

PTE Reading Practice Test 4

Question 1 : Reading & Writing : Fill In The Blanks

Look at the text below with blanks. Choose the appropriate word from the provided lists for each blank.

Item 1:

The most _____ ingredient in Indian cooking, the _____ element with which all dishes begin and, normally, the cheapest vegetable available, the pink onion is an essential item in the shopping basket of families of all classes. A popular saying holds that you will never starve because you can always afford a roti (a piece of simple, flat bread) and an onion. But in recent weeks, the onion has started to seem an unaffordable _____ for India's poor. Over the past few days, another sharp surge in prices has begun to unsettle the influential urban middle classes. The sudden spike in prices has been caused by large exports to neighboring countries and a shortage of supply. With its capacity for bringing down governments and scarring political careers, the onion plays an explosive role in Indian politics. This week reports of rising onion prices have made front-page news and absorbed the attention of the governing elite.

1. Vital, impressive, affordable, ordinary
2. Simple, basic, great, only
3. Material, luxury, element, ingredients

Item 2:

Researchers already know that spending long periods of time in a zero-gravity _____ such as that inside the International Space Station (ISS) ---result in loss of bone density and _____ to the body's _____. That's partly why stays aboard the ISS are _____ to six months. And now, a number of NASA astronauts are reporting that their 20/20 _____ faded after spending time in space, with many needing glasses once they returned to Earth.

1. Environment, climate, weather, planet
2. Damage, gain, recovery, enhancement
3. Muscles, development, action, flexibility
4. Allowed, limited, exceeded, excessive
5. Eye, ratio, sight, vision

Item 3:

Never has the carbon footprint of multinational corporations been under such intense scrutiny. Inter-city train journeys and long-haul flights to _____ face-to-face business meetings contribute significantly to greenhouse gasses and the resulting _____ on the environment. The Anglo-US company Teliris has introduced a new video-conferencing technology and partnered with the Carbon Neutral Company, enabling corporate outfits to become more environmentally responsible. The innovation allows simulated face-to-face meetings to be held across continents without the time _____ or environmental burden of international travel. Previous designs have enabled video-conferencing on a point-to-point, dual-location basis. The firm's Virtua Live technology, however, can bring people together from up to five _____ locations anywhere in the world - with _____ transmission quality.

1. Produce, generate, create, conduct
2. Gasses, steam, strain, affect
3. Stress, limit, pressure, press
4. Separate, each, respectively, single
5. Unreliable, unrivaled, unrealistic, unreasonable

Item 4:

Our analysis of the genetic structure of northern spotted owls across most of the range of the subspecies allowed us to test for genetic discontinuities and identify landscape features that influence the subspecies' genetic structure. Although no _____ genetic breaks were found in northern spotted owls, _____ landscape features were important in structuring genetic variation. Dry, low elevation valleys and the high elevation Cascade and Olympic Mountains restricted gene flow, while the lower Oregon Coast Range _____ gene flow, acting as a 'genetic corridor.' The Columbia River did not act as a barrier, _____ owls readily fly over this large river. Thus, even in taxa such as northern spotted owls with potential for long distance dispersal, landscape features can have an important impact on gene flow and genetic structure.

1. distinct, resemble, obvious, assemble
2. few, several, much, many
3. hindered, embedded, enabled, facilitated
4. suggesting, demonstrating, telling, stating

Item 5:

Progressive enhancement is a design practice based on the idea that instead of _____ for the least capable browser, or mangling our code to make a site look the same in every browser, we should provide a core set of functionality and information to all users, and then _____ enhance the appearance and behavior of the site for users of more capable browsers. It's a very productive development practice. Instead of _____ hours working out how to add drop shadows to the borders of an element in

every browser, we simply use the standards-based approach for browsers that support it and don't even attempt to implement it in browsers that don't. After all, the users of older and less capable browsers won't know what they are missing. The biggest _____ to progressive enhancement is the belief among developers and clients that websites should look the same in every browser. As a developer, you can simplify your life and dedicate your time to more interesting challenges if you let go of this outdated notion and embrace progressive enhancement.

1. building, creating, designing, establishing
2. moderately, progressively, gently, gradual
3. taking, take, spending, spend
4. challenge, opportunity, issue, risk

Question 2 : Re-Order Paragraphs

The text boxes in the left panel have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order by marking it in the correct order.

Item 1:

- A. The Repeat Photography Project was born.
- B. Over the years, countless photos of the majestic park have been snapped, and many of those have become part of the park's official archive, spanning over a century.
- C. In 1997 Lisa McKeon, a physical scientist with the United States Geological Survey who works in the park, came across a pair of historic photographs depicting the glaciers she studies.
- D. It was a light bulb moment: Why not use the old photos to create a timeline of the morphing glaciers, and add new photos every year?

Item 2:

- A. Moving to a mayor-led district can also help spur innovation and advancement.
- B. Mayoral control of schools can be effective.
- C. In cities with lagging student achievement, getting more engagement from mayors or increasing their authority over schools could be part of the solution.
- D. Mayor-controlled districts have seen improved student achievement across all subjects and student groups.

Item 3:

- A. As a result, some people believe it is now time to reassess many companies in terms of the standards they agreed to some years ago.

- B. Whether these systems have been maintained seems questionable. Particularly as contracts depend so heavily on efficiency and quick sales.
- C. In the late 1900s. Food manufacturers were challenged by the organic community to ensure they were using ingredients that had been produced in natural healthy ways.
- D. Over the last half-century, farming has become a driving force in the world's food market.
- E. It was a time when managers had to take a critical look at every aspect of their production process and make improvements where necessary.

Question 3 : Reading - Fill In The Blanks

In the text below some words are missing. Pick words from the box below to the appropriate place in the text.

Item 1:

Dance has played an important role in many musicals. In some _____, dance numbers are included as an excuse to add to the colour and _____ of the show, but dance is more _____ when it forms an integral part of the plot. An early example is Richard Rodgers On Your Toes (1936) in which the story about classical ballet meeting the world of jazz enabled dance to be introduced in a way that enhances, rather than _____ the drama.

spectacle *cases* *effective* *interrupts*

Item 2:

In search of lessons to _____ in our own careers, we often try to emulate what effective leaders do. Roger Martin says this focus is misplaced, because _____ that work in one context may make little sense in another. A more productive, though more difficult, _____ is to look at how such leaders think.

approach *moves* *apply*

Item 3:

Throughout the 18th century, mathematicians, scientists and philosophers researched, discussed, and published their investigations into how the world worked, while engineers and inventors developed new and successful machines and processes. The latest theories inspired greater invention, and more technology encouraged theoretical scientists to make further discoveries in medicine, biology, mechanics, physics, and chemistry. By 1800, the new machines _____ brought revolutionary changes to the workplace, transportation and communications, and eventually to the home. Some of these inventions simply made it easier to

produce things on a large scale such as textile machines and foundries, _____ produced large quantities of cloth and metal objects quickly and cheaply. But some inventions _____ completely new possibilities such as the first batteries, steamboats, and locomotives. It would take decades for some of these inventions to make a big impact on the world. _____ their creation, and the sheer amount of imagination and risk-taking involved, marked the beginning of a modern, global, technologically based economy of the kind that we live in today.

<i>Had</i>	<i>brought</i>	<i>which</i>	<i>yet</i>
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Item 4:

Twenty years ago, not so long before B-15 broke off from Antarctica, “we didn’t even know that icebergs made noise,” says Haru Matsumoto, an ocean engineer at NOAA who has studied these sounds. But in the past _____ years, scientists have started to learn _____ distinguish the eerie, haunting sounds of iceberg life—ice cracking, icebergs grinding against each other, an iceberg grounding on the seafloor—and measuring the extent to _____ those sounds contribute to the noise of the ocean. While they’re just now learning to listen, the sounds _____ ice could help them understand the behavior and break up of icebergs and ice shelves as the poles warm _____.

<i>to</i>	<i>up</i>	<i>which</i>	<i>few</i>	<i>of</i>
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Sample Answers

Question 1 : Reading & Writing : Fill In The Blanks

Item 1:

1. Vital
2. Basic
3. Luxury

Item 2:

1. environment
2. damage
3. muscles
4. Limited
5. vision

Item 3:

1. Conduct
2. Strain
3. Pressure
4. Separate
5. unrivaled

Item 4:

1. Distinct
2. Several
3. Facilitated
4. Suggesting

Item 5:

1. Designing
2. Progressively
3. Spending
4. Challenge

Question 2 : Re-Order Paragraphs

Item 1:

CBDA

Item 2:

BDAC

Item 3:

DCEBA

Question 3 : Reading - Fill In The Blanks

Item 1:

1. Cases
2. Spectacle
3. Effective
4. Interrupts

Item 2:

1. apply
2. moves
3. approach

Item 3:

1. Had
2. Which
3. Brought
4. Yet

Item 4:

1. Few
2. To
3. Which
4. Of
5. Up