



IELTS READING/Writing MATERIAL 9-12-2018

By Rojhano

Section One

Vocabulary

➤ Match the correct word in column A with the definition in column B, then use in a sample sentence

Column A	Column B
VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
1. Axiom (Noun)	A. To cause to move back and forth. To influence someone.
2. Empirical (Adjective)	B. To work hard or make a great effort to achieve something.
3. Unveil (Verb)	C. To read all the time to make the time pass quicker.
4. Sway (Verb)	D. A short saying expressing a general truth or rule of conduct that is widely accepted on its own merits.
5. Strive (Verb)	E. A statement that everyone believes is true.
6. Denote (Verb)	F. To detect, perceive or distinguish the difference between.
7. Maxim (Noun)	G. Based on, concerned with, or verifiable by observation or experience rather than theory or pure logic.
8. Discern (Verb)	H. To uncover something in order to make it visible.
9. Read Away (Phrasal Verb)	I. To draw attention to something or to show what it means. To indicate, to point out something.

Section Two

Reading Comprehension and Pronunciation skills.

Evaluation Criteria: Ability to effectively read and comprehend written English in a social or business environment.

ARTICLE A

What are Principles and Why Are they Important? How to Understand Practical and Moral Principles

- Principles are, in a broad sense, simply rule-sets which we follow. Below we will discuss the importance of different types of principles. Although they are often discussed in teaching, morality, economics, politics, or science. We won't be limiting ourselves to one field. Instead, we will discuss principles as broadly as possible.



This is a practical, moral field guide that covers the theory of principles in Natural Philosophy which contains physics (here understood as all physical things, not Newton's physics) and logic (pure reason like the pure practical reason of mathematics and theoretical physics), and Moral Philosophy contains ethics (like a lawyer's rule-set) and metaphysics (the potentially unprovable pure morals behind the lawyer's rules; pure philosophy).

Question: What is this passage about?

2. From this perspective:

Principles are the fundamental underlying truths and beliefs that form the foundation of our knowledge and values and guide our action. Everything can be reduced to a set of principles or rules or official and unofficial laws or guidelines.

Principles are rule-sets, guidelines, or theories that include everything from Newton's laws of physics to the basic rules one can construct based on the classical virtues. They include **axioms**, **maxims**, morals, concepts, laws, official policies, the ideals policies are based on, the ideals groups share, and even to the underlying physical principles of the universe.

Question: How does this passage define principles?



- For some purposes we may define principles more specifically, but for metaphysical and practical purposes, we don't want to get overly concerned with the semantics of things like "the difference between values and principles." That is another sort of subject within this realm of "the personal and shared codes that inform actions" we are discussing.

When we use the term principles broadly, we only mean to imply tangible blips people can check their actions against before they act. With this in mind, I think "official and unofficial rule-sets" is a good semantic placeholder.

Question: Can we say principles are rule-sets?

- Ideally, one's core beliefs are based on well justified philosophical theories and moral principles. This saves much flailing around in the dark. Acting without principles is as random as trying to do mathematics without any formal training. However, principles themselves don't **denote** correctness and that should be noted.

Think of it this way, if we consider there to be four spheres of human understanding noted above: physical (**empirical**), logical (reason), ethical (morals in-action), and metaphysical (pure metaphysic morals) then principles are the underlying rule-sets of each type, official or not, implicit or explicit.

Question: Can you explain the given example about mathematics?

- Once a person has confirmed a good set of principles with the help of accumulated knowledge, and a good order for those principles they will have the equivalent of a masters' guide to life. Given our resources, we can stand on the shoulders' of giants with the winds of history at our back. We should have a series of first principles to check a series of second principles against and then a third. In doing this, we can **unveil** answers to questions that would be obscured to a less principled explorer.

Question: What does it mean by first, second and third principles?

- Here principle speaks to willpower and critical thinking, as a certain amount of willpower and thought is needed to adhere strictly to one's principles. A good set of principles should be positive and easy to follow as it is a joy to "life well." Even less-than-ideal principles and values offer a direction and a rule-set as guidance. Thus, willpower and structure combines with common ideals to **strive** toward and band together around as collectives.

Combining principles, reason, and willpower can give you masterful insight into both new and old subjects and moral as well as practical ones. Ideally, we can weed out weakly justified pseudo- philosophy, but there is no accounting for tastes so we have a conversation about judgment calls and justice.

Question: What is the relationship between Principles, reason and willpower?

Article B

The Importance of Principles

By Katie Herche

- During my first year at Las Positas Junior College I decided to take an economics course. The class was microeconomics, and my professor was a well-educated woman who earned her Ph.D. at Berkeley. Because I had debated in high school, I already knew that economists had differing views and that many theories were widely debated. Understanding this, I approached my professor. My question was simple: I wanted to know which school of thought she subscribed to and would be teaching from. Her answer surprised me. "This is an introductory class" she said, "and all economists agree on the basics."





Without questioning her answer, I took my seat and proceeded to listen to the first lecture. She covered the “10 Principles of Economics”—these were the basic, fundamental principles that guided all economic thought and on which there was no disagreement. As she started to explain number 8, governments can help the economy, I smiled to myself. No disagreement on the basics? I disagree.

Question: What is this passage about?

2. Principles Set the Foundation

Our understanding of the world around us (whether it is with regard to economics or anything else) is largely shaped by the core principles which we have accepted. Principles recognize what is true and help us apply truth to new or unknown situations. When my professor taught us the principles of economics, she hoped to give us a foundation for interpreting all the future information we would be receiving. The principles provided would help guide us in **discerning** which economic policies would be successful and which wouldn't. If we ever faced a proposal or idea that contradicted one of these principles, that would be a flag to us that the proposal was flawed.

Question: Define the meaning of Principles according to this passage.

3. That is how principles should work—principles are sets of uncompromising truths that provide us with tools for evaluating thought and action. Principles, because they are based on truth, are universal and can be applied without exceptions. A good set of principles will enable us to make decisions very quickly; even if the situation we are facing is completely new.

It's a lot like learning how to read. Some of us were taught how to read by memorizing words. Once we have memorized a good number of words, we can **read away** happily, until we come across an unknown word. We don't know what to do with it. We've never seen it before, and have no tools for discovering its meaning. On the other hand, some are taught to read by phonetics. You learn the alphabet and the sounds each letter makes. By itself, this information seems useless—but when you sit down to read, you can slowly sound out each word. You may have never seen the word before, yet the foundation you were given enables you to move forward, with great accuracy.

Questions:

1. How should principles work?
2. What's your understanding of this passage?

4. Conclusion

Solid principles can help in all aspects of life. Principles can be found in the areas of family, friendships, relationships, and business. Principles also can be found in studies like economics, government, psychology, and communication. Not all principles, however, are correct. Unlike what my professor would have me believe, these basics are debated. In fact, these “basic” principles are the most debated. Principles provide the foundation for all other conclusions we reach. Thus, they are most important. We should not take this concept lightly. By accepting a flawed set of principles, we will reach flawed conclusions. And having no principles to guide us will leave us vulnerable to be **swayed** by popular opinion—unable to make consistent or wise decisions, especially in the face of new difficulties or questions.

Unfortunately, as important as they are, we often do not take much care in forming our guiding principles. But it is essential that we build a set of principles that are solid and true, in every aspect of life. Only then will we be able to **discern** what to do in a struggling relationship, how to handle trials at work, and what government and economic policies should be passed next.

Question: Why having principles can help us in different aspects of life?