. lonely yet rich 2. hardworking but a failure 3. intelligent yet lonely 4.occupied yet lonely

Ans: 4

Approach – locate where the word ‘paradox’ is used in the passage with reference to Alfred and find the answer in the lines.

Q.8 Einstein had the impression that the Germans would _____.

1. bomb Hiroshima. 2. be successful in making the world’s first atomic bomb. 3. be unsuccessful in making the atomic bomb. 4. work for humanity.

Ans: 3

Approach – locate in the passage where the words ‘Einstein’ and the word ‘Germans’ have been **used together** and infer the answer from the respective sentences

Q.9 The passage is _____.

1. an argumentative essay 2. an expository essay. 3. a process essay. 4. a descriptive essay.

Ans: 4

Approach – this question is to be answered from the complete reading of the passage. It involves **understanding the nature** and tone of the passage.

Q.10 The paradox, ‘it’s certain that nothing is certain in life’, indicates the

1. hatred for scientists 2. analytical mind 3. scientific mind 4. persuasive nature

Ans: 2

Approach – locate the sentence ‘it’s certain that nothing is certain in life’ in the passage and infer its use in light of the meaning of the relevant paragraph. This will help in identifying author’s tone and mind.

Do you understand what types of questions come from from a reading comprehension in law entrance? Yes?

Try to solve this practice paper on reading comprehension for law entrance.

Click here to read Clatapult’s blog on reading comprehension.

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