

PTE Reading Practice Test 9

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:

I am a cyclist and a motorist. I fasten my seatbelt when I drive and wear a helmet on my bike to reduce the risk of injury. I am convinced that these are prudent safety measures. I have persuaded many friends to wear helmets on the grounds that transplant surgeons call those without helmets, "donors on wheels". But a book on 'Risk' by my colleague John Adams has made me re-examine my _____. Adams has completely _____ my confidence in these apparently sensible precautions. What he has persuasively argued, particularly in relation to seat belts, is that the evidence that they do what they are supposed to do is very suspect. This is _____ numerous claims that seat belts save many thousands of lives every year. There is remarkable data from the year 1970 to 1978 in which countries with wearing of seat belts _____ have had on average about 5 per cent more road accident deaths following the introduction of the law. In the UK, road deaths have decreased steadily from about 7,000 a year in 1972 to just over 4,000 in 1989. There is no evidence in the trend for any effect of the seat belt law that was introduced in 1983. Moreover, there is evidence that the number of cyclists and pedestrians killed actually increased by about 10 per cent.

1. Decisions, opinions, convictions, prejudices
2. Damaged, undermined, harmed, hurt
3. because of, despite of, even though, in spite of
4. Imperative, necessary, compulsory, acceptable

Item 2:

Gas drilling on the Indonesian side of Java has _____ a "mud volcano" that has killed 13 people and may render four square miles (ten square kilometers) of countryside uninhabitable for years. In a report released on January 23, a team of British researchers says the deadly _____ began when an _____ gas well punched through a layer of rock 9300 feet (2800 meters) below the surface, _____ hot, high pressure water to _____. The water _____ mud to the surface, where it has _____ across a region 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) in _____ in the eight months since the eruption began. The mud volcano is similar to a gusher or blowout, which occurs in oil drilling when oil or gas squirt to the surface, the team says. This upwelling, however, spews out a volume of mud equivalent to a dozen Olympic swimming pools each day. Although the eruption isn't as violent as a _____ volcano, more than a dozen

people died when a natural gas pipeline ruptured. The research team, who published their findings in the February issue of GSA Today, also estimate that the volcano, called Lusi, will leave more than 11,000 people permanently displaced.

1. Triggered, intrigued, motivated, inspired
2. Upwelling, downwelling, uncurrent, downcurrent
3. Laboratory, observatory, exploratory, exploitative
4. Prohibiting, allowing, forbidding, pushing
5. Explode, extract, escape, eclipse
6. Carried, delivered, mixed, transmitted
7. Polluted, spread, transported, expanded
8. Distance, width, length, diameter
9. Eruptible, conventional, active, thermal

Item 3:

The increasing darkness in the Northern Hemisphere this time of year indicates to the plant that _____ is coming. So it starts recouping materials from the _____ before they drop off. Evergreens protect their needle-like foliage from freezing with _____ coatings and natural "antifreezes." But broadleaf plants, like sugar maples, birches, and sumacs, have no such protections. As a result, they _____ their leaves. But before they do, the plants first try to _____ important nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus.

1. fall/autumn, spring, summer, winter
2. Roots, leaves, trunks, stems
3. Watery, sticky, waxy, slippery
4. Saved, survived, shed, fell
5. Salvage, slave, transmit, transit

Item 4:

If after years of Spanish classes, some people still find it impossible to understand some native speakers, they should not worry. This does not _____ mean the lessons were wasted. Millions of Spanish speakers use neither standard Latin American Spanish nor Castilian, which predominate in US schools. The confusion is partly political - the Spanish Speaking world is very diverse. Spanish is the language of 19 separate countries and Puerto Rico. This means that there is no one standard dialect. The most common Spanish dialect taught in the US is standard Latin American. It is sometimes called "Highland" Spanish since it is generally spoken in the _____ areas of Latin America. While each country retains its own _____ and has some unique vocabulary, residents of countries such as Mexico, Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia generally speak Latin American Spanish, especially in urban centers. This dialect is noted for its _____ of each letter and its strong "r" sounds.

This Spanish was spoken in Spain in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and was brought to the Americas by the early colonists. However, the Spanish of Madrid and of northern Spain, called Castilian, developed _____ that never reached the New World. These include the pronunciation of "ci" and "ce" as "th." In Madrid, "gracias" (thank you) becomes "gratheas" (as opposed to "gras-see-as" in Latin America). Another difference is the use of the word "vosotros" (you all, or you guys) as the informal form of "ustedes" in Spain. Castilian sounds to Latin Americans much like British English sounds to US residents.

1. Necessarily, usually, only, particularly
2. Rocky, hidden, mountainous, coastal
3. Thoughts, actions, accents, authority
4. Collection, elucidation, pronunciation, remembering
5. Characteristics, problems, normality, distinguishes

Item 5:

At the beginning of the twenty—first century, the relationship between standard and nonstandard language is, evidently, still an uncertain one. We are at a _____ point between two eras. We seem to be leaving an era when the rules of Standard English, as elected and defined by prescriptive grammarians, totally conditioned our sense of _____ usage, so that all other usages and varieties were considered to be inferior or corrupt, and excluded from serious consideration. And we seem to be _____ an era when nonstandard usages and varieties, previously denigrated or ignored, are achieving a new presence and respectability within society, reminiscent of that found in Middle English, when dialect variation in literature was widespread and uncontentious. But we are not there _____. The rise of Standard English has resulted in a confrontation between the standard and nonstandard dimensions of the language which has lasted for over 200 years, and this has had traumatic _____ which will take some years to eliminate. Once people have been given an inferiority complex about the way they speak or write, they find it difficult to shake off.

1. transcendent, compositional, evanescent, transitional
2. notable, irreversible, acceptable, preferential
3. approaching, revolutionizing, fathoming, transplanting
4. still, ever, yet, thus
5. concatenations, consequences, successions, sequences

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. My study of the history of religion has revealed that human beings are spiritual animals. Indeed, there is a case for arguing that Homo sapiens is also Homo religious.
- B. Men and women started to worship gods as soon as they became recognizably human; they created religions at the same time as they created works of art.
- C. But these early faiths expressed the wonder and mystery that seems always to have been an essential component of the human experience of this beautiful yet terrifying world.
- D. This was not simply because they wanted to propitiate powerful forces.

Item 2:

- A. Over the years many human endeavors have had the benefit of language. In particular, a written language can convey a lot of information about past events, places, people and things.
- B. Now music can be communicated efficiently, and succeeding generations would know something about the music of their ancestors.
- C. But it is difficult to describe music in words, and even more difficult to specify a tune.
- D. It was the development of a standard musical notation in the 11th century that allowed music to be documented in a physical form.

Item 3:

- A. Because you might be living there.
- B. You can see the facilities and accommodations around the school.
- C. Do not ever choose a school without going to the place and having a look. You should go and see it once you have a chance.
- D. And they can be helpful to your study as well.
- E. There are more than 100 schools in the country

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:

The article subjects the assumptions and prescriptions of the 'Corporate Culture' literature to critical scrutiny. The _____ of the article is _____ to teasing out the distinctive basis of its appeal _____ with earlier management _____. It is seen to build upon earlier efforts (eg 'theory Y') to constitute a self-disciplining form of employee subjectivity by asserting that 'practical autonomy' is _____ upon the development of a strong corporate culture. The paper illuminates the dark side of this project by drawing _____ to the subjugating and totalitarian _____ of its excellence/quality prescriptions. To this end, _____ are drawn with the philosophy of control favored

by the Party in Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four. Specifically, the paper critiques the doublethink' contention that autonomy can be realized in monocultural conditions that systematically _____ opportunities to wrestle with competing values and standpoints and their associated life projects.

<i>conditional</i>	<i>attention</i>	<i>implication</i>	<i>parallels</i>	<i>body</i>
<i>devoted</i>	<i>constrain</i>	<i>compared</i>	<i>theory</i>	

Item 2:

Civics and citizenship education builds students' knowledge and understanding of the ways in which citizens can actively _____ in Australia's diverse and inclusive society. Students learn about the civic institutions and the _____ through which decisions are made for the common good of the _____ and they also develop the _____ and understandings that relate to the organization of a harmonious democratic society.

<i>community</i>	<i>skills</i>	<i>participate</i>	<i>processes</i>
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Item 3:

So why is it a concern? It is _____ radioactivity is invisible and uncensored, and for that reason is perceived as scary. _____, we understand quite well the radiation levels to which people can be _____ without harm, and those levels are orders of _____ above the typical background levels.

<i>magnitude</i>	<i>because</i>	<i>exposed</i>	<i>nevertheless</i>
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Item 4:

Once an organization has its product to sell, it must then _____ the appropriate price to sell it at. The price is set by balancing many _____ including supply-and-demand, cost, desired profit competition, perceived value, and market behavior. Ultimately, the final price is determined by what the market is willing to _____ for the product. Pricing theory can be quite complex because so many factors influence what the purchaser _____ is a fair value.

<i>factors</i>	<i>decides</i>	<i>determine</i>	<i>exchange</i>
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Sample Answers

Question 1 : Reading & Writing : Fill In The Blanks

Item 1:

1. Convictions
2. Undermined
3. In spite of
4. Compulsory

Item 2:

1. Triggered
2. Upwelling
3. Exploratory
4. Allowing
5. Escape
6. Carried
7. Spread
8. Diameter
9. Conventional

Item 3:

1. fall/autumn
2. Leaves
3. Waxy
4. Shed
5. Salvage

Item 4:

1. Necessarily
2. Mountainous
3. Accents
4. Pronunciation
5. Characteristics

Item 5:

1. Transitional
2. Acceptable
3. Approaching

4. Yet
5. Consequences

Question 2 : Re-Order Paragraphs

Item 1:

ABDC

Item 2:

ACDB

Item 3:

ECBAD

Question 3 : Reading - Fill In The Blanks

Item 1:

1. Body
2. Devoted
3. Compared
4. Theory
5. Conditional
6. Attention
7. Implication
8. Parallels
9. Constrain

Item 2:

1. Participate
2. Processes
3. Community
4. skills

Item 3:

1. Because
2. Nevertheless
3. Exposed
4. Magnitude

Item 4:

1. Determine
2. Factors
3. Exchange
4. Decides