

Toefl iBT Practice Test TPO 8 Reading Section 1

No. of Questions: 14

Time: 20 minutes

Begin Test

Set the timer to "20:00" before doing the test.

If you cannot see the timer or if you cannot set the timer, you'll need to install flash player. Click [here](#) to download and install adobe flash player.

The Rise of Teotihuac" çn

The city of Teotihuac" çn which lay about 50 kilometers north east of modern-day Mexico City, began its growth by 200 -100 B.C. At its height, between about AD. 150 and 700, it probably had a population of more than 125,000 people and covered at least 20 square kilometers. It had over 2,000 apartment complexes, a great market, a large number of industrial workshops, an administrative center, a number of massive religious edifices, and a regular grid pattern of streets and buildings. Clearly, much planning and central control were involved in the expansion and ordering of this great metropolis. Moreover, the city had economic and perhaps religious contacts with most parts of Mesoamerica (modern Central America and Mexico).

How did this tremendous development take place, and why did it happen in the Teotihuac" çn Valley? Among the main factors are Teotihuac" çn's geographical location on a major trade route to the south and east of the Valley of Mexico, the obsidian resources in the Teotihuac" çn Valley itself, and the valley's potential for extensive irrigation. The exact role of other factors is much more difficult to pinpoint; for instance, Teotihuac" çn's religious significance as a shrine, the historical situation in and around the Valley of Mexico toward the end of the first millennium B.C., the ingenuity and foresightedness of Teotihuac" çn's elite and finally, the impact of natural disasters such as the volcanic eruptions of the late first millennium B.C.

This last factor is at least circumstantially implicated in Teotihuac" çn's rise. Prior to 200 B.C., a number of relatively small centers coexisted in and near the Valley of Mexico. Around this time, the largest of these centers, Cuicuilco, was seriously affected by a volcanic eruption, with much of its agricultural land covered by lava. With Cuicuilco eliminated as a potential rival, any one of a number of relatively modest towns might have emerged as a leading economic and political power in Central Mexico. The archaeological evidence clearly indicates, though, that Teotihuac" çn was the center that did arise as the predominant force in the area by the first century AD.

Question 1 of 14

The word **【massive】** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- ancient
- carefully planned
- very large
- carefully protected

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Question 2 of 14

In paragraph 1, each of the following is mentioned as a feature of the city of Teotihuacán between AD 150 and 700 EXCEPT

- regularly arranged streets
- several administrative centers spread across the city
- many manufacturing workshops
- apartment complexes

Paragraph 1 is marked with ◆

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Question 3 of 14

The word **【pinpoint】** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- identify precisely
- make an argument for
- describe
- understand

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Question 4 of 14

The word **【ingenuity】** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- ambition
- sincerity
- faith
- cleverness

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Which of the following is NOT mentioned in paragraph 2 as a main factor in the development of Teotihuacán?

- The presence of obsidian in the Teotihuacán Valley
- The potential for extensive irrigation of Teotihuacán Valley lands
- A long period of volcanic inactivity in the Teotihuacán Valley
- Teotihuacán's location on a natural trade route

Paragraph 2 is marked with 

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Which of the following can be inferred from paragraphs 2 and 3 about the volcanic eruptions of the late first millennium B.C.?

- They were more frequent than historians once thought.
- They may have done more damage to Teotihuacán than to neighboring centers.
- They may have played a major role in the rise of Teotihuacán
- They increased the need for extensive irrigation in the Teotihuacán Valley.

Paragraph 2 and 3 are marked with 

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What can be inferred from paragraph 3 about Cuicuilco prior to 200 B.C.?

- It was a fairly small city until that date
- It was located outside the Valley of Mexico.
- It emerged rapidly as an economical and political center.
- Its economy relied heavily on agriculture.

Paragraph 3 is marked with 

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Question 8 of 14

The word **【predominant】** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- most aggressive
- most productive
- principal
- earliest

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Which of the following allowed Teotihuacán to have **【a competitive edge over its neighbors】** ?

- A well-exploited and readily available commodity
- The presence of a highly stable elite class
- Knowledge derived directly from the Olmecs about the art of toolmaking
- Scarce natural resources in nearby areas such as those located in what are now the Guatemalan and Mexican highlands

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