English ECAT Pre Engineering Chapter 8 Comprehension Online Test

Sr	Questions	Answers Choice
1	Paul's wife knows Paul loves to read cookbooks. She decides to get him one for his birthday. Paul tells her he will try to make a new recipe for three days in a row. On Monday, Paul makes blueberry pancakes for breakfast. He gets the blueberries from the farmers' market. On Tuesday, Paul makes beef soup for dinner. He puts in cubes of beef, carrots, and onions. The recipe calls for cream, but Paul does not cream. He uses water instead. On Wednesday, Paul makes a tomato salad with cucumbers and onions. He picks the cucumbers and tomatoes from his garden. He likes this dish best. It was also the easiest for him to make. Which ingredients does Paul use to make beef soup? I Onions II Potatoes III cucumber	A. I only B. I and II C. II and III D. I, II and III
2	On January 3, 1961, nine days after Christmas, Richard Legg, John Byrnes, and Richard McKinley were killed in a remote desert in eastern Idaho. Their deaths occurred when a nuclear reactor exploded at a top-secret base in the National Reactor Testing Station (NRTS). Official reports state that the explosion and subsequent reactor meltdown resulted from the improper retraction of the control rod. When questioned about the events that occurred there, officials were very reticent. The whole affair, in fact, was discussed much, and seemed to disappear with time. In order to grasp the mysterious nature of the NRTS catastrophe, it help to know a bit about how nuclear reactors work. After all, the generation of nuclear energy may strike many as an esoteric process. However, given its relative simplicity, the way in which the NRTS reactor functions is widely comprehensible. In this particular kind of reactor, a cluster of nine-ton uranium fuel rods are positioned lengthwise around a central control rod. The reaction begins with the slow removal of the control ro, which starts a controlled nuclear reaction and begins to heat the water in the reactor. This heat generates steam, which builds pressure inside the tank. As pressure builds, the steam looks for a place to escape. The only place this steam is able to escape is through the turbine. As it passes through the turbine on its way out of the tank, it turns the giant fan blades and produces energy. On the morning of January 3, after the machine had been shut down for the holidays, the three men arrived at the station to restart the reactor. The control rod needed to be pulled out only four inches to be reconnected to the automated driver. However, records indicate that Byrnes yanked it out 23 inches, over five times the distance necessary. In milliseconds the reactor exploded. Legg was impaled on the ceiling; he would be discovered last. It took one week and a lead-shielded crane to remove his body. Even in full protective gear, workers were only able to work a minute at a time. The three men are buried in lead-lined coffins under concrete in New York, Michigan, and Arlington Cemetery, Virginia. The investigation took nearly two years to complete. Did Byrnes have a dark motive? Or was it simply an accident? Did he know how precarious the procedure was? Other operators were questioned as to whether they knew the consequences of pulling the control rod out so far. They responded "Of course! We often talked about what we would do if we were at a radar station and the Russians came. "We'd yank it out." Official reports are oddly ambiguous, but what they do not explain, gossip does. Rumors had it that there was tension between the men because Byrnes suspected the other two of being involved with his young wife. There is little doubt than he, like the other operators, knew exactly what would happen when he yanked the control rod. Based on information in the final paragraph, which of the following statements would the author likely agree with?	A. Official reports about the disaster were detailed and conclusive B. Leg, Byrnes, and McKinely were best friends C. Byrnes deliberately yanked the control rod D. Rumors about the disaster are dubious and uninteresting

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A. Vague
B. Disturbing
C. Detailed
D. Strange

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As used in paragraph 5, which is the best synonym for ambiguous?

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A. Neutral
B. Dejected
C. Sarcastic
D. Ominous

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The tone of the author can best be described as

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A. Slow
B. Difficult
C. Risky
D. Involved

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As used in paragraph 4, which is the best synonym for precarious?

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Which of the following literary techniques does the author use in the passage?

I hyperbole, characterized by the use of exaggeration for effect

II foreshadowing, characterized by the use of hints that depict future events in the narrative or story

III flashback, characterized by the description of a scene set in a time earlier than the main story

6

A. I only
B. I and II only
C. II and III only
D. I, II and III

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A. Not mentioned in any official about the incident
B. Contaminated with toxic elements
C. Completely annihilated
D. Honored as a memorial to the tragic incident

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Based on information in the passage, it can be inferred that, after the explosion and subsequent meltdown, the reactor was

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A. The turning of the turbine blades
B. The escape of pressurized steam
C. He removal of the control rod
D. The positioning of the uranium fuel rods

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According to the paragraph 2, which of the following is directly responsible for energy production?

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As used in paragraph 2, which is the best definition for esoteric?

A. Risky or dangerous
B. Highly scientific
C. Kept secret
D. Understood by few

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As used In paragraph 1, which is the best antonym for reticent?

A. Nosy
B. Talkative
C. Reserved
D. Concerned