

Cambridge English Advanced: Reading and Use of English part 6

What is reading part 6?

The task is called cross-text multiple matching. Basically, you have 4 short texts on a related topic and 4 questions. You need to read the four texts to identify the writers' opinions and attitudes and match the text/writer that agrees or disagrees with the opinion or attitude stated in the question. You should spend no more than 11 minutes on this task.

What kind of questions are you asked?

The questions can ask you to find the writer who has a different opinion from the others or find the writer who agrees or disagrees with another writer.

These are examples of questions:

Which article:

- a. differs from the others with regards to the threat to the baby's health?
- b. shares the same attitude to the mother as article B?
- c. shares article B's view that the mother was not entirely responsible for her actions?
- d. shares article C's attitude towards the baby's rescue?

https://www.examenglish.com/CAE/cae_reading_use_of_english6.htm

What strategy should you use?

The first thing you should do is underline the key information in each question as follows:

Which article:

- a. differs from the others with regards to the threat to the baby's health?
- b. shares the same attitude to the mother as article B?
- c. shares article B's view that the mother was not entirely responsible for her actions?
- d. shares article C's attitude towards the baby's rescue?

https://www.examenglish.com/CAE/cae_reading_use_of_english6.htm

Tip: As you are preparing for the exam, it helps to use different colours for each question as you will need to do a lot of underlining and that way it'll be clearer which part of the text corresponds with which question.

In the sample questions above, what is in colour and bold is the information you need to find for each corresponding writer first. Then you need to read across the texts to find the writer who agrees or disagrees with the statement.

I personally don't think you need to read everything once to get the general idea. You shouldn't spend more than 11 minutes on this part, so it is best to quickly get to it. However, there are various strategies out there. You might want to give them a try and see which one works best for you.

Ok now, let's have a look at the texts (on pages 5 and 6 or use the other link to download the texts only). Have a look at the instructions. You can choose the same text more than once. It is important to remember because sometimes students get a bit nervous if they give the same answer twice.

Let's begin with question a). Scroll down to the texts. We need to find what each writer thought about **the threat of the baby's health**:

a) differs from the others with regards to the threat to the baby's health?

Article A: **The child was already undernourished, and dehydration would have taken effect and the baby would not have survived the day.**

Article B: **In the searing heat, the baby had little chance of survival,**

Article C: **it is believed the week-old boy would have died had he not been found.**

Article D: **The baby was taken to hospital in a stable condition, thanks, in part, to the fact that newborn babies have reserves of fluids and body sugars which they can resort to as they adapt to the new way of feeding.**

Articles A, B and C all agree that because of the weather, the baby would have died had he not been found. Article D says that actually the baby was

ok and had enough fluids and body sugars to help him survive. **The different opinion is therefore D.**

Now let's move on to question b). We have to find what the **attitude to the mother** is in article B and then find the article that agrees with it:

b) shares the same attitude to the mother as article B?

Article B: the mother must have been aware of this as she callously shoved him through the tiny gap, dropped him into the darkness and left him to his fate.

Article A: with attempted murder after dumping her newborn baby into a drain

Article C: suggests an element of shame or possible mental illness

Article D: She must be feeling enormously distressed if she feels that this is the only course of action available to her.

Articles C and D: both suggests that the mother must have had distressing reasons for abandoning her child like this.

Article A echoes article's B attitude towards the mother which is less forgiving than C and D. The words 'dumping', 'callously', 'shoved him' 'dropped him into darkness' and 'left him to his fate' all have negative connotations.

Let's have a look at question c). As in the previous question, we need to find what article B says about **the level of responsibility from the mother**. Once the information is found, we need to find the text that uses the same argument as B:

c) shares article B's view that the mother was not entirely responsible for her actions?

Article B: Meanwhile pregnant women are shuffled through the system, rarely seeing the same caregiver twice. This model of care treats the pregnancy, but ignores the patient, and it is this ill-equipped, indifferent system that makes a crime this one possible.

Article A: doesn't mention anything on this topic.

Article C: **which was not heeded by pre- and post-natal health providers.**

Article D: **We can give her the help and support that she needs.**

Article B states that because of a system where a pregnant woman does not see the same medical staff throughout her pregnancy, it is easy for a depressed mother not to be detected ('ignores', 'indifferent').

Similarly, Article C blames the health system for a lack of support ('which was not heeded'). So, the correct answer is **Article C**.

Finally, let's look at question d. Here again we need to find another text that agrees with the attitude found in article C about **the baby's rescue**:

d) **shares** article **C**'s attitude towards **the baby's rescue**?

Article C: **when, by a stroke of luck, cyclists caught the faint sound of his muffled cries above the heavy noise of motorway traffic.**

Article A: **The newborn baby was discovered by passing cyclists Mr Otte, who discovered the baby and only cycles the route once a month.**

Both articles mention that luck is the factor attributed to the baby's rescue.

There is not really a mention of the topic in article B and D states that **'Graham Bridges, who was among the people who helped rescue the baby, walked the bike track regularly and said it was usually very popular with riders on a Sunday morning.'** Article D says that the bike track is used by riders on Sundays but does not mention anything about it being lucky that the baby was found as stated in article C. The correct answer is **Article A**.

You are going to read four news reports about an abandoned baby. For questions 1 – 4, choose from the reviews A – D. The reviews may be chosen more than once.

Article A

It has been alleged that the mother charged **with attempted murder after dumping her newborn baby into a drain** has admitted to abandoning the baby boy. The woman remains in custody after bail was formally refused at Blacktown Local Court .

The newborn baby was discovered by passing cyclists on a day when temperatures surpassed 40 degrees Celsius. **Mr Otte, who discovered the baby and only cycles the route once a month**, said, 'That baby had no chance if we and the other people hadn't been there. Something made us find that baby today'.

The child was already undernourished, and dehydration would have taken effect and the baby would not have survived the day.

Passersby outside court cried 'shame' as the accused woman's relatives crossed the street in Blacktown.

Article B

A woman has been charged with the attempted murder of her newborn son, who was left in a drain on Tuesday before being discovered the following Sunday. The incident has shocked us all. **In the searing heat, the baby had little chance of survival**, and **the mother must have been aware of this as she callously shoved him through the tiny gap, dropped him into the darkness and left him to his fate**. But although crimes like this are a rarity, they don't happen in isolation. Australia criminalises child abandonment, thus making it nigh on impossible for a depressed mother to give up her infant without causing it harm. **Meanwhile pregnant women are shuffled through the system, rarely seeing the same caregiver twice. This model of care treats the pregnancy, but ignores the patient, and it is this ill-equipped, indifferent system that makes a crime this one possible.**

Article C

A mother has been charged with attempted murder after she allegedly abandoned her newborn son in a roadside drain, police confirmed today. The baby had been alone in the deep drain for five days **when, by a stroke of luck, cyclists caught the faint sound of his muffled cries above the heavy noise of motorway traffic**. Sweltering temperatures in Sydney have settled around 30C over the past week and **it is believed the week-old boy would have died had he not been found**. Karen Healy, National President of the Australian Association of Social said that this was a highly unusual case, as parents who abandon their children tend to do so in

high-traffic areas like churches or hospitals where the child will be taken care of. This scenario, in which the mother clearly wanted the baby to be hidden and it was only by the grace of God that the infant survived, **suggests an element of shame or possible mental illness which was not heeded by pre- and post-natal health providers.** The 30-year-old mother is currently receiving therapy while she remains in police custody.

Article D

A newborn baby boy has been rescued from an eight-foot drain beside a bike track in Australia after passing cyclists heard the sounds of wailing. **Graham Bridges, who was among the people who helped rescue the baby, walked the bike track regularly and said it was usually very popular with riders on a Sunday morning.** Inspector David Lagats said 'We all thought the worst but he's still alive. It was a long drop down, but he's wrapped up pretty well, so that will have cushioned his fall.' The concrete moulding of the drain formed a layer of insulation which protected the baby from the weather, which, during the week, reached temperatures of thirty degrees. **The baby was taken to hospital in a stable condition, thanks, in part, to the fact that newborn babies have reserves of fluids and body sugars which they can resort to as they adapt to the new way of feeding.** Lisa Charet, from the state department of family and community services said she was concerned for the mother's welfare. **"We can give her the help and support that she needs. She must be feeling enormously distressed if she feels that this is the only course of action available to her."**

https://www.examenglish.com/CAE/cae_reading_use_of_english6.htm