

Example Reading Questions

Trash to Treasure

A The Romans had a serious trash problem. Their problem was amphorae—the curvy clay jars they used to carry wine, olive oil, and fish sauce. They shipped millions of these amphorae around the empire, and often they didn't recycle their empties. What happened to them? Well, in the first century A.D. in Arles, in what is now southern France, people threw the jars into the river. Little did they know that their trash would fascinate their descendants centuries later.

B Arles in the first century was the thriving gateway to Roman Gaul. Goods from all over the Mediterranean were brought to riverboats and then carried up the Rhône River, in order to supply the northern reaches of the empire. "It was a city at the intersection of all roads, which received products from everywhere," says David Djaoui, an archeologist at the local antiquities museum. The emperor Julius Caesar gave Roman citizenship to the inhabitants of Arles as a reward for their military support. In the city center today, you can still see the amphitheater¹ that seated 20,000 spectators for gladiator fights. But all that remains of the prosperous port is a shadow in the river—a thick stripe of Roman trash.

C Of course, it was trash then, but not anymore. In the summer of 2004, a diver surveying the area for archeological riches noticed a large piece of wood swelling from the mud at a depth of 13 feet. It turned out to be the side of a 102-foot-long barge, a flat-bottomed boat approximately as long as two and a half school buses, placed end to end. The barge had been used for carrying freight.² The boat was almost completely intact; most of it was still buried under the layers of mud and amphorae that had sheltered it for nearly 2,000 years. It had held on to its last cargo and even to a few personal effects left behind by its crew.

D Luc Long is the archeologist whose team discovered the barge. He works for the DRASSM, a French government department responsible for protecting the nation's underwater history. In 1986, his friend, diver and wreck hunter Albert Illouze, convinced Long to dive in his home river. It wasn't easy to convince Long. He had worked on wrecks all over the Mediterranean, but residents of Arles thought of the Rhône as a hazardous source of floods and disease—and Long was raised in that tradition.

E Nonetheless, Long and Illouze entered the river on a Saturday morning in November, just across from where the antiquities museum is today. Long could see no more than three feet in front of him, which for the Rhône was a clear day. Goopy streams of algae licked his face. At a depth of around 20 feet, he found a truck. Slowly, he felt his way around to the driver's side and found a Roman amphora in the driver's seat.

F After that, he and Illouze swam over a vast field of amphorae. Long had never seen so many intact. His future opened before him, and he's been mapping the Roman dump ever since. It wasn't always easy. The Rhône was, undeniably, still unpleasant to work in. In addition, for the first 20 years or so, no one paid much attention to what Long was doing. In 2004, when Long's team discovered the barge he named *Arles-Rhône 3*—he had found evidence of two other boats previously—he had no notion of there ever being enough money available to bring it to the surface.

G In 2007 three younger archeologists, Sabrina Marlier, David Djaoui, and Sandra Greck, took over the study of *Arles-Rhône 3*, and Long proceeded with his survey of the rest of the dump, around 50 yards away. He started finding pieces of the town: monumental blocks of stone, including the top of a Corinthian column. He also started finding statues. Word began to get out. The French customs police warned Long that thieves might be watching him. When his divers found a life-size statue of Neptune, god of the sea and sailors, they brought it up at night.

H Before that diving season was out, the same diver who had found *Arles-Rhône 3*, Pierre Giustiniani, discovered a marble bust (a carved head and shoulders) that looked like Julius Caesar. Portraits of Caesar are very rare. Historians think that this might be the only surviving piece that was carved while he was alive—perhaps right after he declared Arles a Roman colony. Claude Sintès, the director of the antiquities museum, built an exhibition around the bust of Caesar. "The exhibition's success was astonishing," Sintès said. "When a modest town like ours got 400,000 visitors, the politicians understood that the economic return was strong."

I By the fall of 2010, officials wanted to support more cultural projects such as this. The European Union had designated Marseille and the whole Provence region a 2013 European Capital of Culture. Nine million euros became available to build a new wing on Sintès's museum so that they could put the Roman barge, the *Arles-Rhône 3*, on display. This was an immense undertaking, but fortunately, the dedicated team managed to complete the task on schedule. As they were working on the boat, they glimpsed a small silver coin between two pieces of wood. The boat's builder had

probably sealed the coin there to bring good luck. And frankly, it did—2,000 years later, the boat and the coin are still here.

1 An **amphitheater** is an open, circular or oval building with a central space for the presentation of dramatic or sporting events. The central space is surrounded by rows of seats for the spectators.

2 **Freight** refers to goods transported in bulk by train, ship, or aircraft.

Source: Adapted from "Romans in France," by Robert Kunzig: NGM April 2014

1. **Choose the best answer.**

The main idea of this passage can be found in paragraph A sentence _____.

a.	1
b.	2
c.	4
d.	5

2. **Choose the best answer.**

The sentence, "I had no desire to dive in the Rhône," Long explained. is best placed at the end of which paragraph?

a.	C
b.	D
c.	E
d.	G

3. **Choose the best answer.**

In the last sentence of paragraph G, *they* refers to _____.

a.	police
b.	divers
c.	sailors
d.	thieves

4. **Choose the best answer.**

Which of the following is NOT mentioned as something found in the Rhône?

a.	A bust of Julius Caesar
b.	Part of a Corinthian column
c.	A statue of a gladiator
d.	A Roman barge

5. **Choose the best answer.**

In paragraph C, the author describes the dive into the Rhône: *Goopy streams of algae licked his face.* This is so that the reader can _____.

a.	visualize the description
b.	understand quantitative data
c.	understand the writer's attitude
d.	identify reasons

DIRECTION: Choose the correct word from each pair to complete the sentences below.

6. My sister and her husband just had their first baby. She tells me that her husband _____ (gazes / scowls) at the baby all day.

7. Going on a pilgrimage is a very _____ (dazzling / spiritual) experience.

8. When the journalists went to the disaster area, they saw _____ (firsthand / cutting-edge) that many people were suffering.

9. The TV newscast of the severe storm ended _____ (abruptly / frankly) when the reporter fell in the snow.
10. Most people take years to learn a language well, but there are some _____ (garments / exceptions). There are some lucky people who learn languages very quickly.

Example Grammar questions

Complete the sentences with A/AN/ THE or --- (4 points)

1. I bought Holly new coat for her birthday.
2. vegetables are good for your health. You should eat them more often.
3. I met Prime Minister last month. He was visiting my school.
4. 'Where is hospital?' 'Take the second road on the left.'

Choose the right words. (5 points)

5. They're both talking at the same time, and not listening to each other/themselves at all.
6. 'Who broke that glass?' 'It was he/him.'
7. I have never told someone/anyone about your past.
8. 'Monday or Tuesday?' 'Both/Either days are OK.'
9. She was sad because she had few/a few friends.

Complete the sentences with suitable PREPOSITIONS. (3 points)

10. We are so proud what you have done.
11. There is a strong connection..... exercise and good health.
12. We are going on holiday two weeks this summer.

Correct the mistakes. (3 points)

13. I'm really not interesting in that woman's problems.
14. Please put the glasses away careful.
15. Your hair looks beautifully.

Example Speaking Exam Questions

1. In your opinion, which jobs have the biggest impact on the world?
2. Do you think language teaching makes a difference?
3. Are you an organized student?
4. Think of a celebration or holiday in your country. Explain it in your own words. (Do you give gifts? Is this a fun time? Does the family get together?)
5. Explain the traditional Turkish wedding.

Example writing questions

1. Write a well organized essay on the differences of online and traditional education.