

Cambridge 17 Academic

Test 1

Reading passage 1:

1. **Congested**: full of traffic

*With town centres increasingly **congested** and car-ownership rising fast, people were keen to shop outside town..

*Less **congested** roads, he says, would increase his company's profits.

2. **Solicitor**: a type of lawyer in Britain who gives legal advice, prepares the necessary documents when property is bought or sold, and defends people, especially in the lower courts of law

*The post of Parliamentary Counsel is open to both barristers and **solicitors**, and candidates of adequate intellectual quality are in short supply.

*Specialist practitioners need not just be **solicitors**.

3. **Condensed**: if a gas condenses, or is condensed, it becomes a liquid / to make something that is spoken or written shorter, by not giving as much detail or using fewer words to give the same information

*How could he **condense** all he had lived through into a sixty-minute speech? •

*The air becomes fog and **condenses**.

Reading passage 2:

1. Emblematic: seeming to represent or be a sign of something / representative

When politics invades religion, legality becomes merely emblematic.

*The Vespa scooter became **emblematic** of sophisticated urban culture across Europe.

*When politics invades religion, legality becomes merely **emblematic**.

2. Versatile: someone who is versatile has many different skills/ having many different uses

*No comic actress working today is funnier or more **versatile**.

*Because lavender oil is **versatile** and cheap, it is the most used in aromatherapy.

3. Embedded: to put something firmly and deeply into something else, or to be put into something in this way / if ideas, attitudes, or feelings etc are embedded, you believe or feel them very strongly

*A piece of glass was **embedded** in her hand.

*Feelings of guilt are deeply **embedded** in her personality

4. Integrate: if two or more things integrate, or if you integrate them, they combine or work together in a way that makes something more effective

*Transport planning should be **integrated** with energy policy.

*Colourful illustrations are **integrated** into the text.

5. Inaugurate: to open a building or start an organization, event etc for the first time / to begin a new system, service, project etc

*The airline **inaugurated** its first nonstop flight to Moscow last year.

*a billion dollar aid package **inaugurated** at the economic summit in Paris

6.canopy: something that spreads above you like a roof/a cover made of cloth that is fixed above a bed, seat etc as a decoration or as a shelter

*Once a week or so accordion music sounds will make feet itch under a **canopy** of stars in the tiny village square.

*It was cool under the **canopy** and there was less light than Rostov had expected.

7.Fortress: a large strong building used for defending an important place

*Without relationships, a man could be a **fortress** within himself, dedicated to a career and a dream.

*Their mountainous homeland with its **fortress** valleys was a near impregnable base from which to sally forth.

Reading passage 3:

1.Resounding: resounding success/victory/defeat etc

*On the one hand, so many victories; on the other, **resounding** defeat at Trafalgar in 1805.

*The outcome - a **resounding** victory for the home team, not that they appeared particularly surprised.

2.Pre-emptive: to make what someone else has planned to do or say unnecessary, impossible, or ineffective by doing or saying something first

*The salesperson may try to **pre-empt** the customer's objections

*Powerful cable operators were trying to **pre-empt** competition from satellite services by offering a similar service.

3.Scour: to search very carefully and thoroughly through an area, a document etc

*Her family began to **scour** the countryside for a suitable house.

*She **scours** flea markets and will either repair her purchases or leave them, depending on the extent of the damage.

4.Preposterous: completely unreasonable or silly / absurd

*The whole idea sounds absolutely **preposterous**!

*So what Raskin proposed actually seemed **preposterous**.

5.bolt: to lock / a metal bar that you slide across a door or window to fasten it / to suddenly run somewhere very quickly, especially in order to escape or because you are frightened

*Kevin had **bolted** through the open window.

*One spring morning two anchor **bolts** were inserted in the footings that were to receive the first steel column.

6.Courtier: someone in the past with an important position at a royal court

*The King and his **courtiers** started at the sight of Kabir when he entered the hall.

*Senior **courtiers** went to await the arrival of the train at the capital.

7.tantalize: to show or promise something that someone really wants, but then not allow them to have it

*It goes as far as it can and waits there for a while, its big eyes staring up, **tantalized**.

*What were her many mysteries, she **tantalized** herself, replaying all the loves she'd ever known.

8.subterfuge: a secret trick or slightly dishonest way of doing something, or the use of this

*The ballot issue is a **subterfuge** designed to confuse voters.

*I hated all the **subterfuges**, I hated lying to you.

Test 2

Reading passage 1:

1.Devout: someone who is devout has a very strong belief in a religion

*Louis became an extremely **devout** and ascetic man.

*It is my **devout** hope that we can work together and solve this crisis.

2.Hoard: a collection of things that someone hides somewhere, especially so they can use them later

*This was supposed to be a set of professional fence-building equipment, but actually looked like a **hoard** of junk.

*I kept my own secret **hoard** of chocolate cookies in a big tin under the sink.

3.Pillage: if soldiers pillage a place in a war, they steal a lot of things and do a lot of damage / plunder

*Works of art were **pillaged** from many countries in the dark days of the Empire.

*They have survived a thousand years of floods, droughts, wars, **pillage**, and destruction.

4.Decipher: to find the meaning of something that is difficult to read or understand / to change a message written in a code into ordinary language so that you can read it / decode

*She studied the envelope, trying to **decipher** the handwriting.

*Those Hansard writers could **decipher** the Rosetta stone in their spare time.

Reading passage 2:

1.Sorghum: a type of grain that is grown in tropical areas

*The road cut through a vast cropland, with waist-high corn and **sorghum** nearby and waves of golden millet in the distance.

* Staple food crops are maize, **sorghum** and wheat.

2.Sprawling: spreading over a wide area in an untidy or unattractive way

*The **sprawling** conference and resort center even has its own transportation system.

*So, a little nervous of the **sprawling** city, Mavis moved in with Ronnie.

3.Catapult: a large weapon used in former times to throw heavy stones, iron balls etc

*After collecting all kinds of material the **catapult** began to take shape.

*While working on the **catapult** Endill started to keep a diary.

4.The old testament: the first part of the Christian Bible containing ancient Hebrew writings about the time before the birth of Christ

*Lyle was a religious man, according to Lyle's Golden Syrup's website, and the image is derived from the Old **Testament** story of Samson and the lion.

Reading passage 3:

1.sheer genius: intelligence, luck, happiness etc with no other feeling or quality mixed with it / pure

*She flung out her hands and caught the edge of the stone by **sheer** luck.

2.predecessor: someone who had your job before you started doing it

*Kennedy's **predecessor** as president was the war hero Dwight Eisenhower.

*Peres now has endorsed a plan favored by his assassinated **predecessor**, Yitzhak Rabin, that calls for strict segregation.

3.Duly: in the proper or expected way

*Three burly workmen **duly** arrived, complete with truck and mini-crane, to hoist the heavy bins into position.

*The ferryman was Charon and those he would not admit to his boat were the unfortunates who had not been **duly** buried.

4.Unheralded: if an event is unheralded, there is no warning that it is going to happen

*There is also, **unheralded** and essentially unexplained, a first public appearance of Nietzsche's new antithesis.

*This time, it was so **unheralded** as to appear almost artificial.

5.Postulate: to suggest that something might have happened or be true

*To begin with, it **postulates** that the hero of your story is in danger.

*It has been **postulated** that the symptoms of gonorrhoea have diminished since the introduction of effective antibiotic therapy.

6.Arbitrary: decided or arranged without any reason or plan, often unfairly

*Casinos sound such **arbitrary** and decadent places; nobody would want their economy's fate to be determined in one.

*The government has carried out numerous executions and **arbitrary** arrests.

7.Affix: to fasten or stick something to something else

*A label must be **affixed** to all parcels.

*There he will create a towering bronze armature to which various body parts, heroic in size, will be **affixed**.

8.Confer: to discuss something with other people, so that everyone can express their opinions and decide on something

*Some specific functions can only be conferred by an order made by the Lord Chancellor.

*With the first mover advantage **conferred** by this partnership, we expect to take the lion's share of that new business.

Test 3

Reading passage 1:

1.Bask: to enjoy sitting or lying in the heat of the sun or a fire

*Lizards were **basking** in the morning sun.

*The woodstove is throwing off heat, and I **bask** in its glow.

2.Lair: a place where you go to hide or to be alone

*a smuggler's **lair**

*he saw that his dogs had roused a wild boar from its **lair**

3.Demise: the end of something that used to exist

*When the long-delayed **demise** of the dinosaurs finally occurred, the crash was spectacular.

*My parents had mixed feelings about the President's **demise**.

4.Expedition: a long and carefully organized journey, especially to a dangerous or unfamiliar place, or the people that make this journey

*It has been 14 years since we had an **expedition** book from him.

*I forgot, I had this fishing **expedition** planned.

Reading passage 2:

1.Intuitive: an intuitive idea is based on a feeling rather than on knowledge or facts

He seemed to have an intuitive awareness of how I felt.

*She had an **intuitive** ability to size up people and their capabilities.

*He seemed to have an **intuitive** awareness of how I felt.

2.Nuanced: a very slight, hardly noticeable difference in manner, colour, meaning etc / subtlety

*In a developing country, however, a number of additional **nuances** may exacerbate these issues.

*We shall see how much or how little of local **nuances** it succeeded in conveying to the top authorities.

3.Utilitarian: intended to be useful and practical rather than attractive or comfortable

*My father was a carpenter and held a passionate but essentially **utilitarian** belief in education.

*Their **utilitarian** contribution to our welfare should not, in other words, be our criterion as to whether they survive or not.

4.Contention: a strong opinion that someone expresses / argument and disagreement between people

*But some of his **contentions** seem overstated.

*A key area of **contention** is the call for the wilderness to be opened to oil and gas drilling.

5.Sequester: to keep a person or a group of people away from other people

*Lili's father was tremendously rich until the government **sequestered** all his property.

*Stairs lead to where the children will be **sequestered** and it has twin beds and its own bathroom, thank goodness.

6.Roundtable: a round-table discussion is one in which everyone can talk about things in an equal way

*It was a **round-table** discussion, which allowed us to answer any questions.

*The next **round-table** meeting has been set for December 18.

Reading passage 3:

1.Cluster: a group of things of the same kind that are very close together

*Some relatives were standing in a **cluster** around her hospital bed.

*Each zone typically includes a **cluster** of two or three secondary schools with their supporting primaries and special educational needs provision.

2.subterranean: beneath the surface of the Earth SYN underground

*Electronic sensors have located a huge **subterranean** cavern in the Sierre Madre mountain range.

*To the Incas hell was a **subterranean**, cold place where you lived on stones: heaven was with the sun.

3.Tenement: a large building divided into apartments, especially in the poorer areas of a city

*She lived in a red-brick **tenement** in Chelsea, an old walk-up building with gloomy stairwells and peeling paint on the walls.

*The home was not for most a country house or a cottage, but a town villa or **tenement**.

4.Empirical: based on scientific testing or practical experience, not on ideas

*Allen also expressed concern about the **empirical** base for the category.

*Theoretical ideas are connected to the world by a translation into an **empirical** language more closely attuned to the observable world.

5.Exuberance: happy and full of energy and excitement

*He is energetic and **exuberant**.

*And here, gaggles of **exuberant** fourth-graders begged for his autograph as if he were Pluto in Disneyland.

6.Epilogue: a speech or piece of writing that is added to the end of a book, film, or play and discusses or explains the ending

*As an **epilogue** at the end of the film explains, Letterman was No. 1 in late night for 90 • weeks.

*The **epilogue** claims that Childebert added six clauses and Chlothar ten. •

Test 4

Reading passage 1:

1.Subsistence: the condition of only just having enough money or food to stay alive

*They were prisoners, for the most part, of a **subsistence** economy.

*Factory workers were paid a **subsistence** wage.

2.Paddy: a field in which rice is grown in water

*The building of irrigation systems and **paddy** fields is costly in terms of time and effort.

*Methane is also given off by rice **paddies** and ruminant animals, including cattle.

3. Insectivorous: a creature that eats insects for food

*It is related to the hedgehog, or rather it belongs to the same family of **insectivores**.

*The very first mammals were small **insectivores**, probably very similar to this modern tree shrew.

4. Comprise: to consist of particular parts, groups etc

*The house **comprises** 2 bedrooms, a kitchen, and a living room.

*The reactions of the community will be the aggregate of the reactions of the individuals it **comprises**.

5. Roost: a place where birds rest and sleep

*All are **roost** sites except Salthouse, where there was a nest and the pellets collected came mainly from the nestlings.

*The others do not return, presumably traveling on to another, more distant **roost**.

Reading passage 2:

1. Badger: an animal that has black and white fur, lives in holes in the ground, and is active at night

*It was through him that Mr Jackson became hooked on watching the **badgers** in their natural habitat.

*A dreadful cross for the **badger** to bear.

2.bodice: the part of a woman's dress above her waist

*The tightly fitting **bodice** was cut quite low over Comfort's small bosom.

*He sat back on to his knees and undid her **bodice**.

3.slate: a small black board or a flat piece of slate in a wooden frame, used for writing on in the past

*Many academics really do believe that all of us are now beginning once again with a clean **slate**.

*the teacher was demonstrating, the children copying on to **slates**.

4.Stifle: to stop something from happening or developing

*Outside the wintry sunlight had been **stifled** by cloud and Blanche saw pedestrians begin to walk past with glistening umbrellas.

*She **stifled** a yawn as the boss read out the sales figures.

5.chastise: to criticize someone severely

*Tom **chastises** her for her past recklessness but agrees.

*Juditha Brown sent a personal letter to the judge **chastising** her for her ruling.

6.Sermon: a talk given as part of a Christian church service, usually on a religious or moral subject

*Richard Baxter again pacified the crowd and eventually finished his **sermon** without further interruption.

*Columban left behind a number of **sermons** and poems.

7.Spinster: an unmarried woman, usually one who is no longer young and seems unlikely to marry

*That she should ever marry was not in his mind, though a **spinster** on the boards would hardly do.

*In 1973 Wendy Ellis, poor Wendy, a **spinster**, died aged thirty-five of liver failure.

8.reprimand: to tell someone officially that something they have done is very wrong

*The military court **reprimanded** him for failing to do his duty.

*After the trial two police officers were suspended from duty; four others were **reprimanded**.

Reading passage 3:

1.Fondness: affection or liking for someone or something/ a fond look, smile, action etc shows you like someone very much / affectionate

*I remember him with great **fondness**

*As we parted we said a **fond** farewell.

2.frontoparietal: of or relating to the frontal and parietal lobes of a cerebral hemisphere.

*A large **frontoparietal** fontanelle is evident between the frontoparietals.

*The **frontoparietals** are sutured medially throughout their lengths; the frontoparietal fontanelle is absent.

By Ahreas