The Reading Test is designed to measure how well you understand what you read. It contains 20 questions. Some are the sentence relationship type, in which you must choose how two sentences are related. Other questions refer to reading passages of various lengths. Some passages are 75 words in length, while others are longer.

**Narrative Questions**

Read the statement or passage and then choose the best answer to the question. Answer the question on the basis of what is stated in the statement or passage.

1. Myths are stories, the products of fertile imagination, sometimes simple, often containing profound truths. They are not meant to be taken too literally. Details may sometimes appear childish, but most myths express a culture's most serious beliefs about human beings, eternity and God.

   The main idea of this passage is that myths
   (a) are created primarily to entertain young children
   (b) are purposely written for the reader who lacks imagination
   (c) provide the reader with a means of escape from reality
   (d) illustrates the values that are considered important to a society

2. All water molecules form six-sided structures as they freeze and become snow crystals. The shape of the crystal is determined by temperature, vapor, and wind conditions in the upper atmosphere. Snow crystals are always symmetrical because these conditions affect all six sides simultaneously.

   The purpose of this passage is to present
   (a) a personal observation
   (b) a solution to a problem
   (c) factual information
   (d) opposing scientific theories

3. Sequential planting involves making several plantings of the same vegetable spaced two or three weeks apart. Thus, the harvest is spread over a period of weeks as opposed to an overabundance followed by dearth, the usual result of planting a crop all at one time.

   According to the passage, what is an advantage of sequential planting?
   (a) Each plant has maximum space in which to grow.
   (b) Each crop produces a maximum number of vegetables
   (c) The whole crop can be harvested within three weeks
   (d) Yields from crops are evenly distributed over a period of time
4. To many foreigners, English idiom appears capricious and perplexing. There is a story about two Frenchmen visiting America. When they are asked whether they have children, one says no, that his wife is impregnable. The other responds, “You mean she’s inconceivable.” The first responds, “No, I mean she is unbearable.”

In this passage, the author tells the story of the two Frenchmen in order to
(a) suggest the importance of word choice for proper emphasis
(b) show the difference between American and French humor
(c) urge foreigners learning English to consult a dictionary
(d) illustrate the problem of learning the idioms of a language

5. There are two kinds of pottery that I do. There is production pottery - mugs, tableware, the kinds of things that sell easily. These pay for my time to do the other work, which is more creative and satisfies my needs as an artist.

The author of this passage implies that:
(a) artists have a tendency to waste valuable time
(b) creativity and mass-production are incompatible
(c) most people do not appreciate good art
(d) pottery is not produced by creative artists
Answer Key
Reading Skills

1. D
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. B