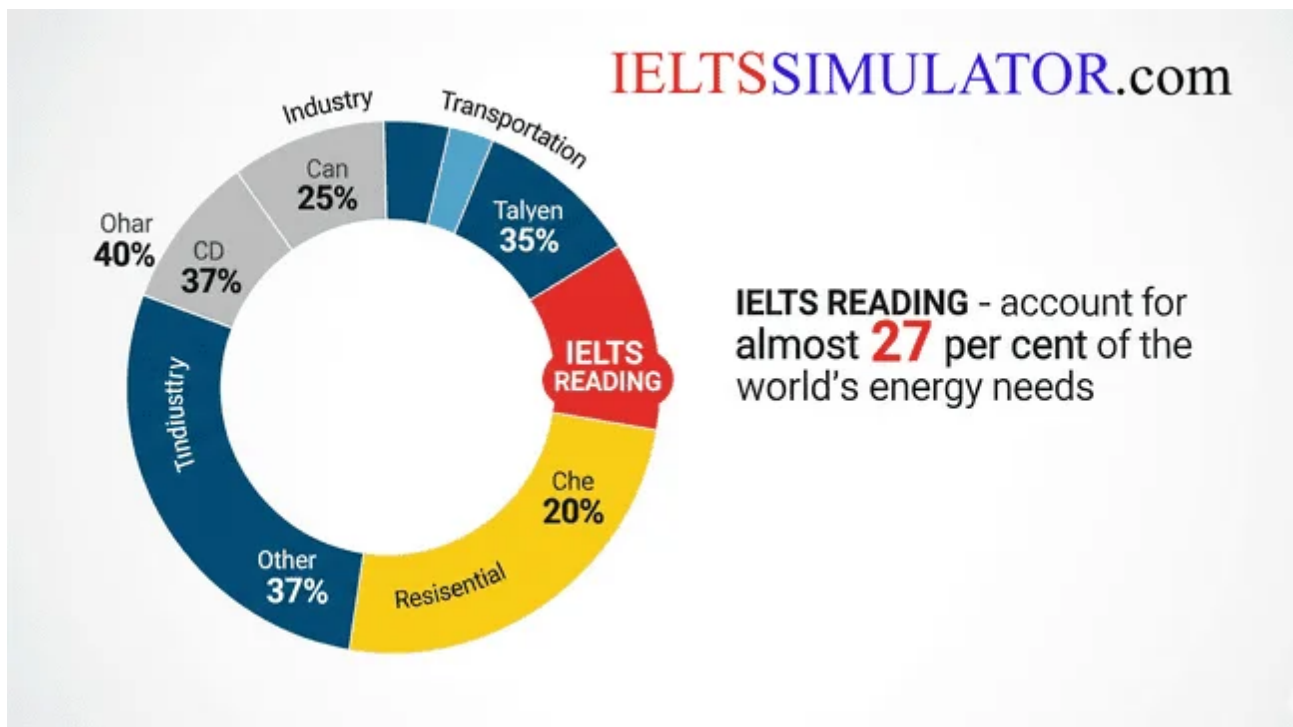


IELTS READING – account for almost 27 per cent of the world’s energy needs S22GT5



IELTS READING Account for almost 27 per cent of the world's energy needs Reading Practice Test has 10 Questions belongs to the Science & Technology subject..

A.

Coal is expected to continue to account for almost 27 per cent of the world's energy needs. However, with growing international awareness of pressures on the environment and the need to achieve sustainable development of energy resources, the way in which the resource is extracted, transported and used is critical.

Attempt Free Reading Test..

From the list below choose the most suitable title for the whole of the Passage.

Choose the appropriate letter **A - D** in box **27** below.

- ☐ **A.** Pollution control in coal mining
- ☐ **B.** The greenhouse effect
- ☐ **C.** The coal industry and the environment
- ☐ **D.** Sustainable population growth

Questions 28 - 31

The Reading Passage has four sections **A - D**.

Choose the most suitable heading for each section from the list of headings below.

Select the appropriate numbers i - viii in boxes **28 - 31** below.

List of Headings

- i Global warming
- ii The dangers of the coal industry
- iii Superclean coal
- iv Environment protection measures
- v Coal as an energy source
- vi Coal and the enhanced greenhouse effect
- vii Research and development
- viii Mining site drainage

A wide range of pollution control devices and practices is in place at most modern mines and significant resources are spent on rehabilitating mined land. In addition, major research and development programmes are being devoted to lifting efficiencies and reducing emissions of greenhouse gases during coal consumption. Such measures are helping coal to maintain its status as a major supplier of the world's energy needs.

Questions 32 - 36

Choose the appropriate letters **A - D** in boxes **32 - 36** below.

32. The global increase in greenhouse gases has been attributed to

- ☐ **A.** industrial pollution in developing countries.
- ☐ **B.** coal mining and electricity generation.
- ☐ **C.** reduced rainfall in many parts of the world.
- ☐ **D.** trends in population and lifestyle.

33. The proportion of all greenhouse gases created by coal is approximately

- ☐ **A.** 14 percent.
- ☐ **B.** 18 percent.
- ☐ **C.** 27 percent.
- ☐ **D.** 90 percent.

34. Current research aims to increase the energy-producing efficiency of coal by

- ☐ **A.** burning it at a lower temperature.
- ☐ **B.** developing new gasification techniques.
- ☐ **C.** extracting CO₂ from it.
- ☐ **D.** recycling greenhouse gases.

35. Compared with ordinary coal, new, 'clean' coals may generate power

- ☐ **A.** more cleanly and more efficiently.
- ☐ **B.** more cleanly but less efficiently.
- ☐ **C.** more cleanly but at higher cost.
- ☐ **D.** more cleanly but much more slowly.

36. To control dust at mine sites, mining companies often use

- ☐ **A.** chemicals which may be toxic.
- ☐ **B.** topsoil taken from the site before mining.
- ☐ **C.** fresh water from nearby dams.
- ☐ **D.** runoff water containing sediments.

B.

The coal industry has been targeted by its critics as a significant contributor to the greenhouse effect. However, the greenhouse effect is a natural phenomenon involving the increase in global surface temperature due to the presence of greenhouse gases – water vapour, carbon dioxide, tropospheric ozone, methane and nitrous oxide – in the atmosphere. Without the greenhouse effect, the earth's average surface temperature would be 33-35 degrees C lower, or -15 degrees C. Life on earth, as we know it today, would not be possible.

There is concern that this natural phenomenon is being altered by a greater build-up of gases from human activity, perhaps giving rise to additional warming and changes in the earth's climate. This additional build-up and its forecast outcome has been called the enhanced greenhouse effect. Considerable uncertainty exists, however, about the enhanced greenhouse effect, particularly in relation to the extent and timing of any future increases in global temperature.

Greenhouse gases arise from a wide range of sources and their increasing concentration is largely related to the compound effects of increased population, improved living standards and changes in lifestyle. From a current base of 5 billion, the United Nations predicts that the global population may stabilise in the twenty-first century between 8 and 14 billion, with more than 90 per cent of the projected increase taking place in the world's developing nations. The associated activities to support that growth, particularly to produce the required energy and food, will cause further increases in greenhouse gas emissions. The challenge, therefore, is to attain a sustainable balance between population, economic growth and the environment.

Questions 37 - 40

Do the following statements reflect the opinions of the writer in the Passage?

In boxes **37 - 40** below, choose:

- YES** if the statement reflects the opinion of the writer
- NO** if the statement contradicts the writer
- NOT GIVEN** if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

37. The coal industry should be abandoned in favour of alternative energy sources because of the environmental damage it causes.

38. The greatest threats to the environment are the gases produced by industries which support the high standard of living of a growing world population.

39. World population in the twenty-first century will probably exceed 8 billion.

40. CFC emissions have been substantially reduced in recent years.

The major greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane and nitrous oxide. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are the only major contributor to the greenhouse effect that does not occur naturally, coming from such sources as refrigeration, plastics and manufacture. Coal's total contribution to greenhouse gas emissions is thought to be about 18 per cent, with about half of this coming from electricity generation.

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