• The nature and aim of archaeology

• A commonly drawn distinction is between prehistory, i.e. the period before written records---- and history, in the narrow sense, meaning the study of the past using written evidence. To archaeology, which studies all culture and periods, whether with or without writing, the distinction between history and pre-history is a convenient dividing line that

- recognizes the importance of written word, but in no way lessen the importance of useful information contained in oral histories.
- Since the aim of archaeology is the understanding of humankind, it is a humanistic study, and since it deals with the human past, it is a historical discipline. But it differs from the study of written history in a fundamental way. The material the

• pass judgment. The objects the archaeologists discover, on the other hand, tell us nothing directly in themselves. In this respect, the practice of archaeologist is rather like that of the scientist, who collects data, conducts experiments, formulates a hypothesis, tests the hypothesis against more data, and then, in conclusion, devises a model thatto summarize the pattern observed in the data

- Questions 24-27
- Complete the summary of the last two paragraphs, and choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the Reading Passage 2

 Much of the work of archaeologists can be done using written records but they find _24__ equally valuable. The writer describes archaeology as both a _25_and a _26__. However, as archaeologists do not try to influence human behavior, the writer compares their style of working to that of a _27___

• Obtaining linguistic data

• A representative sample of the language, complied for the purpose of linguistic analysis, is known as a *corpus*. A corpus enables the linguist to make unbiased statement about frequency of usage, and it provides accessible data for the use of different researchers. Its range and size are variable. Some corpora attempt to cover the language as a whole, taking extracts from many kinds of text; others are extremely selective, providing a collection of material that deals only with a particular linguistic feature. The size of the corpus depends on practical factors, such as the time available to collect process and store the data: it can take up to several hours to provide an accurate transcription of a few minutes of speech. Sometimes a small sample of data will be enough to decide a linguistic hypothesis; by contrast, corpora in major research projects can total millions of words. An important principle is that all corpora, whatever their size, are inevitably limited in their coverage, and always need to be supplemented by data derived from the intuitions of native speakers of the language, through either introspection or experimentation.

- Questions 37-40
- Complete the summary of paragraph G below.
- Choose NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS from the passage for each answer

A linguist can use a corpus to comment objectively on 37____. Some corpora include a wide range of language while others are used to focus on a 38_____. The length of time the process takes will affect the 39_____ of the corpus. No corpus can ever cover the whole language so linguists often find themselves relying on the additional information that can be gained from the 40______ of those who speak the language concerned.