

**Reading Comprehension**

**Directions:** In this part of the test you will read one passage. Answer the questions by choosing the best choice (1), (2), (3), or (4). Then mark your answer sheet.

**Passage 1:**

The oldest known person on record is a French woman, Jeanne Calment. She seemed to disprove the idea that healthy living was the key to her long life. Despite smoking for 100 years, she lived to the age of 122. She believed her long life was thanks to her diet.

The average life expectancy for all people in the world today is 63 years. This figure varies widely from country to country. Japan has the world's highest life expectancy; 85 for women and 78 for men. More than 20,000 of its population have celebrated their 100th birthday. Researchers believe part of the reason for this lies in the healthy Japanese diet and their good health care system.

People who live in developed countries generally live longer than those who live in poorer parts of the world. Factors like war, disease, quality of diet, and access to health care all affect life expectancy. When a country's health care and education improve, life expectancy goes up.

Another important factor is gender. Women, on average, live longer than men. Over 80 percent of people who live beyond the age of 100 are women. The reasons for this are not fully understood. Some scientists believe that women are born with genes that help them live longer than men. Others argue that men often lead more risky lifestyles that put them at greater chance of dying than women. They have more dangerous jobs. Also, men generally drive more, and also smoke more than women. Men are even killed more often than women.

Another area that researchers have looked at is marital status. They have not found a clear difference in life expectancy between married women and single women. However, one British study found that married men appeared to live longer, on average, than single men. This may be because married men tend to have a healthier lifestyle than single men. They eat more healthily, and, on average, take fewer risks.

سراسر زبان ۹۲

**1- What can be the best title for this passage?**

- |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) A Healthy Lifestyle         | 2) The Secret to a Long Life      |
| 3) Average Expectation of Life | 4) The Oldest Person in the World |

**2- The writer's purpose in the first paragraph is -----.**

- 1) to emphasize the importance of healthy living
- 2) to tell people what to do to live beyond the age of 100
- 3) to clear up a misconception
- 4) to advise the reader to eat right

**3- According to the passage, all of the following affect life expectancy EXCEPT -----.**

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1) standards of living | 2) health problems  |
| 3) eating habits       | 4) health insurance |

**4- It is stated in the passage that compared to women, men -----.**

- |                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) take fewer risks              | 2) tend to live longer                |
| 3) have a less healthy lifestyle | 4) are more prone to serious diseases |

**5- It can be understood from the passage that -----.**

- 1) marriage makes a big difference to life expectancy for men
- 2) factors that affect life expectancy are environmental factors
- 3) researchers are certain what the reasons for Japan's high life expectancy are
- 4) Japan's health care system provided a model that other developed countries followed

**Passage 2:**

In the 1860s American business started to change. Before that time most businesses were small; they made products by hand and sold them to local customers. Beginning in the 1860s, inventors created new machines that could produce clothing, canned foods, tools, and other items quickly and cheaply. By making large quantities of items in less time, companies could spend less money on production. This made it possible to charge lower prices. In addition, a new national railroad allowed businesses to sell their products to people all across the country.

The combination of fast production, low production costs, inexpensive products, and a whole nation of consumers helped small businesses grow into big businesses. This time in history was called The Age of Big Business.

Big Business continued to grow because of three things: more products, more customers, and more money. The typewriter, the light bulb, and the telephone were important inventions that became very popular products. Thanks to the 25 million immigrants that came to the United States between 1870 and 1916, there were many new customers to buy these products. Businesses made huge profits from the sales of their products to large numbers of people. They used these profits to build more factories, which in turn, produced more items to sell.

The owners of these businesses became very rich. In 1850 there were 20 millionaires in the United States; by 1900 there were more than 3,000. However, the workers who made the new products were very poor. They had little money for housing, food, clothing, and medical care. These workers usually worked at least 60 hours a week for an average pay of about 20 cents an hour. Not only were their wages low, but their workplaces were very dangerous.

In the early 1900s reformers helped workers organize labor unions to improve working conditions and wages. Reformers also asked the government to protect both workers and consumers with safety regulations. They wanted every business to guarantee the safety of its workplace and its products. The reformers were successful-by the 1960s, there were hundreds of government regulations that businesses had to follow.

سراسر زبان ۹۲

**6- What is the passage mainly about?**

- 1) The Age of Big Business
- 2) The business reforms of the 1860s
- 3) The history of American business
- 4) The owners of big businesses in America

**7- The word "this" in line 5 refers to -----.**

- 1) inexpensive products
- 2) low production costs
- 3) large quantities of items
- 4) an increase in production

**8- Which of the following questions does the passage answer?**

- 1) What led to the development of Big Business?
- 2) How many millionaires were there in the 1900s?
- 3) What was the average worker's yearly income during the Age of Big Business?
- 4) How many hours long was the average workweek before the Age of Big Business?

**9- According to the passage, between 1870 and 1916 -----.**

- 1) the typewriter, the light bulb, and the telephone became popular
- 2) businesses attracted the most customers
- 3) factories produced the most items
- 4) immigration increased

**10- According to the passage, the importance of safety -----.**

- 1) negatively impacted American business between 1900 and 1960
- 2) made companies think about not only profits but also people
- 3) brought workers the right to join labor unions and strike
- 4) was ignored by the U.S. government until the beginning of Big Business era

**Passage 3:**

Recently, psychologists at some leading universities have looked at what "luck" really means. They found there are three types of situations that people usually associate with luck. The first is circumstance, such as being born in a wealthy family or inheriting athletic genes. Obviously, this type of situation is beyond anyone's control-people can't change the circumstances of their birth. The second is random chance events, such as rolling dice, which are also beyond our control. Your chances of getting a seven when rolling two dice or of being hit by a falling meteor are based on statistics. The third type of situation includes events such as getting your dream job or meeting your ideal spouse. It is in this third area that researchers say we may be able to have more control over our luck.

A professor from England, Robert Wiseman, believes that people can influence their own luck in good or bad ways. Wiseman did a series of experiments with people who believed they were naturally lucky or unlucky. He found a clear connection between the attitude of the participants and the amount of "luck" they had. He found four important attitudes and actions of "lucky" people. First, they are open to opportunities and make the most of situations that

arise. Second, they trust their intuitions and often make decisions based on them. Many meditate or do yoga to help keep in touch with their intuitive senses. Third, they think positively and expect good things to happen. Having a positive attitude means they smile and laugh more, which attracts others and may create opportunities. Fourth, lucky people tend to focus on the good in each situation, whereas negative people tend to focus on the bad side. Finally, lucky people typically don't give up easily.

Professor Wiseman also trained people to make themselves luckier. He asked them to keep a journal and write down only the good things that happened each day. After several days, people who used to feel unlucky began to see themselves as lucky, and those who originally felt lucky thought they were even luckier.

سراسرک زبان ۹۴

**11- Why did the author write this passage?**

- 1) To entertain readers
- 2) To persuade readers to try positive thinking
- 3) To advise readers how to be lucky in games of chance
- 4) To inform readers about the connection between attitude and luck

**12- The word "them" in line 15 refers to -----.**

- 1) opportunities
- 2) situations
- 3) intuitions
- 4) decisions

**13- According to the passage, Robert Wiseman -----.**

- 1) claims negative people can never feel lucky
- 2) studied the behavior of lucky and unlucky people
- 3) found that most people are unaware of how lucky they are
- 4) believes there is no way to change people's attitudes toward luck

**14- According to the passage, all of the following are characteristics of lucky people EXCEPT that they -----.**

- 1) look on the bright side
- 2) trust their gut feelings
- 3) try not to miss opportunities
- 4) do yoga to lose their sense of reality

**15- It can be understood from the passage that the writer is likely to -----.**

- 1) consider himself a lucky person
- 2) believe people can create their own luck
- 3) doubt that we can have control over factors affecting our luck
- 4) believe there's always the same amount of good luck and bad luck in the world

- Telegram: [Zaban\\_MrEf](https://t.me/Zaban_MrEf)
- Instagram: [Saleheftekhari7](https://www.instagram.com/Saleheftekhari7)
- Website: <https://saleheftekhari.ir/>

## 1. 2

- ☛ Main Idea
  - 1. Omitting detailed information
  - 2. Omitting more general information

1. Choose a key word in the question.
2. Skim in the appropriate part of the passage for the key word or idea.
3. Read the sentence that contains the key word or idea carefully.
4. Look for the answer that restates an idea in the passage.
5. Eliminate any definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices.

## 2. 3

Like question no. 1. (In previous one we faced with the "title" of the passage.)

## 3. 4

- ☛ Detail Questions:
  1. Choose a **key word** in the question.
  2. **Scan** the appropriate place in the passage for the key word (or related idea).
  3. **Read the sentence** that contains the key word or idea carefully.
  4. **Eliminate** the definitely **wrong answers** and choose the best answer from the remaining choices.

## 4. 3

Like question no. 4.

## 5. 1

- ☛ Inferential or Implied Questions:
  - The answers to these questions are *not* directly found in the passage.
  1. Choose a **key word** in the question.
  2. **Scan the passage** for the key word or related idea. (implied idea)
  3. **Carefully read** the sentence that contains that information. You need to "*critical thinking*".
  4. Look for an answer that could be true, according to that sentence.
  5. Eliminate the choices that is the test developer's own opinion.

## 6. 1

"Main Idea". Like question no. 1 & 2.

## 7. 2

- ☛ Pronoun Reference:
  1. Find the pronoun in the passage (line)
  2. Look for nouns that come before the pronoun.
  3. Read the part of the passage before the pronoun carefully.
  4. Eliminate any definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices.

## 8. 1

Answer to this tip is more likely to be close to the "Detail Questions". So, firstly we find the "key word" in each choice, then we scan it through the passage.

## 9. 4

Detail Questions

## 10. 2

Detail Questions

## 11. 4

- ☛ A Rhetorical Purpose Question is often phrased like the following:

Why does the author mention (X)?	The author mentions (X) for which of the following reasons?
The author mentions (X) in order to...	The author does (X) in order to... What is the author's purpose in mentioning...
The author includes the information of (X) in order to...	The author uses (X) as an example of...

☛ You will also see answers that contain phrases like the following :

to show/to illustrate to criticize/to question to account for/to explain	to support/to refute/to oppose to contrast/to compare
--	--

1. Read the question carefully and understand what you are being asked
2. Make sure you understand the whole paragraph.
3. Look for transition words. These often are a huge clue to why the author included certain information.
4. Consider the big picture of the paragraph. Usually, the question is related to the big picture of what the paragraph is trying to present.
5. Use the process of elimination. Answers are often incorrect if they are too extreme (words like none, never, forever, always, etc.), if they are not mentioned, or if they are untrue according to information in the paragraph.

Source: [www.bestmytest.com](http://www.bestmytest.com)

12. 3

*Pronoun Reference*

13. 2

*Detail Questions*

14. 4

*Detail Questions*

15. 2

*Inferential or Implied Questions*

- Telegram: [Zaban\\_MrEf](https://t.me/Zaban_MrEf)
- Instagram: [Saleheftekhari7](https://www.instagram.com/Saleheftekhari7)
- Website: <https://saleheftekhari.ir/>