

## **READING COMPREHENSION – 2**

Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow:

### **PASSAGE – 1**

After thirty years of investigation into cell genetics, researchers made startling discoveries in the 1960s and early 1970s which culminated in the development of processes, collectively known as recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (rDNA) technology, for the active manipulation of a cell's genetic code. The technology has created excitement and controversy because it involves altering DNA—which contains the building blocks of the genetic code.

Using rDNA technology, scientists can transfer a portion of the DNA from one organism to a single living cell of another. The scientist chemically “snips” the DNA chain of the host cell at a predetermined point and attaches another piece of DNA from a donor cell at that place, creating a completely new organism.

Proponents of rDNA research and development claim that it will allow scientists to find cures for disease and to better understand how genetic information controls an organism's development. They also see many other potentially practical benefits, especially in the pharmaceutical industry. Some corporations employing the new technology even claim that by the end of the century all major diseases will be treated with drugs derived from microorganisms created through rDNA technology. Pharmaceutical products already developed, but not yet marketed, indicate that these predictions may be realized.

Proponents also cite nonmedical applications for this technology. Energy production and waste disposal may benefit: genetically altered organisms could convert sewage and other organic material into methane fuel. Agriculture might also take advantage of rDNA technology to produce new varieties of crops that resist foul weather, pests, and the effects of poor soil.

A major concern of the critics of rDNA research is that genetically altered microorganisms might escape from the laboratory. Because these microorganisms are laboratory creations that, in all probability, do not occur in nature, their interaction with the natural world cannot be predicted with certainty. It is possible that they could cause previously unknown, perhaps incurable diseases. The effect of genetically altered microorganisms on the world's microbiological predator-prey relationships is another potentially serious problem pointed out by the opponents of rDNA research. Introducing a new species may disrupt or even destroy the existing ecosystem. The collapse of interdependent relationships among species, extrapolated to its extreme, could eventually result in the destruction of humanity.

Opponents of rDNA technology also cite ethical problems with it. For example, it gives scientists the power to instantly cross evolutionary and species boundaries that nature took millennia to establish. The implications of such power would become particularly profound if genetic engineers were to tinker with human genes, a practice that would bring us one step closer to Aldous Huxley's grim vision in *Brave New World* of a totalitarian society that engineers human beings to fulfill specific roles.

1. In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with doing which one of the following?
  - a) explaining the process and applications of rDNA technology
  - b) advocating continued rDNA research and development
  - c) providing evidence indicating the need for regulation of rDNA research and development
  - d) summarizing the controversy surrounding rDNA research and development
2. The potential benefits of rDNA technology referred to in the passage include all of the following EXCEPT
  - a) new methods of waste treatment
  - b) new biological knowledge
  - c) enhanced food production
  - d) development of less expensive drugs
3. The author's reference in the last sentence of the passage to a society that engineers human beings to fulfill specific roles serves to
  - a) emphasize the potential medical dangers of rDNA technology
  - b) advocate research on the use of rDNA technology in human genetics
  - c) illustrate the sociopolitical ramifications of applying genetic engineering to humans
  - d) present *Brave New World* as an example of a work of fiction that accurately predicted technological developments
4. Which one of the following, if true, would most weaken an argument of opponents of rDNA technology?
  - a) New safety procedures developed by rDNA researchers make it impossible for genetically altered microorganisms to escape from laboratories.
  - b) A genetically altered microorganism accidentally released from a laboratory is successfully contained.
  - c) A particular rDNA-engineered microorganism introduced into an ecosystem attracts predators that keep its population down.
  - d) Genetically altered organisms designed to process sewage into methane cannot survive outside the waste treatment plant.

## PASSAGE – 2

Gray marketing, the selling of trademarked products through channels of distribution not authorized by the trademark holder, can involve distribution of goods either within a market region or across market boundaries. Gray marketing within a market region (“channel flow diversion”) occurs when manufacturer-authorized distributors sell trademarked goods to unauthorized distributors who then sell the goods to consumers within the same region. For example, quantity discounts from manufacturers may motivate authorized dealers to enter the gray market because they can purchase larger quantities of a product than they themselves intend to stock if they can sell the extra units through gray marketing channels.

When gray marketing occurs across market boundaries, it is typically in an international setting and may be called “parallel importing.” Manufacturers often produce and sell products in more than one country and establish a network of authorized dealers in each country. Parallel importing occurs when trademarked goods intended for one country are diverted from proper channels (channel flow diversion) and then exported to unauthorized distributors in another country.

Trademark owners justifiably argue against gray marketing practices since such practices clearly jeopardize the goodwill established by trademark owners: consumers who purchase trademarked goods in the gray market do not get the same “extended product,” which typically includes pre- and postsale service. Equally important, authorized distributors may cease to promote the product if it becomes available for much lower prices through unauthorized channels.

Current debate over regulation of gray marketing focuses on three disparate theories in trademark law that have been variously and confusingly applied to parallel importation cases: universality, exhaustion, and territoriality. The theory of universality holds that a trademark is only an indication of the source or origin of the product. This theory does not recognize the goodwill functions of a trademark. When the courts apply this theory, gray marketing practices are allowed to continue because the origin of the product remains the same regardless of the specific route of the product through the channel of distribution. The exhaustion theory holds that a trademark owner relinquishes all rights once a product has been sold. When this theory is applied, gray marketing practices are allowed to continue because the trademark owners’ rights cease as soon as their products are sold to a distributor. The theory of territoriality holds that a trademark is effective in the country in which it is registered. Under the theory of territoriality, trademark owners can stop gray marketing practices in the registering countries on products bearing their trademarks. Since only the territoriality theory affords trademark owners any real legal protection against gray marketing practices, I believe it is inevitable as well as desirable that it will come to be consistently applied in gray marketing cases.

5. Which one of the following best expresses the main point of the passage?
  - a) Gray marketing is unfair to trademark owners and should be legally controlled.
  - b) Gray marketing is practiced in many different forms and places, and legislators should recognize the futility of trying to regulate it.
  - c) The mechanisms used to control gray marketing across markets are different from those most effective in controlling gray marketing within markets.
  - d) The three trademark law theories that have been applied in gray marketing cases lead to different case outcomes.
6. The function of the passage as a whole is to
  - a) criticize the motives and methods of those who practice gray marketing
  - b) evaluate the effects of both channel flow diversion and parallel importation
  - c) discuss the methods that have been used to regulate gray marketing and evaluate such methods’ degrees of success
  - d) describe a controversial marketing practice and evaluate several legal views regarding it
7. Which one of the following does the author offer as an argument against gray marketing?
  - a) Manufacturers find it difficult to monitor the effectiveness of promotional efforts made on behalf of products that are gray marketed.
  - b) Gray marketing can discourage product promotion by authorized distributors.
  - c) Gray marketing forces manufacturers to accept the low profit margins that result from quantity discounting.
  - d) Gray marketing discourages competition among unauthorized dealers.
8. The author discusses the impact of gray marketing on goodwill in order to
  - a) fault trademark owners for their unwillingness to offer a solution to a major consumer complaint against gray marketing
  - b) indicate a way in which manufacturers sustain damage against which they ought to be protected
  - c) highlight one way in which gray marketing across markets is more problematic than gray marketing within a market
  - d) demonstrate that gray marketing does not always benefit the interests of unauthorized distributors
9. It can be inferred from the passage that some channel flow diversion might be eliminated if
  - a) profit margins on authorized distribution of goods were less than those on goods marketed through parallel importing
  - b) manufacturers relieved authorized channels of all responsibility for product promotion

- c) manufacturers charged all authorized distributors the same unit price for products regardless of quantity purchased
- d) the post sale service policies of authorized channels were controlled by manufacturers

### **PASSAGE - 3**

A conventional view of nineteenth-century Britain holds that iron manufacturers and textile manufacturers from the north of England became the wealthiest and most powerful people in society after about 1832. According to Marxist historians, these industrialists were the target of the working class in its struggle for power. A new study by Rubinstein, however, suggests that the real wealth lay with the bankers and merchants of London. Rubinstein does not deny that a northern industrial elite existed but argues that it was consistently outnumbered and outdone by a London-based commercial elite. His claims are provocative and deserve consideration.

Rubinstein's claim about the location of wealth comes from his investigation of probate records. These indicate the value of personal property, excluding real property (buildings and land), left by individuals at death. It does seem as if large fortunes were more frequently made in commerce than in industry and, within industry, more frequently from alcohol or tobacco than from textiles or metal. However, such records do not unequivocally make Rubinstein's case. Uncertainties abound about how the probate rules for valuing assets were actually applied. Mills and factories, being real property, were clearly excluded: machinery may also have been, for the same reason. What the valuation conventions were for stock-in-trade (goods for sale) is also uncertain. It is possible that their probate values were much lower than their actual market value: cash or near-cash, such as bank balances or stocks, were, on the other hand, invariably considered at full face value. A further complication is that probate valuations probably took no notice of a business's goodwill (favor with the public) which, since it represents expectations about future profit-making, would today very often be a large fraction of market value. Whether factors like these introduced systematic biases into the probate valuations of individuals with different types of businesses would be worth investigating.

The orthodox view that the wealthiest individuals were the most powerful is also questioned by Rubinstein's study. The problem for this orthodox view is that Rubinstein finds many millionaires who are totally unknown to nineteenth-century historians: the reason for their obscurity could be that they were not powerful. Indeed, Rubinstein dismisses any notion that great wealth had anything to do with entry into the governing elite, as represented by bishops, higher civil servants, and chairmen of manufacturing companies. The only requirements were university attendance and a father with a middle-class income.

Rubinstein, in another study, has begun to buttress his findings about the location of wealth by analyzing income tax returns, which reveal a geographical distribution of middle-class incomes similar to that of wealthy incomes revealed by probate records. But until further confirmatory investigation is done, his claims can only be considered partially convincing.

10. The main idea of the passage is that
  - a) the Marxist interpretation of the relationship between class and power in nineteenth-century Britain is no longer viable
  - b) a simple equation between wealth and power is unlikely to be supported by new data from nineteenth-century British archives
  - c) a recent historical investigation has challenged but not disproved the orthodox view of the distribution of wealth and the relationship of wealth to power in nineteenth-century Britain
  - d) probate records provide the historian with a revealing but incomplete glimpse of the extent and location of wealth in nineteenth-century Britain
11. The author of the passage implies that probate records as a source of information about wealth in nineteenth-century Britain are
  - a) self-contradictory and misleading
  - b) ambiguous and outdated
  - c) controversial but readily available
  - d) revealing but difficult to interpret
12. According to the passage, Rubinstein has provided evidence that challenges which one of the following claims about nineteenth-century Britain?
  - a) The distribution of great wealth between commerce and industry was not equal.
  - b) Large incomes were typically made in alcohol and tobacco rather than in textiles and metal.
  - c) There was a necessary relationship between great wealth and power.
  - d) An official governing elite can be identified.
13. The author mentions that goodwill was probably excluded from the probate valuation of a business in nineteenth-century Britain most likely in order to
  - a) give an example of a business asset about which little was known in the nineteenth century
  - b) suggest that the probate valuations of certain businesses may have been significant underestimations of their true market value
  - c) make the point that this exclusion probably had an equal impact on the probate valuations of all nineteenth-century British businesses

- d) indicate that expectations about future profit-making is the single most important factor in determining the market value of certain businesses
14. Which one of the following studies would provide support for Rubinstein's claims?
- a study that indicated that many members of the commercial elite in nineteenth-century London had insignificant holdings of real property
  - a study that indicated that in the nineteenth century, industrialists from the north of England were in fact a target for working-class people
  - a study that indicated that, in nineteenth-century Britain, probate values of goods for sale were not as high as probate values of cash assets
  - a study that indicated that the wealth of nineteenth-century British industrialists did not appear to be significantly greater when the full value of their real property holdings was actually considered

#### **PASSAGE-4**

Many argue that recent developments in electronic technology such as computers and videotape have enabled artists to vary their forms of expression. For example, video art can now achieve images whose effect is produced by "digitalization": breaking up the picture using computerized information processing. Such new technologies create new ways of seeing and hearing by adding different dimensions to older forms, rather than replacing those forms. Consider *Locale*, a film about a modern dance company. The camera operator wore a Steadicam™, an uncomplicated device that allows a camera to be mounted on a person so that the camera remains steady no matter how the operator moves. The Steadicam™ captures the dance in ways impossible with traditional mounts. Such new equipment also allows for the preservation of previously unrecordable aspects of performances, thus enriching archives.

By Contrast, others claim that technology subverts the artistic enterprise: that artistic efforts achieved with machines preempt human creativity, rather than being inspired by it. The originality of musical performance, for example, might suffer, as musicians would be deprived of the opportunity to spontaneously change pieces of music before live audiences. Some even worry that technology will eliminate live performance altogether; performances will be recorded for home viewing, abolishing the relationship between performer and audience. But these negative views assume both that technology poses an unprecedented challenge to the arts and that we are not committed enough to the artistic enterprise to preserve the live performance, assumptions that seem unnecessarily cynical. In fact, technology has traditionally assisted our capacity for creative expression and can refine our notions of any give art form.

For example, the portable camera and the snapshot were developed at the same time as the rise of impressionist painting in the nineteenth century. These photographic technologies encouraged a new appreciation. In addition, impressionist artists like Degas studied the elements of light and movement captured by instantaneous photography and used their new understanding of the way our perceptions distort reality to try to more accurately capture reality in their work. Since photos can capture the "moments" of a movement, such as a hand partially raised in a gesture of greeting, Impressionist artists were inspired to paint such moments in order to more effectively convey the quality of spontaneous human action. Photography freed artists from the preconception that a subject should be painted in a static, artificial entirety, and inspired them to capture the random and fragmentary qualities of our world. Finally, since photography preempted painting as the means of obtaining portraits, painters had more freedom to vary their subject matter, thus giving rise to the abstract creations characteristic of modern art.

15. It can be inferred from the passage that the author shares which one of the following opinions with the opponents of the use of new technology in art?
- The live performance is an important aspect of the artistic enterprise.
  - The public's commitment to the artistic enterprise is questionable.
  - Recent technological innovations present an entirely new sort of challenge to art.
  - Technological innovations of the past have been very useful to artists.
16. Which one of the following, if true, would most undermine the position held by opponents of the use of new technology in art concerning the effect of technology on live performance?
- Surveys show that when recordings of performances are made available for home viewing, the public becomes far more knowledgeable about different performing artists.
  - Surveys show that some people feel comfortable responding spontaneously to artistic performances when they are viewing recordings of those performances at home.
  - After a live performance, sales of recordings for home viewing of the particular performing artist generally increase.
  - The distribution of recordings of artists' performances has begun to attract many new audience members to their live performances.
17. The author uses the example of the Steadicam™ primarily in order to suggest that
- the filming of performances should not be limited by inadequate equipment
  - new technologies do not need to be very complex in order to benefit art
  - the interaction of a traditional art form with a new technology will change attitudes toward technology in general
  - new technology does not so much preempt as enhance a traditional art form

18. According to the passage, proponents of the use of new electronic technology in the arts claim that which one of the following is true?
- Most people who reject the use of electronic technology in art forget that machines require a person to operate them.
  - Electronic technology allows for the expansion of archives because longer performances can be recorded.
  - Electronic technology assists artists in finding new ways to present their material.
  - Electronic technology makes the practice of any art form more efficient by speeding up the creative process.

### **PASSAGE-5**

Direct observation of contemporary societies at the threshold of widespread literacy has not assisted our understanding of how such literacy altered ancient Greek society, in particular its political culture. The discovery of what Goody has called the “enabling effects” of literacy in contemporary societies tends to seduce the observer into confusing often rudimentary knowledge of how to read with popular access to important books and documents: this confusion is then projected onto ancient societies. “In ancient Greece,” Goody writes, “alphabetic reading and writing was important for the development of political democracy.”

An examination of the ancient Greek city Athens exemplifies how this sort of confusion is detrimental to understanding ancient politics. In Athens, the early development of a written law code was retrospectively mythologized as the critical factor in breaking the power monopoly of the old aristocracy: hence the Greek tradition of the “law-giver,” which has captured the imaginations of scholars like Goody. But the application and efficacy of all law codes depend on their interpretation by magistrates and courts, and unless the right of interpretation is “democratized,” the mere existence of written laws changes little.

In fact, never in antiquity did any but the elite consult documents and books. Even in Greek courts the juries heard only the relevant statutes read out during the proceedings, as they heard verbal testimony, and they then rendered their verdict on the spot, without the benefit of any discussion among themselves. True, in Athens the juries were representative of a broad spectrum of the population, and these juries, drawn from diverse social classes, both interpreted what they had heard and determined matters of fact. However, they guided solely by the speeches prepared for the parties by professional pleaders and by the quotations of laws or decrees within the speeches, rather than by their own access to any kind of document or book.

Granted, people today also rely heavily on a truly knowledgeable minority for information and its interpretation, often transmitted orally. Yet this is still fundamentally different from an ancient society in which there was no “popular literature,” i. e., no newspapers, magazines, or other media that dealt with sociopolitical issues. An ancient law code would have been analogous to the Latin Bible, a venerated document but a closed book. The resistance of the medieval Church to vernacular translations of the Bible, in the West at least, is therefore a pointer to the realities of ancient literacy. When fundamental documents are accessible for study only to an elite, the rest of the society is subject to the elite’s interpretation of the rules of behavior, including right political behavior. Athens, insofar as it functioned as a democracy, did so not because of widespread literacy, but because the elite had chosen to accept democratic institutions.

19. Which one of the following statements best expresses the main idea of the passage?
- Democratic political institutions grow organically from the traditions and conventions of a society.
  - Democratic political institutions are not necessarily the outcome of literacy in a society.
  - Religious authority, like political authority, can determine who in a given society will have access to important books and documents.
  - Those who are best educated are most often those who control the institutions of authority in a society.
20. It can be inferred from the passage that the author assumes which one of the following about societies in which the people possess a rudimentary reading ability?
- They are more politically advanced than societies without rudimentary reading ability.
  - They are unlikely to exhibit the positive effects of literacy.
  - They are rapidly evolving toward widespread literacy.
  - Many of their people might not have access to important documents and books.
21. The author characterizes the Greek tradition of the “law-giver” as an effect mythologizing most probably in order to
- illustrate the ancient Greek tendency to memorialize historical events by transforming them into myths
  - convey the historical importance of the development of the early Athenian written law code
  - convey the high regard in which the Athenians held their legal tradition
  - suggest that the development of a written law code was not primarily responsible for diminishing the power of the Athenian aristocracy
22. The author draws an analogy between the Latin Bible and an early law code (lines 49-51) in order to make which one of the following points?
- Documents were considered authoritative in premodern society in proportion to their inaccessibility to the majority.
  - Documents that were perceived as highly influential in premodern societies were not necessarily accessible to the society’s majority.

- c) What is most revered in a nondemocratic society is what is most frequently misunderstood.
- d) Political documents in premodern societies exerted a social influence similar to that exerted by religious documents.

23. The primary purpose of the passage is to
- a) argue that a particular method of observing contemporary societies is inconsistent
  - b) point out the weaknesses in a particular approach to understanding ancient societies
  - c) present the disadvantages of a particular approach to understanding the relationship between ancient and contemporary societies
  - d) examine the importance of developing an appropriate method for understanding ancient societies

## **PASSAGE – 6**

The English who in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries inhabited those colonies that would later become the United States shared a common political vocabulary with the English in England. Steeped as they were in the English political language, these colonials failed to observe that their experience in America had given the words a significance quite different from that accepted by the English with whom they debated; in fact, they claimed that they were more loyal to the English political tradition than were the English in England.

In many respects the political institutions of England were reproduced in these American colonies. By the middle of eighteenth century, all of these colonies except four were headed by Royal Governors appointed by the King and perceived as bearing a relation to the people of the colony similar to that of the King to the English people. Moreover, each of these colonies enjoyed a representative assembly, which was consciously modeled, in powers and practices, after the English Parliament. In both England and these colonies, only property holders could vote.

Nevertheless, though English and colonial institutions were structurally similar, attitudes toward those institutions differed. For example, English legal development from the early seventeenth century had been moving steadily toward the absolute power of Parliament. The most unmistakable sign of this tendency was the legal assertion that the King was subject to the law. Together with this resolute denial of the absolute right of kings went the assertion that Parliament was unlimited in its power: it could change even the Constitution by its ordinary acts of legislation. By the eighteenth century the English had accepted the idea that the parliamentary representatives of the people were omnipotent.

The citizens of these colonies did not look upon the English Parliament with such fond eyes, nor did they concede that their own assemblies possessed such wide powers. There were good historical reasons for this. To the English the word "constitution" meant the whole body of law and legal custom formulated since the beginning of the kingdom, whereas to these colonials a constitution was a specific written document, enumerating specific powers. This distinction in meaning can be traced to the fact that the foundations of government in the various colonies were written charters granted by the Crown. These express authorizations to govern were tangible, definite things. Over the years these colonial had often repaired to the charters to justify themselves in the struggle against tyrannical governors or officials of the Crown. More than a century of government under written constitutions convinced these colonists of the necessity for and efficacy of protecting their liberties against governmental encroachment by explicitly defining all governmental powers in a document.

24. The passage supports all of the following statements about the political conditions present by the middle of the eighteenth century in the American colonies discussed in the passage EXCEPT:
- a) Colonials who did not own property could not vote.
  - b) All of these colonies had representative assemblies modeled after the British Parliament.
  - c) Some of these colonies had Royal Governors.
  - d) Royal Governors could be removed from office by colonial assemblies.
25. The author mentions which one of the following as evidence for the eighteenth-century English attitude toward Parliament?
- a) The English had become uncomfortable with institutions that could claim absolute authority.
  - b) The English realized that their interests were better guarded by Parliament than by the King.
  - c) The English allowed Parliament to make constitutional changes by legislative enactment.
  - d) The English felt that the King did not possess the knowledge that could enable him to rule responsibly.
26. The passage implies that the colonials discussed in the passage would have considered which one of the following to be a source of their debates with England?
- a) their changed use of the English political vocabulary
  - b) their greater loyalty to the English political traditions
  - c) their uniquely English experience
  - d) their refusal to adopt any English political institutions

### **Answer Key:**

1. D	2. D	3. C	4. A	5. A	6. D	7. B	8. B	9. C	10. C
11. D	12. C	13. B	14. D	15. A	16. D	17. D	18. C	19. B	20. D
21. D	22. B	23. B	24. D	25. C	26. B				