

## PTE Reading Practice Test 5

**Q1.** Multiple-choice, choose single answer – Item 1

Mindstorms kits are also sold and used as an educational tool, originally through a partnership between Lego and the MIT Media Laboratory. The educational version of the products is called Lego Mindstorms for Schools, and comes with the ROBOLAB GUI-based programming software, developed at Tufts University using the National Instruments LabVIEW as an engine. In addition, the shipped software can be replaced with third party firmware and/or programming languages, including some of the most popular ones used by professionals in the embedded systems industry, like Java and C. One of the differences between the educational series, known as the "Challenge Set", and the consumer series, known as the "Inventor Set", is that it includes another touch sensor and several more gearing options. However, there are several other standouts between the two versions that one may not recognize unless doing a side by side analysis of what each offers. The version sold through LEGO Education is designed for a deeper level of learning or teaching that often happens in a classroom or school setting. The LEGO Education version comes with support called the Robot Educator. This includes 48 tutorials to walk the learner through the basics of coding to more sophisticated and complex concepts such as data logging. This resource to support the learner and/or educator are not included in the retail version of Mindstorms. It's always a good idea to reach out to a LEGO Education consultant to inquire of other differences as there are several more. The retail version was designed for more of a home/toy use vs the educator model was designed to support deeper learning with extra resources and pieces to do so. This is why the LEGO Education Mindstorms contains more sensors and parts than the retail version.

Read the text and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. Only one response is correct.

Which of the following statements

about the Mindstorms kits is not true?

- The educational version of the kits comes with a programming language, but it can be replaced with others.

- The retail version of the kits cannot be used with any programming language.

- The educational version of the kits comes with extra sensors.

- The retail version of the kits are likely to appeal more to the hobbyists who just want to have fun.

- The educational version of the kits comes with several tutorials and can be used in a classroom setting.

**Q2.** European overseas exploration led to the rise of global trade and the European colonial empires, with the contact between the Old World (Europe, Asia and Africa) and the New World (the Americas and Australia) producing the Columbian Exchange; a wide transfer of plants, animals, food, human populations (including slaves), communicable diseases and culture between the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. This represented one of the most-significant global events concerning ecology, agriculture, and culture in history. The Age of Discovery and later European exploration allowed the global mapping of the world, resulting in a new world-view and distant civilizations coming into contact, but also led to the propagation of diseases that decimated populations not previously in contact with Eurasia and Africa, and to the enslavement, exploitation, military conquest, and economic dominance of Europe and its colonies over native populations. It also allowed for the expansion of Christianity throughout the world with the spread of missionary activity, becoming the world's largest religion.

Read the text and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting the correct response. Only one response is correct.

Which statement about the European overseas exploration can be considered true?

- It benefited everyone in the world
- It was harmful for the majority of the world
- It had some positive and some negative consequences
- It led to the age of discovery
- It started the trend of communicable diseases in the world

**Q3.** High-rise buildings became possible with the invention of the elevator (lift) and cheaper, more abundant building materials. The materials used for the structural system of high-rise buildings are reinforced concrete and steel. Most North American style skyscrapers have a steel frame, while residential blocks are usually constructed of concrete. There is no clear difference between a tower block and a skyscraper, although a building with fifty or more stories is generally considered a skyscraper.

High-rise structures pose particular design challenges for structural and geotechnical engineers, particularly if situated in a seismically active region or if the underlying soils have geotechnical risk factors such as high compressibility or bay mud. They also pose serious challenges to firefighters during emergencies in high-rise structures. New and old building design, building systems like the building standpipe system, HVAC systems (heating, ventilation and air conditioning), fire sprinkler system and other things like stairwell and elevator evacuations pose significant problems. Studies are often required to ensure that pedestrian wind comfort and wind danger concerns are addressed. In order to allow less wind exposure, to transmit more daylight to the ground and to appear more slender, many high-rises have a design with setbacks.

Apartment buildings have technical and economic advantages in areas of high population density, and have become a distinctive feature of housing accommodation in virtually all densely populated urban areas around the world. In contrast with lowrise and single-family houses, apartment blocks accommodate more inhabitants per unit of area of land and decrease the cost of municipal

infrastructure.

Read the text and answer the multiple-choice question by selecting all correct responses. More than one response is correct.

Which of the following is not an issue with high-rise buildings?

- Structural problems in regions with seismic activity
- Problems for firefighters in emergency situations
- High population density in areas where they are usually built
- Design faults due to the need to look thin
- Ineffective heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems
- Impact on the municipal infrastructure costs
- Stairwells and elevator Evacuations

**Q4. Re-order paragraphs – Item 1**

The text boxes in the left panel have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order by dragging the text boxes from the left panel to the right panel.

In this new place, Jonathan befriends the wisest gull, Chiang, who takes him beyond his previous learning, teaching him how to move instantaneously to anywhere else in the Universe.

The secret, Chiang says, is to "begin by knowing that you have already arrived."

Ultimately, the very first of his students, Fletcher Lynd Seagull, becomes a teacher in his own right, and Jonathan leaves to teach other flocks.

One day, Jonathan is met by two gulls who take him to a "higher plane of existence" in which there is no heaven but a better world found through perfection of knowledge.

Not satisfied with his new life, Jonathan returns to

Earth to find others like him, to bring them his learning and to spread his love for flight.

**Q5.** The text boxes in the left panel have been placed in a random order. Restore the original order by dragging the text boxes from the left panel to the right panel.

Some psychologists advocate a positive psychology, and explicitly embrace an empirical self-help Philosophy.

This includes the intentional training of new patterns of thought and feeling.

They aim to refine the self-improvement field by way of an intentional increase in scientifically sound research and well-engineered models.

According to them, the role of positive psychology is to become a bridge between the ivory tower and the main street—between the rigor of academe and the fun of the self-help movement."

The division of focus and methodologies has produced several subfields, in particular: general positive psychology; and personal effectiveness.

**Q6.** In the text below some words are missing. Drag words from the box below to the appropriate place in the text. To undo an answer choice, drag the word back to the box below the text.

The Industrial Revolution marks a major turning point in history; almost every \_\_\_\_\_ of daily life was influenced in some way. In particular, average income and population began to exhibit unprecedented \_\_\_\_\_ growth. Some economists say that the major impact of the Industrial Revolution was that the \_\_\_\_\_ of living for the general population began to increase \_\_\_\_\_ for the first time in history. About the same time the Industrial Revolution was occurring, Britain was \_\_\_\_\_ an agricultural revolution.

standardization; aspect; undermining; standard; strikingly; sustained; undergoing; consistently

**Q7.** In the text below some words are missing. Drag words from the box below to the appropriate place in the text. To undo an answer choice, drag the word back to the box below the text.

A beat is a pause taken for the \_\_\_\_\_ of comic timing, often to allow the audience time to recognize the joke and react, or to \_\_\_\_\_ the suspense before delivery of the

expected punch line. Pauses, sometimes called "dramatic pauses" in this context, can be used to

\_\_\_\_\_ subtext or even unconscious content—that is, what the speaker is really thinking about. A pause can also be used to heighten a switch in \_\_\_\_\_.

dictate; direction; production; discern; heighten; shorten; purposes