

# IELTS General Reading Test 8

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## Section 1

Question 1-14

### Instructions to follow

- You are advised to spend **20** minutes on Questions **1-14**.
- First, read the text below and answer Questions **1-8**

## Your Moulex Iron & Classic Tours

### Your Molex Iron

#### **A Filling the reservoir**

Your iron is designed to function using tap water. However, it will last longer if you use distilled water.

- Always unplug the iron before filling the reservoir.
- Always empty the reservoir after use.

#### **B Temperature and steam control**

Your Moulex iron has two buttons which control the intensity of heat produced by the iron. You can, therefore, adjust the temperature of the iron and the amount of steam being given off depending upon the type of fabric being ironed.

- Turn the steam control to the desired intensity.
- Turn the thermostat control to the desired temperature.

**Important:** If your iron produces droplets of water instead of giving off steam, your temperature control is set too low.

### **C Spray button**

This button activates a jet of cold water which allows you to iron out any unintentional creases. Press the button for one second.

### **D Pressing button**

This button activates a super shot of steam which momentarily gives you an additional 40g of steam when needed.

**Important:** Do not use this more than five successive times.

### **E Suits**

It is possible to use this iron in a vertical position so that you can remove creases from clothes on coat hangers or from curtains. Turning the thermostat control and the steam button to maximum, hold the iron in a vertical position close to the fabric but without touching it. Hold down the pressing button for a maximum of one second. The steam produced is not always visible but is still able to remove creases.

**Important:** Hold the iron at a sufficient distance from silk and wool to avoid all risk of scorching. Do not attempt to remove creases from an item of clothing that is being worn, always use a coat hanger.

### **F Auto-clean**

In order that your iron does not become furred up, Moulex have integrated an auto-clean system

and we advise you to use it very regularly (1-2 times per month).

-- Turn the steam control to the off position.

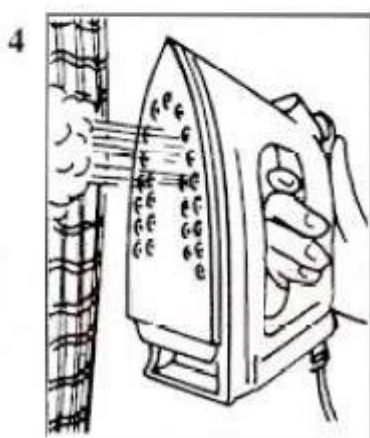
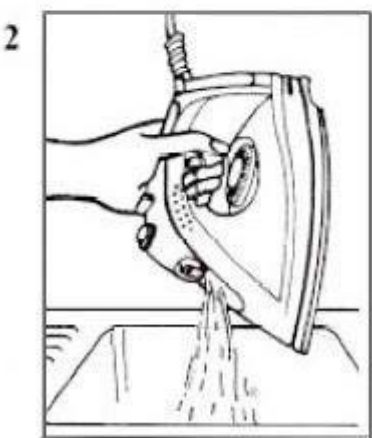
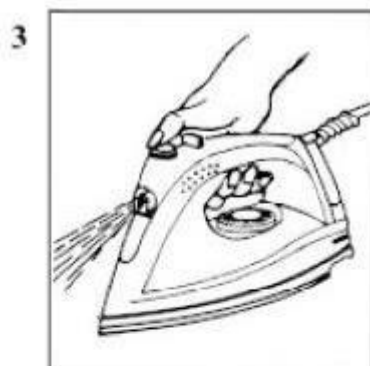
-- Fill the reservoir and turn the thermostat control to maximum.

-- As soon as the indicator light goes out, unplug the iron and, holding it over the sink, turn the steam control to auto-clean. Any calcium deposits will be washed out by the steam. Continue the procedure until the reservoir is empty.

Questions 1-4

**Instructions to follow**

- Match the pictures below to the appropriate section in the instructions.
- Write the correct letter **A-F** in boxes **1-4** on your answer sheet.



1. \_\_\_\_\_

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐

2. \_\_\_\_\_

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐

3. \_\_\_\_\_

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐

4. \_\_\_\_\_

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐

Questions 5-8

**Instructions to follow**

- Answer the following questions on the Moulex iron using **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS**.
- Write your answers in boxes 5-8 on your answer sheet.

5. What sort of water are you advised to use?
6. What factor makes you decide on the quantity of steam to use?
7. What should you do if your iron starts to drip water?
8. What could damage your iron if you do not clean it?

**Classic Tours – Coach Break Information**

**Instructions to follow**

- Read the information below and answer Questions 9 – 14.

**Luggage**

We ask you to keep luggage down to one medium-sized suitcase per person, but a small holdall can also be taken on board the coach.

### **Seat Allocation**

Requests for particular seats can be made on most coach breaks when booking, but since allocations are made on a first come first served basis, early booking is advisable. When bookings are made with us you will be offered the best seats that are available on the coach at that time.

### **Travel Documents**

When you have paid your deposit we will send to you all the necessary documents and labels, so that you receive them in good time before the coach break departure date. Certain documents, for example, air or boat tickets, may have to be retained and your driver or courier will then issue them to you at the relevant point.

### **Special Diets**

If you require a special diet you must inform us at the time of booking with a copy of the diet. This will be notified to the hotel or hotels on your coach break, but on certain coach breaks the hotels used are tourist class and whilst offering value for money within the price range, they may not have the full facilities to cope with special diets. Any extra costs incurred must be paid to the hotel by yourself before departure from the hotel.

### **Accommodation**

Many of our coach-breaks now include, within the price, accommodation with private facilities,

and this will be indicated on the coach break page. Other coach breaks have a limited number of rooms with private facilities which, subject to availability, can be reserved and guaranteed at the time of booking - the supplementary charge shown in the price panel will be added to your account.

On any coach break, there are only a limited number of single rooms. When a single room is available it may be subject to a supplementary charge and this will be shown on the brochure page.

## Entertainment

Some of our hotels arrange additional entertainment which could include music, dancing, film shows, etc. The nature and frequency of the entertainment presented is at the discretion of the hotel and therefore not guaranteed and could be withdrawn if there is a lack of demand or insufficient numbers in the hotel.

Questions 9-14

### Instructions to follow

- Choose the appropriate letters **A-D** and write them in boxes **9-14** on your answer sheet.

**9.** If you want to sit at the front of the coach -

- ☐ A ask when you get on the coach.
- ☐ B arrive early on the departure date.
- ☐ B book your seat well in advance.
- ☐ D avoid travelling at peak times.

**10.** Your air tickets -

- A ☐ will be sent to your departure point.
- B ☐ must be collected before leaving.
- B ☐ will be enclosed with other documents.
- A ☐ may be held by your coach driver.

**11.** If you need a special diet you should -

- A ☐ inform the hotel when you arrive.
- B ☐ pay extra with the booking.
- B ☐ tell the coach company.
- D ☐ book tourist class.

**12.** It may be necessary to pay extra for -

- A ☐ a bathroom.
- B ☐ boat tickets.
- B ☐ additional luggage.
- D ☐ entertainment.

**13.** Entertainment is available -

- A ☐ At all hotels.
- B ☐ if there is the demand.
- B ☐ upon request.
- A ☐ for an additional cost.



14. With every booking, Classic Tours guarantee you will be able to -

- A ☐ request high-quality meals.
- B ☐ take hand luggage on the coach.
- B ☐ use your own personal bathroom.
- D ☐ see a film if you want to.

## Section 2

Questions 15 - 27

### **Instructions to follow**

- You are advised to spend 20 minutes on Questions 15 - 27.
- Read the text below and answer the questions 15 - 20

## **The Murgatroyde Corporation Employee Manual**

### **Chapter 8: Professional Development Requirements**

All employees of the Murgatroyde Corporation are required to attend fifteen hours of professional development workshops or classes in each calendar year. While there are many opportunities provided by the company, professional development hours can also be earned externally at local training centers, colleges, and other locations.

Listings of upcoming professional development opportunities offered by the company are posted on the company website and updated frequently. Employees can register for these workshops online. Before signing up for a particular workshop, employees should check with their supervisors to make sure they can be excused from their duties on the date of the workshop.

Employees who wish to receive professional development credit for attending workshops or courses offered elsewhere should provide their supervisor with materials describing the opportunity. The supervisor will determine whether the workshop or course is pertinent to the employee's work. After obtaining the supervisor's approval, the employee can apply to the Human Resources Office for tuition reimbursement if tuition is to be paid.

Employees attending any workshop offered by the company will receive a certificate of attendance. The number of professional development hours earned will be reported to the Human Resources Office by the workshop organizer. In order to receive professional development credit for a course or workshop offered outside the company, the employee must have the workshop organizer complete a company Proof of Attendance form, and the employee must then submit the form to the Human Resources Office within one month of the end date of the course. Timely submission of this form is required in order for credit to be granted. There will be no exceptions.

Questions 15 -20

**Instructions to follow**

- Choose NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS from the text for each answer.
- Write your answers on lines 15 - 20 on your answer sheet.

- 15 Employees can choose from professional development workshops and classes offered \_\_\_\_\_ or at local training centers or colleges.
- 16 Employees can find out which workshops will be offered by looking at \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 It is the responsibility of \_\_\_\_\_ to decide whether a workshop is relevant.
- 18 Employees who need help paying for a class or workshop can ask the Human Resources Office for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 19 The workshop presenter will let the Human Resources Office know how many \_\_\_\_\_ the employee should be credited with.

**20** Professional development credit will be granted for workshops taken outside of the company if a special form is filled out by\_\_\_\_\_.

### **Instructions to follow**

- Read the text below and answer Questions 21—27.

## **Hampford College Work-Study Program**

Certain students at Hampford College may be eligible for the college Work—Study Program. To determine eligibility and to apply for the program, read the information below.

\* The Hampford College Work—Study Program is open to all full-time Hampford College students, regardless of the particular study program in which they are enrolled. The program is not open to part-time students. Information on financial support programs for part-time students is available in the Counseling Center.

\* Before applying for a work—study position, the student must demonstrate financial need. To do this, complete the Statement of Financial Need Form, available in the Counseling Center.

\* To apply for a work-study position, submit a letter of interest to the Work-Study Program Office, describing your skills and interests. You may also, but are not required to, submit a resume describing any previous jobs you may have held. Students both with and without an employment history are eligible for the program.

\* Once you have been approved for the program, look at the help-wanted ads posted on the Counseling Center website. All of the jobs are located at the college. You may apply for any job that you are interested in. Please note that job placement is subject to job availability. While we make every effort to place all Work-Study Program students in a job, there are no guarantees.

\* All work-study students must be students in good standing at the college; that is, they must receive passing grades in all their courses in order to continue in the program the following semester.

\* Work-study positions are generally for one year. Students wishing to continue in the program after one year must resubmit their applications.

Questions 21-27

**Instructions to follow**

- Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text about the
- Hampford College Work-Study Program? On lines 21-27 on your answer sheet, 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

- 21 The Work—Study Program is available to all students at the college.
- 22 Work-study students must prove that they require monetary support.
- 23 Work-study students must choose a job that is related to their study program.
- 24 Previous work experience is required to participate in the Work-Study Program.
- 25 All students in the Work-Study Program will be given a job.

- 26 Work-study students cannot stay in the program if they receive failing grades.
- 27 Work-study students have to apply for the program every year.

## Section 3

### **Thin-film solar power**

The modernist box that won this year's Solar Decathlon, a contest for solar-powered houses sponsored by America's Department of Energy, had solar panels of the conventional, crystalline sort on its roof. But the walls were covered in solar cells made with thin coatings of silicon and other materials in the place of expensive slices of crystal. Thin film, as this technology is known, is still less popular than crystalline cells and its move to the mainstream has been a year or two away for a decade. But its time may have come at last.

There are many exotic ideas involving thin film, from the solar shingles recently unveiled by Dow, a big chemical company, a roof's worth costs \$27,000, to experimental prototypes of power-generating clothes, roads and cars. However, most thin film comes in the form of panels that resemble talline ones. They are roughly half as efficient, meaning that a panel must be twice as big to generate the same amount of power, but a third cheaper, watt for watt. So in places where there is no shortage of space, they are the natural option.

Thin-film cells are also more versatile, since they can be mounted on a variety of materials including flexible plastics and fabrics. Like all solar cells, they are becoming more efficient: the decathletes of Team Germany, who designed the winning house, bragged that its north facade was covered in panels that could convert even indirect sunlight into electricity. Over the past year or so, thanks to a crash in demand tied to the recession and falling subsidies in big markets, the price of crystalline panels has fallen by 30-40%, undermining thin film's relative advantage. Nonetheless, thin film's share of the market has continued to rise: it is now almost half, compared with just 10% in 2004. The biggest force in the industry is a firm called First Solar, based in Arizona, a sunny American state. Like that of virtually all alternative-energy firms, its share price

has suffered in the recession. But it has nonetheless performed considerably better than Standard & Poor's clean-energy index over the past three years. Its gross margins in the first half of the year were over 50%, on sales of \$944m. This month the firm was added to the S&P 500 stock market index of America's biggest firms.

First solar looks likely to continue to grow. Last month it signed a memorandum of understanding with China to install two gigawatts' worth of panels in Inner Mongolia—a place with plenty of space. That is enough to power 3 million homes. Installation is due to begin next year and finish in 2019. That and other projects should consume all its output for several years to come. First Solar's rivals are much smaller. But technological advances may yet catapult one to the fore, says Steve Milunovich, an analyst at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. First Solar makes its cells from a chemical called cadmium telluride. But firms such as Nanosolar, which is building factories in California and Germany, believe that a combination of copper, indium, gallium and selenium known as CIGS will prove cheaper to produce on a mass scale.

Researchers at the University of California, meanwhile, hold out great hopes for cells made of organic chemicals. At the moment, however, the cheapest form of solar power is none of these, but the less glamorous solar-thermal power, which involves heating water with sunlight to make steam. Utilities are also keen to use lenses to increase the amount of sunlight hitting solar panels—a technique known as concentrating solar power. They still need subsidies or a high price on carbon emissions to make investments in any sort of solar power profitable. But the gap between solar and conventional power sources is becoming, well, thinner.

Questions 28 – 33



### Instructions to follow

- Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text?
- TRUE if the statement agrees with the information
- FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
- NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

28. At this year's Solar Decathlon, 'thin film' covered the roof of the modernist box
29. When space is not a problem, it's probably better to use crystalline films.
30. Team Germany's house won because of its ability to turn indirect sunlight into electricity.
31. The price reduction of crystalline films has prevented thin films from gaining market share.
32. In the last three years, First Solar's share price has increased more than Standard & Poor's clean energy index.
33. First Solar is not yet listed on the S&P 500.

Questions 34-40

### Instructions to follow

- Complete the summary below.
- Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the text for each answer.

Based on its contract with China, it seems probable that First Solar will 34..... further. However, it does face competition from several sources. First, there are a number of 35..... using the potentially 36..... CIGS production process. In addition, 37..... power, though perhaps not as 38..... as the alternatives is still the

cheapest. And despite a narrowing <sup>39</sup>..... solar's biggest competitor is still

<sup>40</sup>.....