Verbal Comprehension – Practice Test 1

Comprehension questions consist of a short passage of text and some related questions. They will often be about a topic which is unfamiliar to you, but this is an advantage rather than a disadvantage because you need to answer the questions based only on the information that you are given – not using any knowledge that you already have.

You should read through each passage and evaluate the statements which follow it according to these rules below. Remember to answer the questions based only on the information that you are given.

True - The statement is true given the information in the passage.
False - The statement is false given the information in the passage.
Can't Say - There is insufficient information to say whether the statement is true or false.

Comprehension	Operatives	Supervisory	Management
Craft & Technical		Y	Y
Clerical & Administrative		Y	Y
Police, Fire, Military etc.	Y		
Management Trainee	Y		
Graduate & Professional	Y		

These types of question appear in all levels of verbal ability tests but may be more detailed and technical in graduate and management level tests.

Most people find that the best way to tackle these questions is to scan the text fairly quickly to get the general idea and then to attempt each question in turn, referring back to the appropriate part of the text. This is obviously more important when the passage of test is fairly lengthy and complex.

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20 Questions
Instructions: Answer as many questions as you can in 10 minutes. Read through each passage and evaluate the statements which follow it according to the rules below.

True - The statement is **true** given the information in the passage.
False - The statement is **false** given the information in the passage.
Can't Say - There is **insufficient information** to say whether the statement is true or false.

Circle the letter on the right which corresponds to the correct answer.

Passage 1:
There are seven species of deer living wild in Britain. The Red Deer and the Roe Deer are native species. Fallow Deer were introduced by the Romans and, since the seventeenth century, have been joined by three other non-native species: Sika, Muntjac and Chinese Water Deer the ancestors of which have escaped from parks. In addition, a herd of Reindeer was established in Scotland in 1952. Most of the Red Deer in Britain are found in Scotland, but there are significant wild populations in south-west and north-west England, East Anglia and the north Midlands. Red deer can interbreed with the introduced Japanese Sika deer and in some areas, hybrids are common.

1) All of the Red Deer in Britain are found in Scotland.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

2) Red Deer can interbreed with Fallow Deer.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

3) The Fallow Deer is not native to Britain.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

4) There are no Reindeer in England.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

5) All of the Muntjac in England have escaped from parks.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

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Passage 2:
Glaciers begin to form where snow remains year-round and enough of it accumulates to transform into ice. New layers of snow compress the previous layers and this compression forces the icy snow to re-crystallize, forming grains similar in size and shape to cane sugar. Gradually the grains grow larger and the air pockets between the grains get smaller, meaning that the snow slowly becomes more dense. After about two winters, the snow turns into firn, an intermediate state between snow and ice. Over time the larger ice crystals become more compressed and even denser, this is known as glacial ice. Glacial ice, because of its density and ice crystals, often takes a bluish or even green hue.

6) Glaciers cannot form where snow does not remain all year round.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

7) Firn is less dense than snow but more dense than ice.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

8) Glacial ice is always greenish or bluish in color.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

9) Snow falls every year in areas where glaciers form.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

10) The increase in density is caused by the grains becoming smaller.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A B C

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Passage 3:
The refectory opens at 6:30 a.m. to serve breakfast which must be ordered by 9:30 a.m. Lunch is served between 11:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Dinner is served between 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Guests can be accommodated at lunchtimes and dinnertimes provided that 24 hours notice has been given. Vegetarian options are always available but vegans should notify the catering coordinator at the beginning of each term as should anyone with special dietary requirements. This includes nut, gluten and soybean allergies etc.

11)   You can order lunch at 9:45 a.m. if you wish.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

12)   Guests cannot be accommodated at breakfast time.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

13)   Vegetarians should notify the catering coordinator.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

14)   Someone allergic to eggs should notify the catering coordinator.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

15)   Dinner can be ordered before 6:00 p.m.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

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Passage 4:
A power of attorney or letter of attorney in common law systems or mandate in civil law systems is an authorization to act on someone else's behalf in a legal or business matter. The person authorizing the other to act is the "principal" or "grantor", and the one authorized to act is the "agent" or "attorney-in-fact". The attorney-in-fact acts "in the principal's name," signing the principal's name to documents and filing suit with the principal's name as plaintiff, for example.

As one kind of agent, an attorney-in-fact is a fiduciary for the principal, so the law requires an attorney-in-fact to be completely honest with and loyal to the principal in their dealings with each other. If the attorney-in-fact is being paid to act for the principal, the contract is a separate matter from the power of attorney itself, so if that contract is in writing, it is a separate document, kept private between them, whereas the power of attorney is intended to be shown to various other people.

The power of attorney may be oral, such as asking someone else to sign your name on a cheque because your arm is broken, or may be in writing. Many institutions, such as hospitals, banks, and the I.R.S., require a power of attorney to be in writing before they will honor it, and they usually want to keep an original for their records.

16)   The agent grants the principal the power to act on behalf of the grantor.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

17)   All contracts between the principal and the agent must be made public.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

18)   The power of attorney may be granted verbally.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

19)   Only a legal professional can be granted the power of attorney.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

20)   In civil law systems the power of attorney is referred to as a mandate.

A	B	C
True	False	Can't Say

A   B   C

End of Verbal Ability - Comprehension Test 1

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Answers

1)	**B**	11)	**C**
2)	**C**	12)	**C**
3)	**A**	13)	**B**
4)	**C**	14)	**A**
5)	**B**	15)	**C**
6)	**A**	16)	**B**
7)	**B**	17)	**B**
8)	**B**	18)	**A**
9)	**C**	19)	**C**
10)	**B**	20)	**A**