IELTS Reading Exercise

Passage 1: The History of Tea

Tea is one of the most popular beverages in the world, enjoyed by millions of people daily. Its history spans thousands of years and numerous cultures. According to legend, tea was discovered in China around 2737 BCE by Emperor Shen Nong. While boiling water in his garden, a few leaves from a nearby tree fell into the pot, creating a fragrant and refreshing drink.

Tea spread from China to Japan in the 8th century, where it became an integral part of Japanese culture and rituals. By the 16th century, European traders had discovered tea, and it quickly became popular in Britain. The British East India Company began large-scale tea production in India in the 19th century, leading to tea's global proliferation.

Today, tea is grown in over 60 countries, with China, India, and Kenya being the top producers. There are several types of tea, including black, green, white, and oolong, each with distinct flavors and health benefits.

Questions 1-5: True/False/Not Given

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage? Write:

- True if the statement agrees with the information
- False if the statement contradicts the information
- Not Given if there is no information on this
- 1. Tea was first discovered in Japan in 2737 BCE.
- 2. Emperor Shen Nong discovered tea by accident.
- 3. Tea became popular in Europe before the 16th century.
- 4. The British East India Company played a significant role in spreading tea globally.
- 5. Oolong tea is the most popular type of tea worldwide.

Questions 6-10: Matching Information

Match each statement with the correct paragraph (A, B, C, or D).

Paragraphs:

- Paragraph A: The Discovery of Tea
- Paragraph B: Tea in Japanese Culture
- Paragraph C: Tea's Introduction to Europe
- Paragraph D: Modern Tea Production
- 6. Tea's origin in China.

- 7. The role of European traders in popularizing tea.
- 8. The British East India Company's influence on tea production.
- 9. Countries that are leading producers of tea today.
- 10. Different types of tea and their characteristics.

Questions 11-13: Short Answer Questions

Answer the questions using NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS from the passage.

- 11. Who is credited with discovering tea in Chinese legend?
- 12. In which century did tea reach Japan?
- 13. Name one country that is a top producer of tea today.

Passage 2: The Future of Electric Cars

Electric cars have gained significant attention in recent years as a sustainable alternative to traditional gasoline-powered vehicles. The first practical electric cars were developed in the late 19th century, but it wasn't until the early 21st century that they began to gain widespread popularity.

Several factors have contributed to the rise of electric cars. Environmental concerns about pollution and climate change have driven governments to implement stricter emission regulations. Additionally, advancements in battery technology have improved the efficiency and range of electric cars, making them more appealing to consumers.

Major automotive manufacturers are now investing heavily in electric vehicles (EVs), with companies like Tesla leading the charge. The shift towards EVs is also supported by government incentives, such as tax rebates and subsidies, aimed at encouraging consumers to make the switch.

Despite these advancements, challenges remain. The infrastructure for charging electric cars is still underdeveloped in many areas, and the cost of EVs remains higher than that of traditional vehicles. However, as technology continues to advance and economies of scale are achieved, the future of electric cars looks promising.

Questions 14-18: Multiple Choice

Choose the correct letter, A, B, C, or D.

- 14. When were the first practical electric cars developed?
- A) Early 19th century
- B) Late 19th century
- C) Early 20th century

D) Late 20th century
15. What has driven the implementation of stricter emission regulations?
A) Consumer demand
B) Environmental concerns
C) Technological advancements
D) Automotive competition
16. Which company is mentioned as a leader in electric vehicles?
A) Ford
B) Toyota
C) Tesla
D) General Motors
17. What are government incentives mentioned in the passage?
A) Loan guarantees
B) Tax rebates and subsidies
C) Grants for research
D) Reduced registration fees
18. What remains a challenge for the adoption of electric cars?
A) Consumer interest
B) Technological feasibility
C) Charging infrastructure
D) Manufacturer competition
Questions 19-22: Sentence Completion
Complete the sentences using NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage.
19. The rise of electric cars is partly due to improvements in
20. Governments have introduced incentives to consumers to buy EVs.
21. The cost of electric vehicles is still than traditional vehicles.

Questions 23-26: Matching Headings

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

22. The future of electric cars is promising as technology and _____ advance.

List of Headings:

- i) Historical Development of Electric Cars
- ii) Government Support for Electric Vehicles
- iii) Leading Manufacturers of Electric Cars
- iv) Challenges Facing Electric Car Adoption
- v) Environmental Impact of Electric Cars

Sections:

- 23. Paragraph 1
- 24. Paragraph 2
- 25. Paragraph 3
- 26. Paragraph 4