Державна підсумкова атестація
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9 Збірник завдань
Для державної підсумкової атестації
Англійська мова
2021
З аудіоосупроводом
ЗБІРНИК ЗАВДАНЬ ДЛЯ ДЕРЖАВНОЇ ПІДСУМКОВОЇ АТЕСТАЦІЇ З АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ

Навчальний посібник для 9 класу
2-ге видання

Схвалено для використання у загальноосвітніх навчальних закладах

КИЇВ «ГЕНЕЗА» 2020
Схвалено для використання у загальноосвітніх навчальних закладах комісією іноземних мов Науково-методичної ради з питань освіти Міністерства освіти і науки України (лист ІМЗО від 19.04.2019 № 22.1/12-Г-228)
ПОЯСНЮВАЛЬНА ЗАПИСКА

Матеріали для державної підсумкової атестації з англійської мови у 9 класі складено відповідно до чинної Програми закладів загальної середньої освіти з іноzemних мов, затвердженої Міністерством освіти і науки України.

Зміст і формат іспиту враховує головну мету навчання іноzemної мови – формування в учнів комунікативної компетенції, базою для якої слугують комунікативні вміння, сформовані на основі мовних знань та навичок.

Об'єктом контролю визначаються аудіовідомлення, читання, а також лексичний і граматичний аспект інтерактивної комунікації (використання мови). При цьому потрібно дотримуватися відповідності завдань рівням, зазначеним у державних стандартах та навчальних програмах: для закладів загальної середньої освіти – рівень А2+, для спеціалізованих шкіл з поглибленням вивченням іноземних мов – рівень В1. Зміст текстових завдань базується на аутентичних зразках мовлення, прийнятих в англомовних країнах, та відповідає сферам і тематичні ситуаційному спілкуванні, зазначеному у шкільній навчальній програмі.

Перше завдання – визначення рівня сформованості компетенції в читанні. Тексти для ознайомлювального читання можуть містити незнайомі слова – до 5%, а для вивчаального читання – до 3%, про зображення яких можна здогадатися з контексту, за словотворчими елементами, за співвідношенням з рідною мовою (слова-інтернаціоналізми). Джерелами для добору текстів слугують інформаційно-довідкові, рекламні, газетно-журнальні матеріали, уривки з художніх творів.


Мета слухання тексту та виконання після текстового завдання (аудіовідомлення) – виявити рівень сформованості учнів розуміння прослуханої інформації у визначений проміжок часу, якщо мовлення чітке і повільне. Типи аудіотекстів: записаний текст (наприклад, фрагмент радіо- і телепrogram), пояснення (наприклад, прогноз погоди), опис (наприклад, зовнішнє інтер'єру), телефонні переписи тощо тривалістю 1–2 хвилини для закладів загальної середньої освіти та 3–4 хвилин для спеціалізованих шкіл з поглибленням вивченням іноземних мов. Текстові формати для слухання стосуються уроків іноземної мови, відповідно до вікових особливостей та інтересам учнів 9 класів. Прослуховування відбувається двічі, після чого виконується післятекстове завдання. За умови, коли у школі немає технічної можливості для відтворення аудіофайла, учителя озвучує текст самостійно. Форми завдання: завдання з вибором відповіді правильно/неправильно, множинний вибір з декількома варіантами відповідей. Тексті з аудіовідомлень завдання до них розміщені в кінці посібника. Посилення до текстів для аудіовідомлень з аудіосупроводом – на сторінці 79.

Посібник «Збірник завдань для державної підсумкової атестації з англійської мови. 9 клас» містить 30 варіантів екзаменуєнних балетів із завданнями для контролю читання та використання мови й 9 варіантів текстів для аудіовідомлення з аудіосупроводом у виконанні носіїв англійської мови.

Кількість балетів добирає учитель відповідно до кількості учасників у класі. Завдання учні виконують на аркушах зі штампом відповідного закладу загальної середньої освіти.
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EXAM CARD # 1

1. Read the text, for questions 1–6 choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Are you able to take a holiday from your wireless device?

A growing number of hotels will help you to find out. Some hotels are offering “extras,” like food and underwater diving, to people who agree to give up their mobile phones for a few hours. Other hotels have phone-free hours in their swimming areas. A few are even banning electronic devices from public places altogether.

Hotels that limit mobile phone use risk losing publicity on social media services such as Instagram or Facebook. But they say their policies reflect their aim of promoting good health, fun and recreation. And, they hope that hotel guests will enjoy their experience and return for future visits.

The fact that people cannot disconnect is a serious issue. Half of mobile phone users spend between three and seven hours a day on their devices. A study by the non-profit group Common Sense Media found that 69 percent of parents and 78 percent of young people said they used their devices at least hourly. A hotel company found that the average guest was bringing three devices and activating them once every 12 minutes – or about 80 times a day.

Last October, resorts began offering ‘rewards’ to guests who agreed to put away their phones for a few hours. In exchange for leaving the phone in a soft, protected pocket, guests get good seating by swimming pools, free food and even chances to win return visits. The devices stay with the guests, but only hotel employees can open the secure pocket.

It was reported last week that 250 people have taken part in the program at Wyndham resort hotels in Florida and Texas. The resorts offered to cut the cost of a hotel stay by five percent if guests put their phones in a timed lockbox. The hotels provide treats, bedtime books and instant cameras for adults and children who are not sure what to do with all their newfound free time.

However, not all holiday makers want to be separated from their devices. Phones can serve as cameras, music players, travel guides and e-readers. They also might be needed in an emergency.

1. What problem can hotels face because of advising their customers to use their devices less?
   A. Customers will not know what to do with their free time.
   B. Customers will not have ‘extras’ for following the rules.
   C. Customers will not be healthy.
   D. Customers will not post photos of their holidays in social media.

2. According to the text which one is true?
   A. The use of mobile devices is not a problem for most people.
   B. People spend little time using devices.
   C. The use of devices is a real problem for a lot of people.
   D. People do not take their devices on holiday.

3. What did a study show about the use of devices by young people?
   A. They used devices less than an hour a day.
   B. Most young people did not use their devices so often.
   C. Using devices was the least favourite activity for most young people.
   D. Most young people used their devices every hour.

4. What fact did a hotel company find out about their customers?
   A. It was common for their visitors to bring more than two devices.
   B. Their visitors did not turn on their devices more than seventy times a day.
   C. Very few visitors used their devices every twelve minutes.
   D. Visitors used hotel mobile devices about eighty times a day.
5. What made last October special in some of the resorts?
   A. They started asking their guests to keep their mobile phones away all day.
   B. The resorts started offering mobile phones as prizes for their guests.
   C. Hotel workers started putting their mobile phones in their pockets.
   D. The resorts started making special offers to guests for not using their mobile phones.

6. What special offer did the hotels in two American states make to their customers?
   A. They provided entertainment for children who were without adults.
   B. They offered to reduce the price for living in them if the customers did not use mobile devices.
   C. They offered their customers to use mobile phones as e-readers.
   D. They offered to lock their guests in a special timed box.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

A Fun Solution

One of (1) ______ ways to stop the spread of (2) ______ is to simply wash your hands. Twenty seconds (3) _______ handwashing with soap and water can reduce illnesses and save lives. But many people, (4) __________ children, do not have good handwashing habits. One problem is that children do not wash their hands often enough or long enough. Children (5) ______ think that it is a tiresome thing to do.

To help solve this problem, two entrepreneurs from India (6) ________ a product to turn handwashing into a fun activity. Amanat Anand and Shubham Issar made a device (7) ________ the SoaPen. As the name suggests, the SoaPen is a pen made out of soap. The children draw on their hands with the soap pen and then wash it off. If they (8) ________ enough time washing it off, the colors remain on their hands.

Issar said it ensures that children take (9) ________ time to wash their hands. This may be very helpful in a classroom. A teacher often does not have the time (10) ________ that each child has washed their hands properly.

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1. Read the letter below. For questions (1–7) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Dear Susie,

It was great to hear from you. Thanks a lot for your last letter. I haven’t seen you for ages. I know you were busy a lot with your moving to another town and I hope you’ve managed to settle yourself.

As for me, I’ve spent an awesome time in Italy with my family. We were staying at a guest house enjoying the spectacular view of the Piazza San Marco. Venice looks really special with its narrow canals where a gondola ride has been a tradition for hundreds of years.

We had a chance to visit Vatican City which is home to some of the world’s precious art collections. Moreover, we relaxed at Lake Como. I was greatly impressed by the surrounding mountains, its greenery and the lines of toy-like towns. I’m sure you’ll be inspired by this view to paint your best pictures in your free time.

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is definitely worth visiting. It’s popular with tourists from all over the world. We’ve climbed up the stairs of the tower for a fabulous view over the city. What is more, I can’t mention the Colosseum which is a must see. It remains the largest ancient building ever built by the Romans.

Susie, I sent you the best photos I’ve ever taken. I wish we could come to Italy the next time together. You shouldn’t miss the chance to visit this gorgeous country and to get unforgettable memories of your life.

Hope to hear from you soon!
Best wishes, Adele

1. Adele is writing Susie a letter about ...
   A. her holiday in Vatican
   B. her staying at a guest house
   C. her moving to a new town
   D. her holiday in Italy

2. How does Adele feel about her holidays?
   A. spectacular
   B. impressive
   C. inspired
   D. bored

3. What is special about Venice?
   A. narrow canals
   B. narrow canals with a gondola ride
   C. a traditional gondola ride
   D. old canal rides

4. What was Susie busy with?
   A. with visiting Italy
   B. with spending her time in Vatican
   C. with moving to a new town
   D. with admiring picturesque views

5. Why is the Lake Como so impressive?
   A. There are lots of narrow canals there.
   B. You can admire the greatest art collections there.
   C. There are impressive ancient buildings there.
   D. You can hike in the mountains and enjoy the surrounding view with lots of vegetation.

6. What is Susie’s hobby?
   A. painting
   B. reading
   C. travelling
   D. taking photos
7. What building can you see the fantastic view over the city from?
   A. the Colosseum
   B. the Leaning Tower of Pisa
   C. the Piazza San Marco
   D. the Lake Como

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

   Vienna

   The Austrian capital, Vienna, is (1) ______ its museums, palaces and high standard of living. Last year the city of 2 million people (2) ______ identified as having (3) ______ quality of life. That opinion comes (4) ______ Mercer, a consulting agency that does a yearly Quality of Living Ranking.

   Measuring quality of life is not (5) ______ simple job. Mercer says the agency looks (6) ______ many factors. For example, researchers measure (7) ______ people can use public transport, such as buses and trains. They ask if drivers can move well on the roads. They ask if houses and apartments are available at a good price, and whether children can (8) ______ international schools. They think about whether people in the city can enjoy music, theater, restaurants and sports. And, they look for a healthy political and social climate. In total, the agency (9) ______ 39 factors in 10 areas to name Vienna the winner.

   Vienna (10) ______ number one on other quality of life measurements, such as the Economist’s Global Live ability Index.

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1. Read the text and mark the statements True or False.

Start Young, Stop Sitting

Most of us know that physical activity leads to better health. That is nothing new. But for the first time in 10 years, the United States government has changed its guidance on how much exercise people need to stay healthy and when they should start. Getting the health benefits from exercise may be easier than earlier thought, and they are much greater.

The new federal guidance states that children as young as 3-years-old need to be physically active. Earlier guidelines used to begin at age 6. The most important time for children to begin exercising is between the ages of 3 and 5. Boys and girls in this age group need at least three hours of activities every day. That could be light activities, moderate activities, or even more dynamic activities. This is the kind of play that children normally engage in.

Doctors say it is important to start young. They add that from birth to age 5, a child’s brain develops more than at any other time in life. These developments have a lasting effect on a child’s ability to learn and to succeed in school and in life. Children who start exercising at a young age are more likely to have healthy behaviour that they will continue in their adult life. However, it does not mean a 5-year-old should be put on a ‘treadmill’ or other exercise equipment. But simply giving a child the time and space to play actively as they normally would is enough.

The new guidelines say that children aged 6 through 17 should get at least one hour of moderate to more dynamic activity a day. Most of this activity should be aerobic exercise, such as biking, swimming or running. Aerobic activity can make the heart and lungs stronger by making them work hard for several minutes or more. Exercise should also include muscle- and bone-strengthening activities, such as climbing trees or playground equipment and playing sports. Experts suggest that children should get this kind of exercise at least three times a week.

1. American government has changed their advice on people’s physical activity.
2. In the past the government advised that children should start exercising at the age of three.
3. Young children need at least three hours of exercise a day.
4. According to doctors, people should start exercising at the young age.
5. The human brain develops the most up to the age of five.
6. According to the text, healthy habits are more likely to change as children grow up.
7. Parents should buy exercise equipment for their young children.
8. Children exercise when they play actively.
9. Exercise that makes the heart and lungs work more actively is called aerobic exercise.
10. Climbing trees can make child’s muscles weaker.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Great-Grandmother Proves It Is Never Too Late to Learn

Setsuko Takamizawa wants to prove that it is never too late to learn. At the age of 91, the great-grandmother is learning English (1) ________ the help of her family. She hopes to use the language at next year’s Olympic Games in Tokyo. Takamizawa was one of the more than 200,000
people who asked to volunteer for Tokyo’s 2020 Games. English is not required for service, but it is [2] ______ skill for volunteers to have.

But Takamizawa [3] ______ able to learn the language when she was young. She was in high school when World War Two [4] ______. She says, “In my second year there, English was banned [5] ______ it was the enemy’s language.”

Takamizawa says that her grandchildren persuaded her that she was not too old to learn. Natsuko is Takamizawa’s granddaughter and her main English teacher. Natsuko sends a new English word to her [6] ______ phone every day. They also often work together [7] ______ phrases that Takamizawa will need for the Olympics.

“Welcome to Tokyo, this is the Olympic stadium, how [8] ______ you?” Takamizawa answers when asked to say an English phrase she has learned.

Natsuko [9] ______ that she wanted to give her grandmother something to enjoy. “I can clearly see her English is getting better. It’s my joy now.”

When Japan last held the Summer Olympics in 1964, Takamizawa was too busy to go to any events because she was raising a family. Takamizawa says she never thought the Olympics would happen in Tokyo [10] ______ in her lifetime. “It’s good to live long,” she says.

| 1. A. at | B. about | C. from | D. with |
| 2. A. an helpful | B. a helpful | C. helping | D. helpfull |
| 3. A. has not been | B. had not been | C. not been | D. was not |
| 4. A. start | B. has started | C. starting | D. started |
| 5. A. but | B. because | C. though | D. although |
| 6. A. grandmother’s | B. grandmothers’ | C. grandmother | D. grandmothers |
| 7. A. on | B. about | C. of | D. into |
| 8. A. I can help | B. can help I | C. can I help | D. help I can |
| 9. A. asks | B. tells | C. doubts | D. explains |
| 10. A. only | B. three times | C. once | D. twice |
EXAM CARD # 4

1. Read the advertisement and mark the statements True or False.

Work with Kids

Looking for the job? Feeling bored in summer? So we are the right company for you! If you like working with kids, join our team. We need energetic, active, creative and fun-loving young people aged 21-29 to work at the summer camp near one of the biggest and the most picturesque lakes in our country.

You’ll be provided with
- appropriate salary;
- two weeks training course;
- meals and accommodation.

You’ll be able to
- express your creativity;
- take part in interactive activities;
- go in for sports;
- enjoy watching movies and cartoons;
- make campfires and admire the fantastic view around you.

If you are interested in having fun while working, contact us on the phone (080)3245987

1. If you want to work with children, you should send an application form.
2. 14 days training course will be available for you.
3. The candidates have to be under the age of 30 years old.
4. You shouldn’t be boring, miserable, inactive and slow.
5. You won’t get paid for your job.
6. If you’re a nature-lover, unfortunately you won’t be able to spend much time outdoors.
7. During your summer work, you should forget about watching films.
8. You will never be hungry or homeless.
9. You will deal with fire while working with children.
10. Mostly you’ll be feeling bored at your work and you can get some extra weight as well.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Breakfast is Important!

It is back to school time in much of the world. Calm and easy mornings (1) _______ with busy ones. Children wake up early and get (2) _______ school. Many parents are also getting ready for work, helping their children and preparing food (3) _______.

But don’t forget about breakfast!
When things get (4) ________ busy in the morning, some people skip breakfast (5) _________. However, that may be a big mistake for students. As eating something healthy for breakfast may help a student get better grades.

(6) ________ from Cardiff University in Wales looked at what the students ate for breakfast and then their grades six to 18 months later.

They found that the students (7) ________ ate a healthy breakfast were twice as likely to perform above average in educational activities. The researchers also found those unhealthy breakfasts, such as potato chips or a donut (8) ________ helpful to educational performance.

In 2013, an organization in the United States also looked at possible connections (9) ________ breakfast and student success in school. They found that on average students who ate breakfast provided by their school (10) ________ more days of school per year and scored higher on math tests.
A life in Outer Space Wakes up Body's Defences

Living in outer space for nearly a year had some interesting effects on American astronaut Scott Kelly. Scientists found signs of increased activity in his immune system, (1) __________. Life in space also changed the activity of some of Kelly's genes compared to those of his identical twin brother, who stayed on Earth.

The scientists reported their findings at a conference earlier this month. But they admit (2) _______________. The findings are part of a larger, special study of twins from NASA, the United States government's space agency. The study raises new questions for doctors as agency officials make plans (3) _______________.

Tests of Kelly and his genetically identical brother have given scientists a chance like never before to study details of human biology. They are able to examine how an astronaut's genes turn on and off in space differently than on Earth.

Genetic specialist Christopher Mason helped lead the study. "It's as if the body is reacting to this alien environment," Mason said.

Since the beginning of space exploration, (4) _______________. One effect is bone loss, which results from being in a low-gravity environment over a long period. As a result, astronauts are now required to perform physical exercise during long space flights. Usually astronauts are in space about six months at a time. Kelly, (5) _______________, spent 340 days in space and set a U.S. record.

"I've never felt completely normal in space," Kelly wrote in an email. He noted pain in his head, trouble paying attention, and stomach problems.

It is not a surprise (6) _______________ — it changes in reaction to all kinds of conditions. The good news is most everything returned to normal shortly after Kelly had returned to Earth in March 2016.

In the end, the twin study gives NASA a list of things to watch for on future space missions to see if other astronauts react the same way. Astronauts on future flights will be able to do some of this testing in space instead of freezing blood and other material for scientists back home.

A human mission to Mars, (7) _______________, would take 30 months, including time on the surface. Radiation is a top concern. The trip would expose astronauts to radiation levels higher than NASA's own safety limits. It's just a little bit over. On Earth and even on the space station, Earth's magnetic field protects (8) _______________. There would be no such protections on the way to Mars and back, but special structures could help them on the planet.

A. to send people to the planet Mars
B. NASA has studied its effects on astronauts' bodies
C. the body's natural defences against disease
D. that gene activity would change in space
E. they do not yet know if the changes are good or bad
F. astronauts from high levels of radiation
G. who lived on the International Space Station
H. which NASA hopes to launch in the 2030s
I. were looking for this unusual condition in other astronauts

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

A New Dog Museum for New York

There is a saying in American English: "Every dog has its day." It means that everyone sees success at some point in their lives. At one American museum, though, every dog has its day every day. That museum – the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog – (1) _______ to New York City next month, after operating for 30 years near St. Louis, Missouri.

Visitors (2) _______ the museum will find pictures of royal and presidential dogs. They will also find fossils and other evidence of dog history. People will even be able to try to find out which kind of dog they (3) _______ most and ‘train’ a virtual puppy.

Although there will not be real dogs – (4) _______ for special events – the museum hopes to give visitors “an understanding of the history of dogs, how they came to be in such different varieties,” said Alan Fausel, the (5) _______ director.

Inside the museum there is a library with around 15,000 books from the American Kennel Club (6) _______. Readers will find pictures and information about different kinds of dogs. It also (7) _______ a painting of Caesar, a fox terrier beloved by Britain’s King Edward VII. America’s (8) _______ is represented with former President George W. Bush’s Scottish terrier, Barney, and former President George H.W. Bush’s English Springer spaniel, Millie. Next to a picture of Millie there is a letter (9) _______ by then-first lady Barbara Bush. She wrote, “Dogs have enriched our civilization, and woven themselves into our hearts and families through the ages, and I am delighted to see them acknowledged.”

The kennel club hopes the new museum will see (10) _______ to 100,000 visitors this year.

1. A. return B. is returning C. will be return D. are returning
2. A. into B. of C. for D. with
3. A. look like B. likely C. alike D. look through
4. A. accept B. expect C. apart D. except
5. A. museums B. museums’ C. museum’s D. museums’s
6. A. collection B. collecting C. collects D. collected
7. A. includes B. including C. consists D. belongs
8. A. White Home B. White house C. White House D. Wight House
9. A. written B. wrote C. writted D. writing
10. A. about B. nearly C. almost D. close
1. Read the emails. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

1. Hi, Alice!
   I hope all is well in your new city. Everything here is passing by so quickly, and the summer months are almost gone. It’s only been a little while since you left, but everything feels different. Even though it’s super sad that you don’t live just a bus ride away anymore, I really do hope that your new life is going well.

   Much love, Kate

2. Hi, Anne!
   So, how are you and the family doing? If I remember correctly, Susie is just about to start kindergarten, right? That must be exciting; she was always such a bright girl. And what grade is Jack going into? 7th or 8th?

   Best Wishes, Ben

3. Hi, Tom!
   Listen, we’ve been working on the Smith account and I was wondering if you could give me a hand? I need some inside information on recent developments over there. Do you think you could pass on any information you might have?

   Thanks, Peter

4. Hi, John!
   How are you doing? I hope you’re well. Since we last talked, I started dating someone. It’s been going great. Have you started dating anyone?

   Much love, Erik

5. Hi, Steve!
   How are you doing? I heard you had the flu, and I wanted to see how you’re doing. I hope you’re well now. I’m sorry it’s been so long since we talked. I’ve been really busy. By the way, that game we watched the other week was insane! What do you think about the final goal?

   See you soon, John

Which email mentions ...
A. moving to a new place of living?
B. playing football with friends?
C. some hopes for the recovery from the illness?
D. some interest about children?
E. school studies?
F. a request for help?
G. meetings with a new girlfriend?
H. sad feelings about summer?

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Dream House

Many of us think about our dream home.

When a designer Chris Toledo dreams about his, he (1) ________ his imagination run wild. He wants a Spanish-style house with hand-painted floor tiles, circling staircases and at least 12 bedrooms. That is his dream.
For now, Toledo lives in a small, two-bedroom apartment. But that has not stopped him from building his dream home. It is just a lot... smaller.

Toledo (2) _______ born and raised in southern California. He (3) _______ on his miniature Spanish-style dream home for the past two years.

The beauty of these houses is on the outside. However, it is not easy (4) _______ the inside of these homes. Homeowners protect their mansions with security gates, walls and in some cases armed guards.

But Toledo found a way to get around all that security. He went online and looked at houses for sale (5) _______ websites.

He filled his Spanish-style mini-house with objects true to that style, many of which he made (6) _______. His miniature version is as real as he can (7) _______ it. His small house is (8) _______ real wood.

The house even has electricity. He also made many (9) _______ household objects, like tables and pillows. Some objects he bought and then painted them to fit the house. He even included a copy of a very old oil painting that he found in a book on Spanish design.

The only thing his miniature house (10) _______ is running water; Toledo was afraid it would ruin the building.

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<td>A. is working</td>
<td>B. works</td>
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<td>A. to watch to</td>
<td>B. to look at</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>A. real estate</td>
<td>B. really estate</td>
<td>C. reality estate</td>
<td>D. realized estate</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>A. does not have</td>
<td>B. do not have</td>
<td>C. did not have</td>
<td>D. have not had</td>
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1. Read the text and mark the statements True or False.

Frankenstein Turns 200 Years Old

It has been called the first true work of science fiction and the first English horror novel. The story has been told over and over again – not just in books, but in movies and television shows.

Frankenstein, written by Mary Shelley, turned 200 years old in 2018!

To celebrate, New York City's Morgan Library & Museum has a special exhibit on the writer and the book. Frankenstein, which is a classic of world literature, is still popular two centuries after it first appeared. One reason for the success is that Doctor Frankenstein and his creature, the monster, live on in numerous remakes, shows, comic books, and even comedies. Mary Shelley's classic is one of the most famous horror stories of all time. But Frankenstein is so much more than that. It presents ideas, or themes, that are still important today. It is a story that talks about science, mortality, kindness and compassion as well as evil.

Shelley wrote the book when she was only 18 years old. And it relates to her own life in tragic ways. Her mother died 10 days after she gave birth to her. She knew what it meant to be a child without a mother. It is no surprise that Shelley wrote a story about a motherless creature -- one that is very much alone in the world. You could say that it is a page taken from the book of Shelley's own life. Losing her mother shortly after her birth in 1797 was only part of her life story. Mary Shelley gave birth to four children, but only one child survived to become an adult.

She was still in her twenties when she became a widow. In some ways, it is not surprising that she ended up with a story about a monster without a mother. Critics say the fact that monster is motherless is actually very important. Many people mistakenly call the monster "Frankenstein." Hollywood movie-makers have done well to mix up the two. However, literary experts say the fact that the monster remains nameless is important to the theme of Shelley's book.

After the publication of Frankenstein, Mary Shelley continued to write. She died on February 1, 1851, but her most important legacy, the monster, is still very much alive today.

1. Frankenstein is a novel written by a famous American writer.
2. The fact that the story is used in different ways makes it popular today.
3. The ideas of the story are not as important nowadays.
4. There is no connection between the story and the author's life.
5. The author grew up without a mother.
6. According to the article the monster in the story had friends.
7. Three of Mary Shelly's children died.
8. When Mary Shelly was a little over twenty years old, her husband died.
9. Frankenstein is the name of the monster in the story.
10. Frankenstein was the only novel that Mary Shelly wrote.
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Chinese Anger Rooms

It took Qiu Siyu just (1) ________ swings of a baseball bat to wreck what looked (2) ________ an old car radio. Then her two friends (3) ________ telephones, loud speakers, rice cookers and even a life-like model from a clothing store. All three paid 158 yuan, or about $23, to spend half-an-hour in an “anger room” at a business called Smash in Beijing. It is a place (4) ________ people can take out their anger on everyday objects while listening (5) ________ music they choose.

Smash requires (6) ________ customers to wear protective equipment when they enter the room, armed with a baseball bat or small hand tool. This is to keep them safe from flying pieces.

Qiu, a 16-year-old high school student, said she went there to release her anger about school. “It feels (7) ________ good when I destroy those bottles and watch them explode,” she said, with a smile (8) ________ her face.

Another customer, 32-year-old Liu Chao, looked pleased and at ease after a recent visit to Smash.

“If you (9) ________ money, you can smash anything – smash some TVs, computers, wine bottles, furniture, mannequins...,” said Liu.

Since Smash opened in September, customers have destroyed around 15,000 bottles every month.

It aims to help people deal with the pressures of living in big cities like Beijing. Its target customers are between 20 and 35 years old. Around 600 people (10) ________ Smash each month.

| 1. | A. a | B. a few | C. a little | D. many |
| 2. | A. like | B. after | C. for | D. through |
| 3. | A. destroy | B. destroyed | C. are destroying | D. destroyed |
| 4. | A. which | B. when | C. where | D. what |
| 5. | A. --- | B. with | C. to | D. on |
| 6. | A. its | B. it's | C. is | D. its’ |
| 7. | A. as | B. such a | C. such | D. so |
| 8. | A. on | B. in | C. up | D. at |
| 9. | A. have | B. has | C. had | D. will have |
| 10. | A. visits | B. was visiting | C. visiting | D. visit |
1. Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (1–6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

**Discovered Mayan Artifacts**

Archaeologists have discovered about 200 Mayan artifacts in Mexico that (1) _________________.

The artifacts were found inside a cave in ruins of the ancient Mayan city. Mexico’s National Institute of Anthropology and History announced the discovery during a press conference in Mexico City.

The lead researcher on the project Guillermo de Anda called the cave a ‘scientific treasure.’ He said the artifacts appear to date back to around A.D. 1000. “What we found there was incredible, and completely untouched,” he added.

The findings included bone pieces. In addition, vases, plates and (2) _________________. The cave where the objects were found is part of a cave system (3) _________________. The cave is about three kilometers east of the main pyramid of Kukulkan, which sits at the center of Chichen Itza. The stone city is described by the United Nations as (4) _________________.

De Anda added that his team had explored about 460 meters of the cave, and is unsure how far it stretches. The team plans to continue exploring the cave. Artifacts found will not be removed, but studied inside, he said.

The team accidentally found the artifacts while exploring Chichen Itza in an effort (5) _________________. A series of lakes can be seen on parts of the surface. But the archaeologists are exploring other water sites below pyramids, temples and other buildings.

The cave had been discovered by local people 50 years ago, (6) ________________, de Anda says. He hopes the new discovery will help scientists better understand the history, lives and beliefs of people who lived in Chichen Itza. He says archaeologists believe there may be another undiscovered cave hidden under the pyramid of Kukulkan that could be connected to the latest find.

A. known as Balamku or “Jaguar God”
B. to learn more about its underground water system
C. to find out unusual objects
D. appear to have been untouched for 1000 years
E. other objects were discovered
F. but was not fully explored
G. other animals were discovered
H. one of the greatest Mayan centers of the Yucatan Peninsula

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2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

**Dog Show**

At the Westminster Dog Show in New York, fox terriers (1) ________ to win.

A dog from Brazil, who (2) ________ a big show in Europe, became America's top dog on Tuesday night. The (3) ________ name is King. He is 7 years old.

Fox terriers have won “best in show” 15 times at Westminster, (4) ________ dog competition in the United States. That is far more (5) ________ any other dog breed.

Judge Peter Green pointed to King (6) ________ his victory. Green is a (7) ________ person in the dog world, especially for his work with terriers. He (8) ________ King as the champion at other shows.

Gabriel Rangel is King's trainer. He said the dog looks “like a beautiful painting, a piece of art.”

"The way he stands and performs, he’s the whole package," he added.

King has many qualities that made him a Westminster champion. He has a good coat of fur. He has a beautiful way of walking. And he has a playful (9) ________.

Tuesday night’s victory was (10) ________ «best in show» win for King.

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<td>A. already wins</td>
<td>B. already won</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>A. winner</td>
<td>B. winner’s</td>
<td>C. winners</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>A. the most important</td>
<td>B. more important</td>
<td>C. much important</td>
<td>D. most important</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>A. than</td>
<td>B. as</td>
<td>C. like</td>
<td>D. about</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>A. confirm</td>
<td>B. to confirm</td>
<td>C. to confirming</td>
<td>D. confirms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>A. well-known</td>
<td>B. good-known</td>
<td>C. well-known</td>
<td>D. good-knew</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>A. have chosen</td>
<td>B. was chosen</td>
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<td>D. has chosen</td>
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<td>A. person</td>
<td>B. personality</td>
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<td>A. 47th</td>
<td>B. the 47th</td>
<td>C. 47</td>
<td>D. the 47s</td>
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</table>
1. Read the text and for questions 1–6 choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Feeding Birds

Feeding birds is a popular way to watch wildlife during the winter months. But many bird experts say the experience is often more pleasant for people than for birds. And it might even put wild birds at risk.

"Feeding birds is not necessary for their survival except in extreme weather conditions," said Stephen Kress, a member of the National Audubon Society, an organization whose aim is to protect wildlife. "Feeders can definitely help them get through that kind of weather." Most birds eat insects and show little interest in bird feeders. For those birds, Kress suggests growing native plants in a natural environment.

In addition, birds which eat seeds will come to feeders sooner if there is some cover nearby. This lets them feed and then fly to areas that can protect them, such as in trees. The most common mistake people make with their bird feeders is the wrong place. They put feeders in places where birds are scared by people, cats, or risk flying into windows. You should set up a bird feeder at least one meter away from a window. That way, if a bird gets scared, it won't die when it hits the glass. Also the owners of cats should keep them inside the home so they can't hurt the birds.

Learn which bird species are common to your area so you can avoid feeder wars and understand the social order. Some birds are more aggressive at feeders. They eat a lot and do not leave much food for other birds. A solution is to put the food in more than one place by using different kinds of seeds and feeders.

Pay attention to seed quality and freshness. Unprotected seeds left too long in feeders will turn moldy, and mold can kill wildlife. Refresh your feeders every few days and clean them often. People can feed birds more effectively by using sunflower seeds, as it is the favourite seed of feeder birds. The added value is that it reduces waste seed on the ground.

Bird lovers can increase the number of birds by using different kinds of feeders. For example, some birds, such as doves and towhees, live close to the ground. So they like lower feeders. Other birds like other things. Another word of advice: do not feed wild birds anything salty, like potato chips, or food that could choke them, like plain bread.

Always try to provide clean water, but use care when looking for the right birdbath. Most birdbaths are too deep for birds. Putting a few large stones in the water can give the birds a place to sit.

1. According to bird experts which one is NOT true about bird feeding?
   A. Feeding birds is a better experience for people than birds.
   B. Feeding birds can be risky for people.
   C. Feeding birds is a way for people to watch them in cold months of the year.
   D. Feeding birds can be dangerous for them.

2. When do birds need help with their food?
   A. They never need help, they can find their food themselves.
   B. They need help when the weather is kind to them.
   C. Birds always need help with food from people.
   D. They need help during really difficult weather conditions.

3. Which of the following is good advice according to the text?
   A. It is a good idea to put bird feeders in play grounds where children can enjoy feeding birds.
   B. It is a good idea to put bird feeders on the windows where you can watch the birds.
   C. The ideal place for a bird feeder is where birds can find a place to hide.
   D. Bird feeders can be put up in places where your pets can enjoy watching them during their walk.
4. How does birds’ character affect the way they use the feeders?
   A. Birds fight for food at feeders.
   B. All birds can usually eat enough food at the feeder.
   C. Birds are friendly to each other at feeders.
   D. Birds like the same kinds of food.

5. Which statement includes All the pieces of advice on bird feeder hygiene?
   A. Clean the feeders and keep the seeds fresh.
   B. Use only fresh seeds in your feeders to avoid mold.
   C. Change the food in the feeders regularly, clean them often, use sunflower seeds.
   D. Use sunflower seeds in the feeders to reduce waste on the ground.

6. What is NOT good for wild birds?
   A. Big rocks in the water.
   B. Feeders which are lower.
   C. Different kinds of feeders.
   D. Chips and plain bread.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

What is 5G?

5G stands for fifth generation, meaning the next step in the progression of technology.

(1) _______ the current 4G system. 4G was the replacement for 3G, (2) _______ came after 2G, and so on.

These systems are wireless computer networks.

Earlier “G” systems (3) _______ designed to improve mobile communication operations. Each new technology (4) _______ major improvements in speed and greatly increased network capacity.

The new 5G system promises more of the same. (5) _______ to permit more users to do more things – at a (6) _______ rate. Higher internet speeds and larger network capacity should (7) _______ better performance for device users connected (8) _______ 5G.

However, technology (9) _______ say there is a major way that 5G is different from the earlier systems. It (10) _______ well beyond mobile network technology to affect many more devices and industries than other “G” versions.

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1. Read five texts below. Choose a piece of advice from (A–H) to fit each text (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

**Beauty Advice**

(1) **Sarah:** All the holiday drinking and eating are making me look very tired. It damages my complexion. What would you recommend for my refreshing during the party season?

(2) **Katherine:** I don’t like looking at my legs in the mirror. I think that going to the gym costs a lot and it takes a huge effort to work out. I can’t stand all that sweat involved. What would you advise me to do to solve my problem?

(3) **Alice:** My skin is becoming worse and worse with all those wrinkles on my cheeks and dark spots on my face. Recommend me how to save my skin.

(4) **Josie:** I take care of my body regularly and I’ve already tried lots of beauty therapies which help me in some way. Can you advise me some new methods of how to stop the skin aging?

(5) **Christa:** My long brown hair was always my trademark, but it went grey at 45. For dark brunette like me, it was a disaster. Why should every woman go grey at the certain age?

A. Bee products can help you feel yourself good without going to the gym or using some moisturizing creams.

B. Try a new method of aromatic skincare, the products of which include everything from bath, body and aromatherapy to high-performance skincare.

C. You can leave the problems with your skin in the past after trying a new cream rich in omega-3. This fatty acid helps hydrate your skin and keep it young as long as possible.

D. You should have Botox around your eyes and on your forehead. It will be enough to refresh your look and make you more confident.

E. It’s not necessary for you to torture yourself in the gym with all those sweaty people. To build strong and powerful legs, try a single leg exercise with a power knee lift.

F. The best way for you is to give up smoking. As a result, your skin would be better than it was at your early age.

G. A perfect thing to do is trying a new treatment called “Party Face”, which is provided by Face Gym, a chain of walk-in clinics specializing in face ‘workouts’

H. It’s time for you to admit that you are not a natural brunette any more. A new trend now is white roots, so try to get rid of all the dyeing your hair and accept the idea of your natural look.

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2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

**American Homes**

American homes are a lot (1) __________ America. They are a mix of designs from many countries, all combined together.

For example, a visitor to a neighborhood in (2) __________ United States might see several kinds of colonial (3) __________. Workers began building these houses in the 1600s, (4) __________ Britain ruled the area.
Colonial houses are often box-shaped, two-story houses. They have a front door (5) _______ the middle, and five or seven windows. Both sides of the house are usually the same.

Their original-design (6) _______ ancient Roman and Greek buildings. But over time, Americans (7) _______ design elements from the architectural styles of other countries.

One modern-day colonial home can (8) _______ a tall French-style roof, like the Louvre museum in Paris. Another can have narrow Greek columns near the front door, like the U.S. White House. Another can have long (9) _______ of wood on the outside, like some houses in England during the Middle Ages. Or the same house can have all three!

Jackie Craven is a reporter (10) _______ writes about architecture. She said, “Our homes, like our people, draw from many sources.”

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1. Read the text and mark the statements True or False.

Can City Life Help Some Endangered Animals?

At sunset every day, loud sounds can be heard coming from the sky in an area just east of Los Angeles. The noises are from parrots. The colorful birds have become part of everyday life there. The parrots leave their waste everywhere, but a lot of people have gotten used to the birds. One of the residents says, "They are not quiet at all, but you know, it's something that you listen for. If I didn't hear them every day, I'd know something was really wrong."

Red-crowned parrots are now part of the ecosystem in Southern California. Their ancestors came from Mexico, where the parrots are now endangered. The birds were often killed in their native land. But in the United States, they were sold to people as pets. Some of the parrots escaped or were released by their owners. They have since grown in number in an area with large numbers of people.

But they are not the only "immigrants". Often seen sunbathing near a body of water, red-eared slider turtles are also not native to the U.S. West Coast. They also immigrated to the area as pets. Later, some were released or escaped into the wild. The turtles are native to the central United States. But they have survived in many parts of the country and around the world.

Because of the success of the red-eared slider turtles and red-crowned parrots in the Los Angeles area, scientists are wondering if a city can be a place to help endangered non-native animals.

Work crews have put up major buildings and added different kinds of plants in the areas across Southern California. In many cases, this has led to a less varied wildlife, as the native species had trouble living in the newly created environment. But the other side of that is that some creatures could live successfully there. These artificial habitats could become new homes for birds, insects or other creatures whose native homes are threatened. However, any non-native species that are added would have to be carefully chosen to limit the risk of harm to the existing wildlife population in the city and other areas.

1. You can hear noise from the sky not far from Los Angeles early in the morning.
2. One of the residents in the area says that it would be unusual if he did not hear the parrots.
3. Red-crowned parrots came from Mexico.
4. The parrots used to be pets.
5. Just like parrots the red-eared slider turtles immigrated to the US from a different country.
6. Scientists think that cities can be a good place for some rare species which are not native.
7. Some native species could not live in the newly built areas of the city.
8. Man-made environments in the city can be safe for some insects, birds or animals that are in danger.
9. All non-native species of animals are safe for the native wildlife.
10. The word "immigrants" in the text is used to talk about people from Mexico.
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

**Report Warns Against Selfies with Animals in Amazon**

Visitors to the Amazon rain forest in South America face different rules for how they can interact with wild animals. A new report issued by the animal rights group World Animal Protection says that animals suffer when tourists touch and photograph them in captivity. Animals presented to visitors for photographs (1) ________ often ________ from their natural environments and kept in poor conditions. Besides, animals that are touched and handled by many visitors each day can be harmed and experience stress.

A solution (2) ________ the problem is to better educate travelers, for example, through the Instagram’s new campaign against ‘selfie’ photographs (3) ________ wild animals. Instagram users that search for hashtags such as #slothselfie now see the warning: “You are (4) ________ for a hashtag that may be associated with posts that encourage harmful behaviour to animals or the environment.”

Last year, the travel website TripAdvisor (5) ________ organizing tours in which travelers have physical contact with captive or wild animals. Educating travelers about these issues may change their behaviours, especially among animal lovers (6) ________ may not realise they are harming them by touching (7) ________ photographing. Many national parks in the Brazilian Amazon now have rules for (8) ________ tourists and guides can interact with animals. For example, the Anavilhanas National Park limits contact with the area’s famous freshwater dolphins.

However, some Brazilian officials say that outside organizations should not (9) ________ to tell local tourism organizations how to operate. Brazil is (10) ________ than the mainland United States and the Amazon makes up about 60 percent of Brazil’s territory. It would be impossible to observe and control tourists’ contact with animals across such a large territory.

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Pumpkins Are Good for Your Health

(1) There is one food that takes the center stage during autumn – the pumpkin!
Many people use this orange vegetable as a decoration at Halloween. But we also use it in many foods that are popular during the autumn season – foods like pumpkin bread, pumpkin coffee, pumpkin cookies, pasta made with pumpkin and pumpkin pie. In fact, pumpkin pie is one of the most common desserts at an American Thanksgiving table.

(2) But perhaps we should try to eat pumpkin all year long, and not just in autumn. Pumpkins are packed with important nutrients and vitamins. If cooked in a healthy way, without much butter or sugar, pumpkin is very useful for your body.

(3) The nutrient beta-carotene and Vitamin A are necessary for maintaining good eyesight. Pumpkins are a great source of both. In fact, one nutrition website says that one cup of cooked, mashed pumpkin can give you more than 200 percent of your daily recommended amount of Vitamin A.

(4) The National Cancer Institute in the United States says on its website that antioxidants may help reduce a person’s risk of getting cancer. That is because antioxidants neutralize something called free radicals in the body. Antioxidants help to get rid of these free radicals. And as we said earlier, pumpkin is full of beta-carotene as well as vitamin A which are natural antioxidants.

(5) Beta-carotene also helps to keep your skin healthy and young-looking. Yet another good reason to eat pumpkin!

(6) Pumpkin is also full of potassium. Health experts say that consuming potassium may help treat high blood pressure that is bad for your heart.

(7) Pumpkin also has a lot of fiber. Fiber slows down digestion of food. So, when you eat pumpkin you feel full and eat less. So, if it is available where you live, try to find ways to include pumpkin in your next meal!

A. All year long decoration.
B. Pumpkin helps your skin.
C. Protection for the heart.
D. Holiday vegetable.
E. Control your weight.
F. Keep it simple.
G. Tasty recipes.
H. Pumpkin is good for your eyes.
I. Protection from a deadly disease.
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Kite-Flying Is for People of All Ages

Kite-flying has a long history as (1) ________ activity for adults and children. The (2) ________ of flying a piece of cloth high in the sky (3) ________ more than 2,000 years ago in China. (4) ________ then, kites have been used to do scientific experiments, power boats, take pictures from the air and much more.

Kite flying can be done (5) ________ or with friends and family. Kites are popular with people who like to create works of art to fly in the sky; with engineers who try to improve the kite’s design; and with those who like to combine kite-flying with music.

Kites differ in shape and size (6) ________ flying conditions can differ greatly as well. Flying kites requires skill, but also a little artistry. Experience makes a difference, as does the weather. Ideally, you want a nice steady wind and a place (7) ________ trees and buildings. Sometimes (8) ________ flying conditions happen in winter — on a frozen lake. There is a kiting festival called Colour the Wind Kite which (9) ________ place every February on Clear Lake in Iowa. The festival adds colour to the winter sky and gives people a reason to go outside. They invite expert fliers to come and share their love (10) ________ kites with locals and visitors. This year, more than 100 children attended a kite-making class.

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2. A. custom   B. habit   C. use   D. skill
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7. A. near the B. away from C. under  D. in the middle
8. A. the best B. the most best C. the goodest D. more better
9. A. was taken B. took   C. takes  D. take
10. A. from    B. with    C. for    D. in
1. Read the health tips. Match headings (A–H) to (1–6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

Health is very important for people.
Here we give you some tips how to keep good health.

(1)  
It’s not necessary to join a gym club. Thirty minutes’ walk every day will prevent you from gaining extra weight.

(2)  
It’s better to use less fatty foods and less sugar but eat more fruits and vegetables. This helps maintain blood pressure and control blood sugar.

(3)  
It’s really hard to work overtime. It’s of great importance to manage your time in order to have enough time to relax. Don’t forget to set a time both for your free time activities and for your work.

(4)  
Nothing should interfere with your sleep. Don’t drink too much coffee during the day. Always sleep in a dark clean and quiet bedroom with a comfortable mattress and pillows.

(5)  
Deep thinking is considered to be one of the health benefits. It’s inevitably connected with changes in all human body processes. The process of thinking helps people to clear their mind and concentrate only on positive things.

(6)  
Optimism stimulates people to improve their health condition. It is widely believed that people with optimistic view of life have fewer diseases than people who are mostly pessimistic.

A. Meditation  
B. Extra weight  
C. Positive thinking  
D. Outdoor Walking  
E. Time Management  
F. Improve Sleep  
G. Comfortable Settings  
H. Eat healthy

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Legos

Legos continue (1) ______ one of (2) ______ popular toys for children around the world. Many fun and interesting things can be (3) ______ with these plastic, colored building blocks.
Sometimes, Legos can even build some very useful things. Such an example was made by a Spanish man, ______ love for Legos began as a young child.

David Aguilar, now 19, has spent many years ______ and building things with Legos.

Aguilar was born without a right arm because of a genetic condition. "As a child, I was very nervous to be in front of other guys, because I was different," Aguilar told the Reuters news agency. "But that didn't stop me from believing in my dreams."

One dream he had was to build his own arm ______ Legos. Aguilar is a university student in bioengineering in Spain. He ______ his next dream is to design low-cost robotic arms and legs for people in need.

Aguilar's first attempt at creating a Lego arm came when he was nine years old. He built his first fully operational robotic arm at age 18. It had a movable elbow joint and tool for picking things up ______ an electric motor.

His ______ Lego inventions also allow him to pick up and carry heavier objects.

In some of his videos, Aguilar ______ to show people with disabilities that nothing is impossible. He wants them to know that they, too, can reach their goals and dreams. He would even like to help provide needed equipment for some of them.

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1. Read the text and for questions 1-6 choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

Camping Is Good for Your Brain

On average, Americans spend about 10 hours a day in front of a computer or other electronic device and less than 30 minutes a day outdoors. All this time spent with technology is making our brains tired. Using an electronic device — answering emails, listening to the news, looking at social media — puts a lot of pressure on the front part of the brain. This area is important for critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making. So, it is important to give the brain a rest. And being in nature helps refresh a brain that is tired from too much technology.

That is when time in the great outdoors and a camping trip can help. Friends and family take time off and escape to nature for several days. They take walks, climb, explore, swim, sleep, eat and play. Camping may be just what a tech-tired brain needs. Camping gives a chance to get in touch with nature and it is a little less busy than the regular day-to-day life. And it is very relaxing. Camping brings a measure of peace that comes with the quiet and often the solitude. It can be pretty regenerative.

At the University of Utah, scientists have studied both short-term and long-term exposure to nature. They found that spending a short time in nature without technology calms the brain and helps it to remember better. However, they found, it is the long-term contact with nature that does the most good. Spending three days in nature without any technology is enough time for the brain to fully relax and reset itself.

Giving your brain a rest so that it can work better is a great reason to go camping. But it is not the only reason. Nature is a great teacher. Learning about animals and nature environments and how that works is different when it is hands-on than when it is in school — learning to deal with the weather; and learning to stay dry in the rain or warm in the snow; learning how to keep your feet in good condition when you’re hiking and walking; learning how to dress for the elements. Camping experience can give you confidence to deal with problems.

So, taking a long walk in the woods or by the ocean or in a city park is, of course, wonderful. But camping requires that you spend more time in nature and it can test you in different ways. You must immerse yourself more deeply in nature. And it can be much better for your health.

1. According to the text what has the worst effect on the human brain?
A. Spending less than 30 minutes outdoors.
B. Answering emails and listening to the news.
C. Watching social media.
D. Spending about ten hours a day with technology.

2. According to the text which one is NOT true about camping?
A. A camping trip can take a few days.
B. During a camping trip people can be more physically active.
C. Camping is as busy as everyday life.
D. Camping can be peaceful and relaxing.

3. Scientists have found out that:
A. A short time in nature is best for a tired brain.
B. Three days in nature can give the brain a complete rest.
C. Spending a short time outdoors with your device calms your brain.
D. Spending time in nature does not improve your memory.

4. What is the reason for giving your brain a rest in nature?
A. It can work better.
B. It stays less busy in everyday life.
C. You can remember your camping trip.
D. You can work with technology more.
5. One of the reasons for camping is:
   A. Learning how to get wet in the rain.
   B. Learning about animals and environments in a different way.
   C. Teaching nature how to behave.
   D. Learning how to dress for the animals.

6. According to the text which statement does NOT talk about camping?
   A. It helps you deal with difficulties.
   B. It can involve learning important skills.
   C. It puts a lot of pressure on the brain.
   D. It can improve your health.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

   Virtual Reality Makes Users Want to Exercise

   Businesses are (1) ______ more uses for Virtual Reality (VR) as the technology develops. VR is no longer only for gaming or enjoyment. An American company (2) _______ Blue Goji is using VR to improve health by making exercise more fun. (3) ______ company demonstrated its workout machine, called the Infinity treadmill, at the recent event in Austin. A person (4) _______ the treadmill wears a virtual reality headset when exercising. Before starting, the user is connected to a belt to prevent falls. Then, the user plays a VR game (5) ______ running on the machine. The game can transport the user into the virtual world, (6) _______ he or she can be racing against (7) _______ people.

   The cost of the hardware and computer software program is $12,000. That is a lot of money for most people. But the virtual reality treadmill is ideal (8) _______ places where people go to exercise, like a high-end gym or recreation center. It can also be used for physical therapy or rehabilitation.

   Users who tested the treadmill while wearing the VR headset (9) _______ different experiences. Very often the first time users feel lost, but the more you do it, the more you get used to it.

   After carefully studying the (10) ______ experiences, Blue Goji plans to begin selling the Infinity treadmill to the public in 2019.

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3. A. ---  B. an  C. a  D. the
4. A. using  B. who using  C. used  D. was using
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6. A. where  B. which  C. that  D. who
7. A. really  B. reality  C. virtually  D. virtual
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9. A. had  B. has  C. having  D. has had
10. A. users’s  B. users’  C. user’es  D. users’es
EXAM CARD # 15

1. Read the film summaries. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

(1) It is one of the greatest dramas and romantic adventure films. It tells the story of the heroic Robin and his Sherwood Forest followers, who saved England from royal treachery by robbing nobles and helping the poor during the absence of King Richard the Lion-Hearted. It tells the fairytale romance about simple victory over evil which is shown rather vividly.

(2) It is a story of Peter Parker who was raised by his aunt and uncle. He was bullied by his mates, and was in love with the girl Mary Jane Watson. But one day a runaway radioactive spider bites him... and his life changes forever. Peter becomes stronger, has clear vision, ability to cling to surfaces and crawl over walls, he can shoot webs from his wrist... but it's lasting not for a long time: A millionaire Norman Osborn turns into Green Goblin. Now Peter Parker and Green Goblin come face to face and the war begins in which only one of them will survive at the end.

(3) Marty's life is miserable. His father, George, is constantly bullied by his boss and his mother, Lorraine, an overweight housewife. One day, Marty gets a call from his scientist friend «Doc» Brown. He tells Marty to meet him at the place where Doc shows him his time machine. Marty accidentally activates the time machine and it sends him back to 1955. So his adventures begin. Marty must find a way to convince Doc that he is from the future. He also tries to help his parents be together, and get back to the future.

(4) This story is about children who have to live with unknown people because of the war. Their adventures begin when they find a wardrobe due to which they can travel into the place called Narnia. They get acquainted with different strange and unusual creatures, they see the talking animals, and they fight with evil and make friends with the lion named Aslan. What will be the end of this great journey to Narnia?

(5) This film is one of the earliest classic American horror films. A young lawyer arrives to a village in the middle of Eastern Europe. He is imprisoned by the undead vampire Dracula, who travels to London. In Britain, Dracula begins draining the life from Mina's closest friend, Lucy. Lucy's friends gather together to try to drive Dracula away.

Which film is about.....?

A. Medical adventures
B. Adventures in the past
C. Historical adventures
D. Unusual adventures of the hero
E. Scientific adventures
F. Adventures in the forest
G. Horror adventures
H. Fantasy adventures

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2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Supporting National Parks through Arts

An artist Rosalie Hazlet (1) ________ every day by opening a map of the Great Smokey Mountains National Park. After breakfast, she plans her walk for the day. She packs food and a sketch book and then leaves for her walk in the forest.

Hazlet spends all day exploring the park and sketching (2) ________ she sees. At the end of the day she returns to her cabin and starts painting pictures (3) ________ the sketches.

Hazlet (4) ________ this since the beginning of June.

Artists have been important to American national parks (5) ________. In the (6) ________, an art movement called the Hudson River School, documented natural America from (7) ________ northeastern coast to the Wild West.

During that same time, the work of American painter Thomas Moran helped persuade the U.S. Congress to create the (8) ________ first national park, Yellowstone, in the western state of Wyoming.

Since 1969, the National Park Service (9) ________ artists the chance to be officially involved with American parks, through Artist-in-Residence program.

Local artists spend from two to four weeks in a park. Artists of all kinds may take part, including painters, writers, photographers and musicians. The artists spend (10) ________ time working on art inspired by their surroundings. They also agree to donate at least one artwork to the park.

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EXAM CARD # 16

1. Read the text and and complete the gaps with the correct option. There is one extra option you do not need to use.

Eating Together

We all need to eat. So, meals could be a chance (1) ____________ with the people in our lives. But from time to time, we all eat last-minute meals alone. And, of course, eating alone at home or at a restaurant (2) ____________. However, could eating too many meals alone be bad for our health or affect our future success? Several studies show that they could for some people.

A recent study from a team of South Korean researchers suggests that eating alone often may (3) ____________.

For children, eating with their families is not only about preventing bad habits – (4) ____________. Studies have shown that students who shared their main meal with their families were less likely to skip school. Moreover, they are also less likely to use drugs and alcohol because teens say (5) ____________. Teens who often have family dinners say their parents know a lot about what is going on in their lives.

Another study from the University of Montreal found that children (6) ____________ are physically and mentally healthier. These children drank fewer sugary soft drinks, seemed to have better social skills and were less aggressive. Mealtimes shared with parents provide young children with social interaction, discussions of social issues (7) ____________.

If too many of your mealtimes are lonely events, experts at the Mental Health Foundation in the U.K. suggest making small changes. Its website says to make room for at least one shared meal a week. And keep it simple. Even if dinner (8) ____________, it is still time for a family to be together. If mornings are less busy than evenings, start by making breakfast your shared meal. If you live alone, reach out to your friends or neighbours. Potluck dinners once a month when everyone brings a dish could be an easy way to start. Or you could simply schedule time in your week to share a cup of coffee or tea with a friend.

A. lead to poor eating habits and poor food choices
B. it is also about developing good ones
C. who ate with their families
D. to stop what we’re doing and spend time
E. and everyday problems
F. can be a very pleasant experience
G. because eating breakfast is also important
H. feel closer to their parents this way
I. is a salad and a sandwich they
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Face Blind People

Some people are great at (1) _______ faces. Once they meet you, they never forget (2) _______ you look. They might say things like, “I never forget a face.” or “I’m really good with faces.”

For some people, remembering a face can be difficult. You may (3) _______ meet them several times before they can recognize you.

For others, remembering a face is simply (4) _______. Such people have a condition of the brain called ‘face blindness.’ Experts say face blindness can differ greatly from patient (5) _______ patient. Some people are unable to (6) _______ the face of someone they have just met. Others cannot even recognize their (7) _______ children in a group photograph.

Face blindness was once thought to be very rare. But recent studies have shown that it might be (8) _______ experts had thought.

(9) _______ face blindness may help researchers understand how the brain works. So, the researchers tested how well people (10) _______ face blindness could recognize common objects, such as cars. They found out that such people were not able to remember faces, but they could recognize objects, scenes and bodies. That suggests that faces are processed differently in the brain.

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1. Read the advertisement and mark the statements True or False.

Welcome to our Hotel

For all guests of our city
Our hotel:
- is not far from the bus station as well as the train station
- is situated conveniently in the centre of the city with a wide range of boutiques and malls
- offers an amazing variety of rooms and suites with a bathroom, a TV, air-conditioners, coffee-making facilities, a safe and a fridge with snacks
- has two restaurants and a bar which serve delicious dishes from around the world and different exquisite cocktails
- provides our guests with additional facilities including a sport gym, a sauna, a spa salon, a hair and beauty salon, a dry cleaner's, a swimming-pool and even a bank to exchange money

For business people, the conference hall is available at any time.
For our regular customers, the system of discounts is possible.
Book beforehand!

1. The location of the hotel is convenient for tourists.
2. It's hard to buy some clothes because of lack of shops.
3. You can't watch your favorite programs in the room.
4. If you're a coffee lover, you can make it yourself and drink it whenever you want.
5. The guests shouldn't worry about being hot in their suites.
6. The women can spend their free time doing some beauty procedures.
7. It's a problem to have some business meetings at the hotel.
8. Unfortunately, the guests won't be able to try international dishes at the hotel restaurant.
9. The price for accommodation is always high for all the customers.
10. The guests of the hotel can relax in the hot steam enjoying Mojito.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Little Boy Rescue

A 3-year-old boy who (1) _______ in the forest is now safe at home with his family. But Casey Hathaway told his (2) _______ that he was not alone in the rainy, freezing cold forest. He said he was with a friend - a bear.

The child went missing on January 22 while (3) _______ with friends at his grandmother's house (4) _______ state of North Carolina. Police formed a search and rescue team to (5) _______ the young boy in the nearby forest. But two days went by and still - no Casey.
Then on January 24, (6) _______ called the police saying they heard a child crying in the forest. Police found Casey at about 9:30 that night in good health.

Casey told the rescuers that he (7) _______ with a black bear for two days, a bear he called his ‘friend.’

Hundreds of people helped in the search and rescue efforts, including some 600 volunteers, federal police and members of the military.

Doctors treated Casey for some injuries. He (8) _______ to his family (9) _______ January 25.

His mother Brittany Hathaway thanked everyone (10) _______ joined the search for her son.

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1. Read the text and mark the statements True or False.

The Effects of the Digital World on Children

For children, internet access can be both good and bad. On the good side, digital technology can connect a child to information and to a larger community. It can bring future opportunities for work and career. Access to the internet can change a child's life. Especially for kids in places where opportunities are few or for children who are disabled or living in remote places the internet has huge potential and is already helping children to access opportunities.

But on the bad side, it can also bring great harm and stress — especially for a child who does not know how to use the internet wisely.

One in three internet users around the world is a child. However, little is being done to protect children from the dangers of the digital world.

The website Parenting.com gives the following safety advice to parents:
- Know the online sites your child uses. You should know where they are online and with whom.
- Set house rules. Decide how much time your child spends online and how they use the internet.
- Teach them to protect their own privacy. Tell them:
  - never to give their name, phone number, email address, password, postal address, school, or picture without your permission;
  - not to open e-mail from people they don't know;
  - not to respond to hurtful or disturbing messages;
  - not to get together with anyone they 'meet' online.
- Keep the computer in a central spot in your home. It is easy to watch your child’s use of the computer if the device in a commonly-used area, like the kitchen.
- Use safe-surfing options such as filters and privacy settings on your child’s browsers. But know that a child who knows computers may be able to change these settings.

Parents, teachers and school administrators, businesses and policymakers need to work together to make sure children have a safe access to the internet and protect children from the possible dangers of the growing digital world.

1. The internet has only positive effects on children.
2. Children who live in faraway areas can access opportunities through the internet.
3. According to the text one third of all internet users are children.
4. Children should set the rules for using the internet at home.
5. Parents are advised not to ask children about their online friends.
6. Parents should tell their children not to meet their new online friends in real life.
7. Children are advised to ask their parents for permission to post their photos online.
8. Parents are advised to put computers in children’s bedrooms.
9. According to the text a child who knows computers can change the settings in the browser.
10. There should be safe internet access for children at home and at school.
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

12-Year-Old Businessman Skates Into Success

Carson Kropfl is an (1) ________, business owner and environmental activist. He enjoys the (2) ________ of surfing. In addition (3) ________ riding the waves, he likes riding his skateboard. Kropfl is a very hard-working 12-year-old.

You heard right. The San Clemente, California, boy just (4) ________ seventh grade. And, school had a lot to do with the creation of his company. His story is proof that necessity is truly the mother of invention. Carson had enjoyed skating for years. He (5) ________ to use his skateboard to go to places, including school. But over time, he became angry that he had (6) ________ place to store his board when he arrived at school. As a student, he could not change the (7) ________ of his locker. But he realized he might be able to change the shape of his skateboard.

And, from that small desire, a business (8) ________.

“I have a skateboard company called Lockerboard and what I do is I take recycled skateboard decks and reshape them to fit inside school bags and lockers.”

Carson made his first sales in the room where students ate at his school. He put (9) ________ skateboards on a table and his schoolmates started buying them up. Within months, Carson had an agreement with a company. The young man says he has now sold about 700 skateboards in (10) ________ than two years.

His skateboards are of different shapes and designs. Each one costs around $100. But not all the profit goes to Carson. Some money goes to a nonprofit group that supports protection of the ocean.

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1. Read the text below. For questions (1–7) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Halloween

The Halloween holiday is October 31. Tens of millions of children will put on costumes that night and visit their neighbors’ homes. The neighbors will give them candy.

Americans are expected to spend about $9 billion on Halloween this year. Most of the money is spent on costumes, decorations and candy.

The National Retail Federation estimates that more than 175 million Americans are planning to take part in Halloween activities this year.

The online candy seller CandyStore.com looked through 11 years of data to learn which Halloween candy is most popular in each American state. The company found that Skittles, M&M’s and Snickers are the most popular candies.

The favorite candy of Texans, though, is Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup. And candy corn came in first in the states of Alabama, Michigan, Idaho and New Mexico.

But children who live in Oregon may be among the luckiest in America; larger-size candy bars are a usual treat in the northwestern state.

What will children wear this Halloween? The National Retail Federation says princess, superhero and Batman costumes are the most popular choices among kids.

Adults, however, favor frightening characters, like witches and vampires.

Even America’s animals are getting into the action. Dog and cat owners plan to dress their animal friends as pumpkins, hotdogs and bumblebees, the retail group says.

1. What is the author trying to do in the text?
   A. to invite Americans for Halloween celebration
   B. to count money spent on Halloween
   C. to analyze what candies are the most popular in America on Halloween
   D. to encourage children to dress their animals on Halloween

2. What things are NOT bought on Halloween by Americans?
   A. dogs and cats
   B. sweets
   C. decorations
   D. fancy dresses

3. What candy took the first place in Michigan?
   A. Snickers
   B. Peanut Butter
   C. Candy corn
   D. Skittles

4. Why are the children from the northwestern state the happiest?
   A. Because they live in America.
   B. Because it’s usual for them to taste big candy bars.
   C. Because they have the biggest candy bar in the world.
   D. Because they can treat other children with traditional sweets.

5. Which costumes are NOT popular among grown-ups?
   A. witches and vampires
   B. vampires and superheroes
   C. princesses and witches
   D. superheros and princesses

6. What animals usually take part in Halloween?
   A. dogs and cats
   B. bees and dogs
   C. pumpkins and cats
   D. hotdogs and bumblebees
7. Why do so many American children visit their neighbors' homes wearing costumes?
   A. They want to show their new costumes.
   B. They want to share their candies.
   C. They want their neighbors give them sweets.
   D. They want to congratulate them with Halloween.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

   Einstein's Note on Happiness Sells for $1.3 Million

   In 1922, German-born scientist Albert Einstein was traveling to Tokyo when he found out he 
(1) _______ the Nobel Prize in Physics.

   While in Japan, Einstein stayed at Tokyo's Imperial Hotel. During his stay, a hotel worker 
came to Einstein's room to make a delivery. Einstein found (2) _______ without any money to 
give the man as a tip for his services.

   So, (3) _______ money, the famous scientist handed the hotel worker a signed note with a 
sentence he (4) _______ German. It read: "A calm and humble life will bring more happiness 
than the pursuit of success and the constant restlessness that comes with it."

   Einstein advised the man to keep the notes, saying they may one day be worth more than any 
tip he (5) _______ him.

   The hotel worker must have listened to Einstein's advice.

   Ninety-five years later, the hotel worker's nephew contacted Winner's Auctions and Exhibitions, an auction company in Israel.

   On Tuesday, the notes (6) _______ on auction in Jerusalem. The price (7) _______ the hap-

   piness note started at $2,000. The person, (8) _______ was not named, agreed to pay $1.3 million dollars.

   Einstein may (9) _______ best known for his theory of relativity. But now, he also became 
famous (10) _______ his one-sentence theory of happiness.
1. Read the text and for questions (1–6) choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

**Gardening**

Gardening is popular in many parts of the world. This outdoor activity gives us beautiful plants, pleasant smelling flowers and fresh fruits and vegetables. But it is also good for our health.

Gardening connects people. When you are gardening, you are outdoors. So, it is a perfect time to socialize with your neighbors. Most people love to talk about their hobbies. Gardeners usually enjoy showing people what they are growing. And most enjoy sharing advice and stories about their gardens almost as much as sharing herbs, flowers and vegetables from their gardens. Some people may not have the resources to have their own garden. So, many cities and towns have community gardens. You can either volunteer or just visit to learn more.

Gardening is a great activity to do with children. It gets families outdoors and off computers, televisions and other devices. Children can learn about nature and wildlife. Gardening can teach a child where food comes from and healthy eating. It can also help them to understand the limits of natural resources and the importance of using them carefully.

Also, when you are in your garden, you might feel the sunshine on your skin. This means you are getting Vitamin D. Vitamin D helps our bodies use calcium which is necessary to keep bones strong. Vitamin D also helps us fight diseases.

Another good thing is that, when you garden, you must move around. All the different movements needed for gardening – bending, twisting, stretching and lifting – work small muscles in the body. That is a great workout!

Gardening may also help you feel calm and happy. Gardening can also give you the feeling that you have done something good.

1. Which is NOT said about gardening in the text?
   A. It is an outdoor activity. 
   B. It can hurt your back. 
   C. It brings people together. 
   D. It educates children about healthy eating. 

2. What can people do if they cannot afford a garden?
   A. People can watch a TV show about gardening. 
   B. They can plant a garden in the local park. 
   C. They can volunteer in a community garden. 
   D. They can teach their neighbours to garden.

3. Why is gardening good for families?
   A. It is not an expensive hobby. 
   B. It is an activity for children. 
   C. It teaches where gardening comes from. 
   D. It brings families closer to nature.

4. How does gardening help your bones?
   A. The sunshine helps the body produce the vitamin and mineral for strong bones. 
   B. It makes the bones flexible. 
   C. It gives the bones extra work. 
   D. It makes them stretch.

5. Why is gardening great exercise?
   A. It involves a lot of lifting. 
   B. It uses a variety of movements.
6. Which is true about gardening?
   A. When people finish it, they feel happy it is over.
   B. It makes you feel tired but relaxed.
   C. It is hard to do it.
   D. It makes you feel good about your work.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

McDonald’s Celebrates 50th Birthday of Big Mac

The Big Mac has been one of (1) _______ popular and best-selling items in the company's history. It is known for being bigger than a usual hamburger, with two pieces of meat separated by an extra piece of bread (2) _______ the middle. It is also made with special sauce and toppings. As part of a memorable advertising campaign in the 1970s, the Big Mac's ingredients (3) _______ to music to help keep them in people's minds. The Big Mac generally contains (4) _______ ingredients in McDonald's restaurants around the world.

The Big Mac (5) _______ in 1967 by Jim Delligatti, the local operator of several McDonald’s in the American state of Pennsylvania. He said it took a long time to persuade McDonald’s that the Big Mac (6) _______ a good idea. McDonald’s finally agreed to let Delligati (7) _______ the sandwich at one of his McDonald’s restaurants. The company required him to use the same bun that other McDonald’s burgers were made with. For that reason, Delligati said, it (8) _______ sell well at first. When he changed to a bigger bun with sesame seeds, sales of the sandwich increased. After similar results at other stores, McDonald’s decided to add the Big Mac to all its restaurants (9) _______ 1968. The Big Mac then grew to become an international food star.

To celebrate the Big Mac’s lasting popularity, McDonald’s is launching a series of collectible MacCoins. They will be available starting from August 2 around the world. The company (10) _______ that day because August 2 would have been Jim Delligatti’s 100th birthday. The coins can be shared or collected. People can also trade them in for a free Big Mac.
1. Read the printed ads. Match headings (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

(1) The amount of plastic being dumped in the ocean is getting bigger and bigger every day. The print ad campaign shows a number of different fish which have the shape of various plastic objects. This ad encourages viewers to help clean up our oceans.

(2) You can adore or hate the fast food chain, but Burger knows how to show it in a great print ad campaign. The most recent one shows the lights in the night. It informs viewers about the fact that no matter what time they want to visit, even in the middle of the night, Burger is open for you.

(3) This print ad warns people of the risks of driving while you’re tired and fall asleep. It shows the eye on one side of which a car appears and a bike on the other. So, it’s absolutely clear what could happen if your eye closes for even a second during driving.

(4) This print ad shows the benefits of sport for your body. In it, the bones of the spine are transformed into a snake. The idea of the ad is that everyday exercises will bring you a super-flexible back.

(5) Have you been sitting in your job too long? This print ad aims to motivate people to change the job they don’t like. The photos show workers who are bored at their desks. They sat still for so long that the spiders have set up their webs on them.

A. Plastic Fish
B. A Better Job is Waiting
C. Open All Night
D. Take Care of Snakes and Spiders
E. You Eat What They Eat
F. Yoga For Your back
G. Don’t Drive Sleepy
H. Sleep While Driving

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Boy Becomes a Toy Himself

A seven-year-old boy, (1) ______ love toys, has now become a toy himself.

Ryan, a first-grade student, (2) _______ YouTube videos for three years. The videos usually show him opening a toy, playing with it and then waving goodbye to viewers.

(3) _______ watched video, in which Ryan hunts for large 4) _______ eggs, has more than 1.5 billion views. And his YouTube channel, Ryan Toys Review, has more than 16 million subscribers.

Toy makers have paid Ryan and his parents to show their products. (5) _______ did not confirm or deny that report. They also have kept secret their last name and where they live for safety reasons.

The large American store Wal-Mart hopes to use Ryan’s popularity (6) _______ more toys.
Last month, Wal-Mart started selling Ryan’s action figures for $9. It also sells clothing, toy animals, bright colorful slime, and French fry-shaped toys under the name Ryan’s World.

Jim Silver of the toy review site said that toys gain (7) _______ in the playground, (8) _______ young children show and tell others about them.

His parents informed that Ryan spends about 90 minutes a week recording YouTube videos. He also helped with the creation of some of the toys, like when he asked for an evil version of himself for the action figure.

Unlike his action figures, Ryan (9) _______. And his parents are prepared to follow his interests, as he gets (10) _______, like to video games.

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1. Read the text and match the headings (A–I) to the paragraphs (1–5). There are two extra headings you do not need to use.

Napping May Improve Learning and Memory

March 16 is International Sleep Day. And we should all celebrate the act of sleeping. Studies have shown that a good night’s rest helps us stay healthy, both mentally and physically.

(1) ______________

Researchers say sleep is probably the best tool we have for memory and learning. Getting a good night’s sleep is important for the learning and memory process. It’s important because it stores the training exercises and the learning exercises into our more permanent memory while we’re sleeping 7-8 hours in bed. And then the next morning when you wake up your mind is better prepared to act on that information.

(2) ______________

But what about getting a rest during the middle of the day? Short periods of sleep, or napping, may help our brains work better. Past studies have shown that napping can help babies and young children learn better. And it can also help older adults’ brain activity. Taking a nap may also help this older group of people fight off memory loss.

(3) ______________

However, many people may not want to say that they take a nap. They may think that napping shows they are weak or lack energy, that only children, the very old, sick or lazy people nap. In fact, Americans sometimes do a very strange thing: some people love to talk about how few hours of sleep they need each night. Experts warn that adults should get from seven to eight hours of sleep each night.

(4) ______________

While resting in the middle of the work day may seem like a luxury to Americans, napping is very much part of a normal, everyday life in other parts of the world. However, that may be changing. Many offices now offer napping rooms and napping cafes are appearing in many U.S. cities, including Washington, D.C.

(5) ______________

Today doctors are recommending that young, healthy adults should try to sleep for about 30 minutes or less. And 30 minutes is enough to remove the desire to sleep and will help to feel more awake. If you nap longer, we will get into deeper sleep, which can be hard to get out of. Doctors also warn that if you have trouble falling asleep at night, you should not nap for more than 45 minutes, and you should do it before 3 p.m. in the afternoon.

A. A difference of opinion.
B. Good news for nappers in America.
C. Sleeping is important for learning and memory.
D. Good for young and old.
E. World sleep record.
F. Medical advice.
G. Comfortable sleeping.
Food Project Brings Volunteers Together

Chinese steamed buns. Italian ravioli. Indian samosas. No matter where you live, chances are there is a local dumpling—a small piece of dough usually cooked with meat and vegetables inside. Today, we are talking about the pierogi, a dumpling from Eastern Europe. Traditional pierogi fillings (1) ________ potatoes, cabbage, cheese and even fruit.

Olena Apostoluk is an American (2) ________ parents are Ukrainian and English. She (3) ________ pierogis for 17 years. “We call it ‘pyrohy’ but really, it’s ‘varenyky’ (4) ________ you boil them. The dough recipe (5) ________ to me by my mother-in-law. Everybody has their own little dough recipe but mine works for me. It’s nice and soft. The (6) ________ that come in, really like our dough.”

Olena operates a volunteer food project out of the St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral near Cleveland, Ohio. It is called the Pierogi Project. It raises money to help pay the cost of operating the church. Olena and her team (7) ________ 130 to 180 kilograms of pierogis to the public every Thursday and Friday. Making hundreds and sometimes thousands of pierogis by hand each week is a lot of work. (8) ________ the Christian holidays, they make and sell about 600 kilograms of pierogis each week.

“The people who buy pierogis are regular people that have been buying pierogis from us (9) ________ many years. Some restaurants and bars also buy from me.”

The Pierogi Project does (10) ________ than make pierogis for the community. It brings people together.

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1. Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (1–6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

200 years of Silent Night

On the night before Christmas in 1818, an Austrian clergyman and a music teacher sang a song that they wrote together (1) ________________.

They did not know it then, but their song would go on to be (2) ________________.

The song is called, in English, “Silent Night.”

Joseph Mohr, a young clergyman from Salzburg, first wrote the words for a poem in 1816. Two years later Franz Xavier Gruber wrote music for the words.

(3) ________________, Mohr and Gruber sang the song for the first time at the St. Nikola Church in Obendorf, outside of Salzburg. The church’s organ was not working. So, they played the music with a guitar-like instrument.

A new hit song was born. Singing families then carried the song to the rest of Austria and across Europe.

On Christmas Eve of 1914, a young (4) ________________ heard something that he had never heard before on the battlefield – a Christmas song. German soldiers were singing the German words to “Silent Night.” The words were not familiar to Brewer – but the music was.

Once the German soldiers had finished their song, Brewer and his soldiers answered by singing the English version of “Silent Night” and other Christmas songs.

By Christmas morning, the British and German soldiers (5) ________________ and exchanged greetings. The act became known as the World War I Christmas Truce.

But it was not until American singer Bing Crosby performed “Silent Night” in 1948 that the song became famous worldwide.

The song has since been translated into 300 languages.

Austria is celebrating the 200th anniversary of “Silent Night” with tours, shows, plays and special foods from Salzburg. Most of all, Austrians hope people remember (6) ________________.

A. the world’s most famous Christmas Carol
B. put down their weapons
C. for fifteen years since they were children
D. On December 24 of that year
E. why British Christmas song is so popular with people
F. for the first time
G. British officer named Charles Brewer
H. where “Silent Night” truly came from
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Ways to Achieve Your Goals

Your daily life – as wonderful as it can be – (1) ________ up all of your time. Before you know it, weeks, then months (2) ________ and you are no closer to your goal.

Yet your goal remains important. No matter how small your goal can be, when you achieve it, you feel (3) ________ perfect. In addition, when we do not work on our goals, we may end up feeling guilty or not successful.

So, how can we find time to work on these larger life goals?

First, identify your goals and be (4) ________. If a goal is too general, it (5) ________ hard to achieve it.

Let’s say your goal is to get in better physical shape. That’s a fine idea – but psychologists might say as a goal, it is too general.

To make the goal more specific, you could sign up for a regular exercise class. So, whether you are dancing, (6) ________ yoga or kickboxing, you have a regular commitment every week. You could also (7) ________ your goal is to lose a certain amount of weight in a certain amount of time.

Experts say writing down your goal is (8) ________ very important step. It gets the goal out of your brain and into the real world.

Some psychologists suggest that writing a goal on paper is (9) ________ typing it on a device or saying it into your phone. Your brain receives information (10) ________ when it comes from handwriting. Writing things down seems to say to the brain, “I am important! Remember me!”

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1. Read the text and mark the statements True or False.

The History of Chocolate

Humans may have been enjoying cacao, the substance used to make chocolate, for much longer than experts had thought. Researchers at the University of British Columbia in Canada have found that humans grew cacao trees and used cacao starting around 5,300 years ago.

A tropical tree known as Theobroma cacao produces large, round pods that contain the bean-like cacao seeds. A soft, light-colored substance covers each seed. Today, the seeds are cooked and turned into many chocolate products. But thousands of years ago, cacao was used to make drinks.

There is no established history of native people in South or Central America using cacao to make chocolate the way people do now, the researchers reported.

By the time Spanish explorers arrived in Central America in the late 1400s, people were using it to make hot and cold chocolate drinks with spices. By the 1580s, Spain began importing cacao and spreading it to other European countries. By the 1800s, technology developed in the Netherlands made it possible to turn cacao into a hard chocolate product.

Michael Laiskonis teaches chocolate-making classes at the Institute of Culinary Education in New York. He said he has observed a growing interest in natural cacao tastes. He said he introduces his students to the history of chocolate. He tells his students, for example, about a recipe from the 1600s that mixed Mayan and Aztec versions of cacao drinks with European influences.

1. People’s love for cacao has developed quite recently.
2. Scientists from Canada have found out that people grew cacao herbs many years ago.
3. Cacao seeds look like beans.
4. In the past people used cacao to make drinks.
5. The researchers found out that people in South America made chocolate the way it is produced today.
6. The Spanish explorers taught people in Central America to add spices to chocolate drinks.
7. The Europeans learnt to make hard chocolate in the nineteenth century.
8. People can learn to make chocolate in New York.
9. Today people are more interested in chocolate with its natural flavour.
10. The professor from New York institute teaches his students only modern recipes of chocolate.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

3D Printed Home

An American company says it has completed the first 3D printed home in the United States.

The home (1) ________ to reporters and visitors at a technology conference. The event took (2) ________ in Austin, Texas.
The ICON building company has developed large 3D printers that build homes with mortar, a hard and strong material. ICON uses robotics, computer software programs and advanced materials to build houses.

The house was actually printed in high winds, blowing dust and rain. It is important for the printing process to operate in extreme conditions, such as weather disasters. The goal is to print homes in developing countries.

ICON's 3-D printer is made of lightweight aluminum, and measures 4.5-meters tall by 9 meters wide. The homes are printed on-site, so the equipment must be light enough to move from one place to the next.

Someday, a lot of 3-D printers may operate around the world to make homes. It's actually a lot easier to build a printer than it is to build a house. Unfortunately, the first 3-D printed house was completed in less than 48 hours of print time.

ICON has teamed up with a not-for-profit group called New Story. Together, they are attempting to help provide a quick, inexpensive housing solution for the millions of people who need it most. The organization already works on housing needs with poor families in different areas. Since the 3D printing process is so much faster than traditional homebuilding, a whole area could be built in just a few months. Moreover, a 3D printed home costs a lot less than a traditional home.

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EXAM CARD # 25

1. Read the text below. From (A–H) choose the one which best fits each space (1–6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

Sleep for your Health

You may go in for sports, do lots of exercises and eat only healthy food, but if you don't get enough sleep, you threaten your health. The lack of sleep increases the risk of (1) ________. There are millions of people in the world who don’t sleep well. Unfortunately, many of them think that (2) ________.

Here you can read some tips for better sleep:

• Go to bed only (3) ________.
• Don't do any waking activities in bed such as watching TV, using your computer or reading books.
• Try to avoid (4) ________ late in the evening.
• If you have problems with falling asleep within 20 minutes, it's better to get up and (5) ________ until you're tired enough to go back to bed.
• Listening to quiet music can help you to forget about your daytime problems.
• Take a warm bath to calm down.
• (6) ________ before going to bed.
• Relax before you go to bed. Do some breathing exercises and relax your muscles a few times. If it doesn't improve your sleep, it's better to consult your doctor.

A. when you are happy and relaxed
B. sleep problems are natural
C. any physical work or activity
D. getting different diseases
E. Drink hot milk
F. do something calming
G. Eat some cheese sandwiches
H. when you really feel tired

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Free Books Teach a Love for Reading

Joshua Clark is happy as he (1) ________ to read a book to his son, Mason. But Clark remembers not always (2) ________ happy about reading.

“I (3) ________ my mom almost forcing me to read books and it (4) ________ tough.”
Reading became (5) ______ work to him. He decided that when he had his own child, he (6) ______ sure reading was an enjoyable experience.

“When you can present things in a funny way, you’re more willing to do it, and I wanted (7) ______ that for my son.”

Today, Clark and his son live in Washington, D.C. The young father has been able to read many great stories to 3-year-old Mason, thanks to a local program (8) ______ Books from Birth.

Through Books from Birth, Clark and others who take (9) ______ receive one high-quality book each month in the mail. The program is open to D.C. residents with a child under the age of five.

Books from Birth (10) ______ three years ago. Clark joined the program before Mason was even born. Clark knew the program would help him feel closer to his son as well as help his son learn.

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<td>C. was beginning</td>
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1. Read the text and complete the gaps with the correct option. There is one extra option you do not need to use.

**US Teens Stop Using Facebook**

A new study has found that fewer American teenagers are using Facebook. (1) ____________

The study by the U.S.-based Research Center found that 51 percent of American teens between the ages of 13 to 17 said they use Facebook at the moment. This was a large drop from 2015, (2) ____________

The study found that YouTube is now the most popular internet service for teens, with 85 percent saying they currently use it. The second-most popular is Instagram, (3) ____________72 percent reported using it.

Sixty-nine percent of teens said they use Snapchat, while 32 percent use Twitter. Less than 10 percent reported using Tumblr or Reddit.

Results of the latest study were based on interviews with 743 teens and more than 1,000 parents during March and April 2018. The study also found that 95 percent of teens reported they either owned a smartphone or had a way of using one. In general, teens from different economic and racial backgrounds like the same services.

(4) ____________ For example, about 70 percent of teens whose families earned less than $30,000 a year said they used Facebook. Among teens from families making over $75,000, just 36 percent of teens reported using it. (5) ____________ The study found that about 42 percent of girls said Snapchat was the service they used most, compared to 29 percent of boys. More boys – 39 percent – said they used YouTube the most, compared to 25 percent of girls.

The latest study also showed (6) ____________ When asked whether they ever play video games – either on a computer, a game machine or phone – 90 percent answered yes.

The marketing research company eMarketer noted in a report earlier this year (7) ____________ The company’s research showed that in 2018, less than half of U.S. internet users aged 12 to 17 used Facebook on any device at least once a month.

A. which is owned by Facebook
B. However, the researchers found some differences.
C. that Facebook was losing younger users much faster than experts had predicted.
D. Instead, many of them turn to YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat.
E. that most teens like to spend time gaming.
F. when 71 percent of teens in that age group reported using Facebook.
G. The company also predicted about 1.6 million users
H. There were also some differences among boys and girls.
2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

**Smart Mirrors**

Software applications let smartphone users do a lot with their photographs. Apps (1) _______ Snapchat already give users the ability (2) _______ dog ears, colourful rainbow tongues and other images to smart phone photos.

Virtual mirrors are a little different. They are designed to let users (3) _______ what they would look like wearing products that they might (4) _______ buy. Some examples are earrings or other jewelry, lipstick and eyeglasses. These smart mirror applications are becoming popular among businesses, (5) _______ want to get people into their stores.

A smart mirror is (6) _______ an app that turns the screen of a smart phone or other mobile device into a mirror, using its camera function. As users look at the image, the app will make it appear as if they are wearing the product.

(7) _______, an app called Dangle can be used on a computer tablet. It uses the tablet's camera and the app's facial recognition technology to make it appear as if the user is wearing earrings. The digital earrings in the image appear almost (8) _______. They move with the user, providing a realistic experience. With Dangle, sellers can show customers all of their earrings in a short period of time — something almost impossible (9) _______ technology.

There are other good reasons to use the app. Trying-on products with the virtual mirror means there is nothing to damage, lose or at risk of being stolen.

Virtual mirrors also work with makeup, another product that takes time and effort to try on.

A company called MemoMi has developed an augmented reality app that lets customers virtually put on makeup. At Neiman Marcus stores, customers can use the app on a mobile device to see (10) _______ beauty products would look on them.

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1. Read the text below. For questions (1–7) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

New Year's Traditions around the World

Many cultures follow different calendars and celebrate the New Year at different times. No matter when you celebrate, there are many New Year traditions around the world.

Many cultures have traditions to scare off demons and bad luck involving fire or loud noises.

In Scotland, for example, men from villages walk through the streets swinging giant fireballs over their heads which represent the sun and they are supposed to clean the coming year.

Just before the New Year, people in Denmark find the highest surface they can and jump from it as the New Year starts. They hope they leave behind the bad spirits and bad luck of the previous year and enter a New Year full of promise and new beginnings. There is one more tradition in Denmark. You can wake up with a pile of broken plates outside your door. It's a really weird way for friends and family to show their affection to each other.

To get rid of all bad luck and bad things, Ecuadorians set fire to scarecrows which are filled with paper. They can also burn the photos of the things that represent the previous year.

Many cultures have certain foods that are said to bring good luck.

In the southern part of the United States, people often eat black-eyed peas and pork for good luck in the New Year.

In Spain and some other countries, as the clock strikes midnight, people eat 12 grapes. Eating them all guarantees that the year will be filled with good luck. In the Philippines, many people eat 12 round fruits to bring them wealth and luck.

To start the New Year many people like to wear new clothing.

In Japan, for example, people who believe in Buddhism may dress up like the zodiac animal for the coming year.

In Romania, there is a tradition that involves dressing up in a bear costume and going from house to house. They hope this can scare off evil spirits.

People in the Philippines may wear clothing with polka dots which stand for wealth in the New Year.

In Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela, some people wear colorful underwear on New Year's Eve. The most popular colors are red and yellow. Red is supposed to bring you love; yellow is supposed to bring you money.

No matter what country you are from, we wish you good luck in all the New Years.

1. What do some New Year traditions involve?
   A. demons and bad luck   C. fire and loud noises
   B. bad luck and fire     D. all the mentioned above

2. Why do people in Denmark jump from the highest point on the New Year's Eve?
   A. They do the bungee-jumping.
   B. They leave behind bad spirits and bad luck.
   C. They show love to their family and friends.
   D. They promise to start a new tradition.

3. What brings luck to the Spaniards?
   A. black-eyed peas   C. colorful underwear
   B. scarecrows        D. twelve grapes

4. What represents wealth in the Philippines?
   A. squares   C. triangles
   B. circles   D. ovals
5. Which countries have the tradition of wearing clothes for good luck?
   A. Ecuador, the USA, Denmark and Mexico.
   B. The Philippines, Brazil, Bolivia and Spain.
   C. Venezuela, Brazil, Romania and Scotland.
   D. Brazil, Bolivia, Romania and Japan.

6. Why do people from Ecuador burn the photos from the previous year?
   A. to get rid of bad luck
   B. to scare off demons
   C. to scare away evil spirits
   D. to clean the coming year

7. What should people from the Philippines eat in order to be rich and lucky?
   A. twelve grapes
   B. twelve giant fireballs
   C. twelve round fruits
   D. twelve polka dots

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

   **Volunteer Work**

   Elaine Brettell, a widow and mother-of-two, (1) ______ her life serving the patients of Sanford Royal Hospital. The 79-year-old (2) ______ a nurse when she was 14. She retired at 60 but joined (3) ______ a volunteer in accident and emergency department a few months later.

   She now works eight hours (4) ______ at the hospital changing the dirty linen and taking food and drinks to patients.

   “The hospital (5) ______ my life since the time I was a teenager. It’s (6) ______ I gave birth to my two sons and where my husband was (7) ______ into after a heart attack at just 58.”

   “The kindness I was shown made (8) ______ difference. That’s why I make a point of introducing (9) ______ to patients and their families and telling them useful information, or making them tea.”

   “Being a volunteer (10) ______ me feel I’m still useful. It makes my children and grandchildren proud of me, too.”

   1. A. has spent     B. spend     C. spent     D. is spending
   2. A. become       B. becomes   C. has become D. became
   3. A. in           B. as        C. like       D. such as
   4. A. a week       B. week     C. the week   D. in a week
   5. A. had always   B. has always been   C. is always being D. was always
   6. A. when         B. which     C. that       D. where
   7. A. bring        B. bought    C. brought   D. been brought
   8. A. such         B. so        C. such a     D. so a
   9. A. myself       B. himself   C. themselves D. yourself
   10. A. help        B. helps     C. helped    D. is helping
1. Read the text and mark the statements True or False.

**Saint Patrick’s Day**

On March 17, people around the world celebrate the Irish holiday of Saint Patrick’s Day. March 17 is the date of his death. It is a big holiday in Ireland. Ireland is a mostly Roman Catholic country. Saint Patrick lived in Ireland more than 2,000 years ago. People believe he brought Christianity to the country. One traditional story says that St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland.

Irish people used to honor March 17 quietly. Going to church services was the main activity. Everyone had to wear a small three-leafed plant called shamrock. In the early 1900s, Ireland’s government made St. Patrick’s Day an official holiday. By the 1960s, towns across Ireland started celebrating the holiday with parades and music. Ireland is known as the Emerald Isle because the country is covered in deep green grass. That is why green colour is a traditional colour of St. Patrick’s celebrations. In Ireland today, St. Patrick’s Day is a four-day public celebration that includes parades, music, food, and games. For Irish people living in other countries, Saint Patrick’s Day became a chance to celebrate their Irish culture.

Now, countries and cities around the world celebrate March 17 in creative ways. Many countries hold Saint Patrick’s Day parades. Famous monuments, including the Great Wall of China, the Colosseum in Rome, the Niagara Falls, and the Gateway of India in Mumbai will all be coloured by green light for the day. The U.S. is especially famous for its Saint Patrick’s Day celebrations. Many cities, where there are a lot of Irish immigrants, like Boston, New York and Chicago, hold parades and parties. Cities will also colour the local rivers green for the day.

Popularity of Saint Patrick’s Day around the world has helped the Irish government, which uses the holiday as a form of diplomacy.

1. People around the world celebrate St. Patrick’s birthday in March.
2. St. Patrick started Christian church in Ireland more than two thousand years ago.
3. According to the legend St. Patrick made all the snakes in Ireland leave the island.
4. In the past Irish people used to wear shamrock and go to church on St. Patrick’s Day.
5. St. Patrick’s Day became an official holiday in Ireland in the twentieth century.
6. The traditional Irish colour is green because it was St. Patrick’s favourite.
7. Today St. Patrick’s Day is celebrated for two days in Ireland.
8. Very few countries hold St. Patrick’s parades.
9. A lot of famous landmarks are coloured by greed light on St. Patrick’s Day.
10. The most special celebrations of St. Patrick’s Day are held in China.

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2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

**Meatballs Around the World**

You may not know it, but March 9 is a day to celebrate the meatball. That’s right. It’s International Meatball Day!

Nearly all of the world’s cultures have some (1) _______ of meatball. This delicious food combines meat — pork, fish, beef, chicken, and some other kinds — with spices, bread or rice, maybe
egg and fat. The ingredients (2) _______ and formed into a ball and then cooked in many different ways. People around the world also have different ways of (3) _______ and eating meatballs. We add them to soup. We roast them on sticks. We bake them and then stuff them into bread. We deep-fry them (4) _______ hot oil and eat them with gravy. We cook them in sauce and add them to pasta.

(5) _______ meatballs have some things in common. For one, they are easy (6) _______. They use simple ingredients. You can make a meatball out of just about any kind of meat. And they developed as a way to make the available meat feed as many people as (7) _______.

In a story for the website Serious Eats, writer Chris E. Crowley describes 20 popular and tasty meatballs from around the world. He begins with the meatball that started it all: kofta. While it is (8) _______ to know for sure, many food historians agree the first meatball, called kofta, came from Persia. Persians introduced kofta to Arab cultures. And they brought kofta (9) _______ Italians. Before long, the meatball had spread all over the world. Today, kofta appears all over the Middle East, in the Mediterranean and parts of South Asia.

Meatballs with all sorts of names can be found everywhere from northern Europe to New York City to Vietnam.

Asian countries have many kinds of meatballs served in soups. One type of meatball found in China is called Lion's Head. It is a large, soft meatball (10) _______ finely cut pork. And they are often served with cabbage.

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1. Read the descriptions of shows. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

(1) This animated show was developed to introduce children to new vocabulary through interesting characters and storytelling. It’s developed for children ages 4-6. It helps children and adults explore how language is used. Each 30-minute episode depicts Lucy who visits her neighborhood zoo after hours, when all the animals are eager to share their stories.

(2) This show for young children and their parents is filmed as a playful place to build reading skills. It’s developed by creative team of Lion King and it is designed to develop literacy skills in young children between 4-7 years-old. A family of lions lives in a library and this shows children the importance of being successful readers when they enter school.

(3) Those who want their children have music skills and understand the surrounding sounds, this show is for you. If children can understand the main music principles, it will be easy for them to develop their listening skills and identify different sounds. 3-6 years-old can watch 30-minute program walks through Peter’s world of music-loving friends and neighbors in his backyard clubhouse.

(4) If you want your children love books and read them as well, you should watch this show. It was filmed for children between 3-7 years-old. This educational show is the most favorite for children because of its fresh approach to storytelling and books with various useful topics.

(5) This show is a new type of television show for children between the ages of 2-5 years-old. It teaches young children about themselves and the world around them by introducing them to real people. The host, Roger Smith, patiently and calmly helps very young children begin to understand the world around them through interesting stories. It develops listening and understanding the beginning, middle and end of a story.

A. Maisy
B. Reading Rainbow
C. 64 Zoo Lane
D. Peter’s Big Music Show
E. Super Why
F. Between the Lions
G. Mr. Smith’s Neighborhood
H. Lion King

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

Meghan’s Fashion Look

Today every time Meghan, now the Duchess of Sussex, (1) ________ in public, people talk about what she is wearing.

Since getting married last year, Meghan’s clothes have become almost (2) ________ the woman
wearing them. Some pieces are so popular that websites selling what she wears often crash (3) _______'demand.

Kate has (4) _______ conservative, solid color look that appeals to older (5) _______. Meghan has a more casual American look, and the British public loves it.

Designer dresses and shoes are the fashion dream of many women, but for Meghan these are just everyday things.

For her busy day, the now Duchess of Sussex usually wears clothing from high-end designers, (6) _______ Givenchy. The French company (7) _______ the dress she wore on her wedding day.

Dior, Ralph Lauren, Carolina Herrera and Oscar de la Renta are among other designers she likes.

Meghan was named 2018’s best dressed woman (8) _______ People magazine.

(9) _______ expensive clothes, the 37-year-old continues to wear less costly and more casual looking pieces. She has chosen fashion companies known for their concern (10) _______ the environment and social issues, such as Reformation and Outland Denim.
1. Read the advertisement and mark the statements True or False.

**Kenya Grand Safari**

This small-group tour is the perfect introduction to the greatest natural wonderland in East Africa. It takes you to the huge protected national parks and reserves. It includes an overnight stay at a famous hotel as well as an opportunity to view some of the most extraordinary wildlife species on earth. There are also chances to meet some of Kenya’s most fascinating people.

- Our price includes:
  - return flights
  - six nights’ accommodation or one night bed-and-breakfast accommodation depending on the duration of your stay
  - three drives in the Kenya National Reserve which is the home to giraffes
  - boat ride on Lake Naivasha which is a freshwater home to flamingos and hippos
  - visit to a Masaya Village to find out some interesting facts about the everyday life of the natives
  - an escort by a Tour Manager
- If you are eager to go on a journey through its striking and dramatic scenery, contact us at the weekdays on the phone (090) 3765498

1. Kenya Grand Safari is an excellent chance to see the unusual animals in the wild.
2. Seven days are enough for tourists to enjoy the Safari.
3. The tourists should go on a safari alone without guides.
4. If you’re afraid of hippos, it’s better not to take a boat ride on Lake Naivasha.
5. The tourists can learn a lot about the way of life of aborigines.
6. The guests have to buy the return ticket after the safari comes to its end.
7. If you want to visit the giraffes at the Kenya National Reserve, you can do it twice during your tour.
8. There are no chances to see the beautiful pink birds there.
9. If you stay at the hotel for one night, you can’t get breakfast in the morning.
10. You can contact the travel agency at any time of the day and night.

2. Read and complete the gaps in the text with the correct option.

**Pizza Museum Serves Up ‘Tasty’ Art**

"Who (1) _______ pizza?" is a question you almost never have to ask an American.

A better question might be “Who doesn’t love pizza?”

Now, there is a place for all pizza lovers (2) _______: the newly-opened Museum of Pizza. It can be found in (3) _______ pizza capital – New York City. A company called Nameless Network came up with the idea for the museum, (4) _______ as “MoPi” for short. The company used the (5) _______ of pizza as a way to get people looking at art and hearing about history in a differ-
ent format. Nameless Network asked many kinds (6) _______ artists to create art works about pizza. They provided large photographs, sculptures and huge installations. The Museum of Pizza is set up in a large space on the street level of the William Vale Hotel in Brooklyn, New York. MoPi is a “pop-up” museum – meaning it can (7) _______ only for a short time before it is moved somewhere (8) _______. So far, the museum (9) _______ lots of visitors. More than 6,000 people came through the doors when it opened this month. Visitors seem to love MoPi’s bright colours, which makes it perfect for (10) _______ selfies and other photographs for social media. In recent years, art museums have changed as they’ve aimed for younger visitors. They are becoming more interactive and photo-friendly. Pizza may be what has captured the interest of crowds. But the point of the museum has been to help people experience more art.

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Listening Tasks

LISTENING # 1

Artistic Pig

Task 1

Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.46). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.
1. Lots of people have heard of “Pigcasso”.
2. Pigcasso is the name of an artistic puppet.
3. According to Joanne, pigs are very clever animals.
4. Joanne gave Pigcasso some objects to play with.
5. Pigcasso destroyed all the objects for playing.
6. Pigcasso’s paintings are sold for $14000.

Task 2

Listen to the second part of the recording (1.47–3.04). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. What was one of Pigcasso’s artworks turned into?
   A. into a watch face by Swatch
   B. into a “Flying Pig” by Ms. Pigcasso
   C. into the company’s Twitter page

8. What color does the limited edition “Flying Pig” have?
   A. green, white and red
   B. green, blue and yellow
   C. green, blue and pink

9. What was the limited edition “Flying Pig” sold for?
   A. $102
   B. $112
   C. $120

10. What does Joanne Lefson say about Pigcasso’s artistic movement?
    A. It’s definitely an impressionist.
    B. It’s definitely an abstract expressionist.
    C. It’s definitely an abstract illusionist.

11. What can’t people define during Pigcasso’s work?
    A. what she’s painting
    B. what she’s drawing
    C. what she’s tracing

12. What changes slightly depend on Pigcasso’s mood?
    A. her pictures
    B. her colors
    C. her style
LISTENING # 2

Giant Panda National Park

Task 1
Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.22). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.
1. China is planning to create a big protected park for giant pandas.
2. Giant Panda National Park will be twice bigger than Yellowstone National Park in America.
3. The protective area will be in the southeastern province of Sichuan.
4. It is planned to complete work by 2023.
5. This National Park will measure 3 million hectares.
6. This park will provide pandas with a safe area to meet with other pandas.

Task 2
Listen to the second part of the recording (1.23–2.35). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. Who is involved in plans for the park?
   A. a reporter
   B. an official
   C. a policeman

8. How can the new National Park help people living within this territory?
   A. It will increase poverty.
   B. It will reduce poverty.
   C. It will destroy poverty

9. When was the idea for the park first suggested?
   A. in January 2017
   B. in June 2017
   C. in July 2018

10. What are giant pandas for China?
    A. an official national animal
    B. an international animal
    C. an unofficial national animal

11. Where do most giant pandas live?
    A. in captivity
    B. in the forest
    C. in the wild

12. How many giant pandas live in captivity?
    A. 30
    B. 300
    C. 3000
LISTENING # 3

Snowball Fight Ban

Task 1
Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.28). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.
1. Cold, snowy weather means building snowmen, going sledding and snowball fights.
2. Snowball fights are illegal in California.
3. Severance gets about 101 centimeters of snowfall a year.
4. It’s illegal to throw stones for 150 years.
5. It’s hard for children to believe that they cannot have snowball fights in their town.
6. Children cannot change the law because they don’t have such a power.

Task 2
Listen to the second part of the recording (1.29–3.05). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. How old is Dane Best?
   A. 8 years old
   B. 9 years old
   C. 10 years old

8. What does Dane say about the law of the snowball-fight ban?
   A. It’s old.
   B. It’s antique.
   C. It’s elderly.

9. What does Dane want to do?
   A. He wants to get in trouble.
   B. He wants to throw a snowball without any problems.
   C. He wants to talk about how to change the law.

10. What did Dane write with his classmates?
    A. notes
    B. ads
    C. letters

11. What did leaders vote for?
    A. for lifting the ban
    B. for speaking at a town meeting
    C. for presenting the arguments

12. Whom does Dane want to hit with a snowball?
    A. his four-year-old brother
    B. his four-year-old sister
    C. his classmates
LISTENING # 4

Jeans Saving Life

Task 1
Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.21). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.
1. Arne Murke is 13 years old.
2. He was sailing in the sea near New Zealand.
3. Murke turned his jeans into a life jacket.
4. He was in water for over four hours but later he was rescued.
5. The German man was in the yacht with his brother.
6. Unfortunately, the jeans didn’t save Murke’s life.

7 2 3 4 5 6

Task 2
Listen to the second part of the recording (1.22–3.00). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).
7. How old is Murke’s daughter?
   A. 10 years old
   B. 11 months old
   C. 10 months old
8. Where does Murke’s family live??
   A. In Brazil
   B. In New Zealand
   C. In the Philippines
9. What was Murke’s biggest motivation to survive?
   A. He can’t leave his daughter without a father.
   B. He can’t leave his brother without a yacht.
   C. He can’t leave himself without a job.
10. What did Murke get inside his jeans?
    A. water
    B. fish
    C. air
11. Who found the German and rescued him?
    A. his brother
    B. a rescue helicopter
    C. his family
12. Where can you see images of Murke floating in the water?
    A. in the Instagram
    B. in the magazine
    C. on the internet
LISTENING # 5

Ancient Bones Reveal Ancient Lifestyle

Task 1
Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.13). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.
1. Not long ago scientists discovered that people in northern Scandinavia ate fish thousands of years ago.
2. Swedish scientists tested the bones from more than 80 people.
3. Scientists learnt what people ate by studying the chemical elements of their bones.
4. Scientist Adam Boethius used a saying to describe the results of the study.
5. The study looked at the mix of carbohydrates in people's diet thousands of years ago.
6. Scientist discovered that people in Scandinavia ate food from the rivers.

Task 2
Listen to the second part of the recording (1.13–2.16). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).
7. What did people in Scandinavia mostly eat in the past?
   A. fish
   B. vegetables
   C. dolphins
8. How did the research help the scientists?
   A. It proved what they already knew.
   B. It changed their understanding of the life of ancient people.
   C. It showed that ancient people could not catch fish.
9. Before the study what did the scientists think?
   A. They thought ancient people lived in one place.
   B. They thought ancient people hunted big animals.
   C. They always thought ancient people ate fish.
10. What land animals lived in the area?
    A. bears and deer
    B. buffalos and elk
    C. deer and elk
11. What do the scientists now believe about ancient people's diet?
    A. They brought food from afar.
    B. They ate food from different places.
    C. They ate local food.
12. What did the research prove?
    A. People began living in Scandinavia earlier than scientists thought.
    B. People appeared in Scandinavia later than they thought.
    C. People moved around Scandinavia and did not stay at one place.
LISTENING # 6

US City Bans Sugary Drinks on Children’s Menus

Task 1

Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.18). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.

1. The city of Baltimore became the biggest city in America where they stopped including sugary drinks in children’s menus.
2. Now restaurants in Baltimore can serve only milk to children.
3. Now children cannot drink soda anywhere in the city.
4. If the restaurant does not follow the law, it will have to pay 100 dollars.
5. The new law will help the families to make the healthy choice.

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Task 2

Listen to the second part of the recording (1.19–3.14). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. What do the US centres report?
   - A. Three school children in Baltimore are obese.
   - B. Children in Baltimore have no problems with weight.
   - C. Every third school child in Baltimore weighs more than the norm.

8. What did the study show?
   - A. Only a few schoolchildren drink soda every day.
   - B. A lot of schoolchildren drink soda every day.
   - C. Schoolchildren do not usually drink soda every day.

9. What do American heart specialists recommend?
   - A. Children younger than two years old should not drink soda.
   - B. Children older than two years old can drink soda three times a week.
   - C. Children should drink no more than 500 gram soda.

10. How do the restaurants feel about the law?
    - A. They like it.
    - B. They do not like it.
    - C. They have not heard about it.

11. In what American state did seven cities ban soda from children’s menus?
    - A. Maryland.
    - B. Colorado.
    - C. California.

12. What should people expect about the new law?
    - A. It will work in all cities.
    - B. It will work in big cities.
    - C. Nobody knows if it will work.

| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
LISTENING # 7

The Crazy Success Behind ‘John’s Crazy Socks’

Task 1
Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.46). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.

1. After leaving school students feel excited about going to college.
2. Some young people want to do business after school.
3. A student called John dreamt about going to college.
4. John’s father wanted to start a food truck.
5. John loves colourful socks.
6. John is a talented and creative young man.

Task 2
Listen to the second part of the recording (1.47–3.45). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. What have the son and father been doing since they started the company?
   A. They have been very busy.
   B. They have been doing crazy things.
   C. They have been very poor.

8. How much money did they make for charity?
   A. $13,500.
   B. $135,000.
   C. $1,350.

9. What does John do in the company?
   A. Hiring and supplies.
   B. Deliveries and managing money.
   C. Design and advertising.

10. What does John do for his customers who live far away?
    A. He sends them a personal note.
    B. He brings the socks to their home.
    C. He asks his father to take the order to them.

11. What is the most important thing for John and his father?
    A. To get five-star reviews.
    B. To make a lot of money.
    C. To make people happy.

12. What do John and his father do with part of their money?
    A. They buy new businesses.
    B. They give it to people with special needs.
    C. They give it to people who love socks.
LISTENING # 8

Italian Foods at Easter

Task 1

Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.35). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.

1. Easter is the holiday when people can be with their family and enjoy holiday food.
2. All people in the US celebrate Easter with the same kind of food.
3. There is an Italian market in Washington D.C. that has traditional Italian Easter foods.
4. In the middle of the Via Umbria shop there is a large chocolate cake.
6. The Via Umbria shop has a lot of different kinds of Easter eggs.

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Task 2

Listen to the second part of the recording (1.36–3.47). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

7. What do doves usually represent in many cultures?
   A. Cake.
   B. Hope.
   C. Peace.

8. How much does the Colomba cake need to rise?
   A. Half an hour.
   B. Thirty hours.
   C. Thirteen hours.

9. What meat does the shop sell?
   A. Beef and pork.
   B. Pork and veal.
   C. Lamb and pork.

10. What does an Italian man say about the shop?
    A. There are a lot of presents that you can buy for Easter there.
    B. That he often comes to the shop from Italy.
    C. That their chocolate eggs are his favourite.

11. What can people, who do not like to cook, do in the shop?
    A. They can have an Easter breakfast there.
    B. They can eat an Easter meal at the shop.
    C. They can learn to cook Easter dishes.

12. What is the Italian tradition connected to the ring-shaped cake?
    A. It is baked by young women who do not want to marry.
    B. It is baked by old women on Easter Sunday.
    C. Young women bake it for the person they love.

| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
LISTENING # 9

Harry Potter Exhibit Opens at British Library

Task 1
Listen to the first part of the recording (0–1.43). Mark the statements (1–6) True or False.
1. Alice Newton’s father was working for Bloomsbury publishing.
2. Alice read “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” when she was 18.
3. Alice felt excited about Harry Potter book.
4. Alice wrote an email to her father after reading the manuscript.
5. “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” was released in 1987.
6. Bloomsbury sent only 500 copies to British stores and libraries.

Task 2
Listen to the second part of the recording (1.44–3.34). For questions (7–12) choose the correct answer (A, B or C).
7. What does the exhibit at the British Library include?
   A. early rejected versions of Rowling’s books  
   B. all the copies of Rowling’s books  
   C. her characters’ outline
8. How many rooms does the show have?
   A. 1 room  
   B. 2 rooms  
   C. 3 rooms
9. How are the rooms divided up?
   A. based on the Harry Potter books  
   B. based on the subjects at Hogwarts  
   C. based on the stories and beliefs
10. What does the Ripley Scroll describe?
    A. how to make alchemy experiments  
    B. how to type a six-meter document  
    C. how to make a Philosopher’s Stone
11. How many tickets has the British Library already sold?
    A. 30,000  
    B. 3,000  
    C. 13,000
12. Where will the show travel to when it closes?
    A. to Britain  
    B. to the United States  
    C. to Europe
AUDIOPRINTS

# 1. Artistic Pig

Part 1

Many people know of Pablo Picasso, the Spanish artist who created some of the 20th century’s most famous paintings. But few, until recently, have heard of “Pigcasso.”

Piccasso is the name given to an artistic pig that was rescued from a slaughterhouse in 2016. The pig currently lives - and creates art - at an animal sanctuary in South Africa’s Western Cape region.

Joanne Lefson runs the sanctuary. She says pigs are very smart animals that like to keep their minds active. “When I brought Pigcasso here to the barn, I thought ‘how do I keep her entertained?’” she said.

Lefson gave Pigcasso some balls, paintbrushes and other objects to play with. “She basically ate or destroyed everything except these paintbrushes... she loved them so much,” Lefson said.

Soon the pig was using those paintbrushes to create art.
Her paintings can sell for almost $4,000. The money from her sales goes to animal welfare.

Part 2

Pigcasso has even had one of her artworks turned into a watch face by Swatch, a Swiss watch-making company. The limited edition “Flying Pig by Ms. Pigcasso” has green, blue and pink colors and sells for $120.

“FLYING PIG BY MS. PIGCASSO has us squealing with joy!” notes a statement on the company’s Twitter page.

Lefson says Pigcasso is “definitely an abstract expressionist.” The term refers to the artistic movement that sought to communicate emotions using abstract images.

“You can’t exactly define what she’s painting,” Lefson added, “but I can tell you that her style slightly changes depending on her mood like any great artist.”

# 2. Giant Panda National Park

Part 1

China is making plans to create a large protected space for one of its most famous creatures: the giant panda.

The planned Giant Panda National Park would be two times the size of Yellowstone National Park in the United States.

The Bank of China has promised 10 billion Yuan, or $1.5 billion, to set up the protective area. It will be in the southwestern province of Sichuan, China’s forest ministry said Thursday.

The Sichuan office of the central bank signed an agreement with the provincial government to pay for the park’s construction. The work is to be completed by 2023.

The Associated Press reports that the ministry said the park will measure 2 million hectares. The project aims to help the local economy while also providing the endangered animals with a huge, unbroken area in which they can meet and mate with other pandas.

Part 2

Zhang Weichao is a Sichuan official involved in plans for the park. Zhang told the China Daily newspaper that the agreement will reduce poverty among the 170,000 people living within the park’s proposed territory.

China’s Communist Party Central Committee and the State Council first suggested the idea for the park in January 2017, the newspaper reported.

Giant pandas are China’s unofficial national animals. They live mainly in the mountains of Sichuan, with some also living in nearby Gansu and Shaanxi provinces.

An estimated 1,864 giant pandas live in the wild, where they are threatened mostly by loss of natural habitat. Another 300 live in captivity.
# 3. Snowball Fight Ban

Part 1

Cold, snowy weather has arrived in many places. That means young people are enjoying building snowmen, going sledding and having snowball fights.

But in one small American city, snowball fights are illegal. Welcome to Severance, Colorado. The town, north of Denver, gets about 100 centimeters of snowfall a year. For almost 100 years, city rules have said it is illegal to throw or shoot stones or missiles at people, animals, buildings, trees, property or vehicles. Snowballs were considered to be part of the town's definition of 'missiles.'

Kyle Rietkerk works for the town of Severance. He said children cannot believe that it is illegal to have snowball fights in their hometown. He said town leaders have for years told the children, ‘You have the power, you can change the law.’ But no one had tried – until now.

Part 2

Nine-year-old Dane Best lives in Severance with his parents and a little brother. He has made it his mission to get the snowball-fight ban overturned.

Dane says he believes the law is “outdated.”

“I want to be able to throw a snowball without getting in trouble,” he said.

Dane’s mother, Brooke Best, told The Greeley Tribune newspaper that her son found out it was illegal to throw snowballs within town limits about a month and a half ago. Since then, he has been talking about how to change that.

Dane wrote letters with his classmates in support of overturning the ban.

And on Monday, he spoke about the issue at a Severance town meeting. Leaders listened as Dane presented his arguments. Then, they all voted to lift the ban.

Dane says the first person he hopes to hit with a snowball is his four-year-old brother.

Dane and his family have researched other Severance rules, including one that defines pets only as cats and dogs. Dane has a guinea pig, which appears to be illegal in Severance, too.

# 4. Jean's Saving Life

Part 1

The 30-year-old German man was thrown off a sailboat in rough seas near New Zealand. Murke says he turned his jeans into a life jacket that kept him afloat for over three hours. He was later rescued by a coast guard crew.

The German was sailing with his brother in Tolaga Bay, on the east coast of New Zealand's north island. They reportedly had agreed to take the boat, the yacht Wahoo, to Brazil.

The trip was uneventful until the yacht's boom turned suddenly, hitting Arne Murke and knocking him in the water.

“Luckily, I knew the trick with the jeans,” he told The New Zealand Herald newspaper. “Without the jeans I wouldn't be here today. They were really the thing that saved me.”

Part 2

Murke added that he took the yacht delivery job in order to raise money for his 10-month-old daughter. She lives with his girlfriend in the Philippines.

“While I was in the water I was just thinking, I can't leave my daughter behind without a father. That was the biggest motivation,” he said.

Murke said he tied knots at the end of the legs and pulled them over water to get air inside. He then forced his jeans under water to trap air and create a life jacket.

A rescue helicopter found the German about 3 and a half hours after he fell from the boat. Images of Murke floating in the water while being rescued have been appearing on the internet.

# 5. Ancient Bones Reveal Ancient Diet, Lifestyle

Part 1

Scientists learned recently that fish was the main source of protein for people in southern Scandinavia many thousands of years ago. They also ate other animals that live in the water. The findings
come from Lund University in Sweden. Scientists there tested ancient human bones from more than 80 individuals.

One of the researchers was Adam Boethius. He says by studying the chemistry of the bones, they learned the diet of the people they belonged to.

"Basically you are what you eat. And so when you study this – stable isotopes – you get an indicator of what the humans have been eating."

The study examined the importance of a mix of protein sources in the human diet from around 10,500 to 7,500 years ago. They found that in Scandinavia most of what people ate came from the sea.

**Part 2**

Boethius said back then, fish made up 50 to 70 percent of the diet. He said other sea animals like seals and dolphins brought that percentage to almost 100 percent.

This research changed the understanding of how ancient people of the area lived. Earlier studies suggested these people hunted big animals and moved around a lot to follow them. But the chemical examinations did not show proteins linked to deer and elk and other land animals of the time.

Boethius said scientists now believe these people stayed in place for most of their lives and ate local food. The discovery, he argued, provides evidence that “settlements appeared in Scandinavia much earlier than researchers once believed.”

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**# 6. US City Bans Sugary Drinks on Children’s Menus**

**Part 1**

Recently, Baltimore, Maryland, became the largest city in the United States to ban restaurants from including sodas and other sugary drinks on their menus for children.

Now, Baltimore’s restaurants can only offer milk, water or 100 percent fruit juice as drinks with meals meant for children.

At places to eat in the city, boys and girls can still drink soda. But an adult will have to order it for them.

Restaurants failing to obey the new law face a $100 fine.

Doctor Leana Wen is Baltimore’s Health Commissioner. She said that the “law will help families make the healthy choice the easy choice.”

“The science is clear,” Wen said. “One of the biggest contributors to childhood obesity is sugary drinks.” She added that “childhood obesity is a major risk factor for diabetes, heart disease and early death.”

**Part 2**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that in Baltimore one in three school-aged children is obese. CDC officials define obesity as weight that is higher than what is considered as a healthy weight for a given height.

A federal study of Baltimore showed that about one in four schoolchildren drink soda every day.

The America Heart Association suggests that children two years of age and older drink no more than one 227-gram soda per week.

The CDC website states that nationwide the percentage of children and adolescents affected by obesity has more than tripled since the 1970s. Records from 2015 and 2016 show that nearly 1 in 5 school-age children and young people (6 to 19 years) suffer from obesity.

The Restaurant Association of Maryland opposes the new law. It says Baltimore’s restaurants are already facing enough business challenges. It warns the law will make those challenges even worse.

Other smaller U.S. cities – seven in California and one in Colorado – have already banned sodas from children’s restaurant menus. However, Baltimore is the first large city to take this step.

Whether or not such bans are approved in other cities, both large and small, remains to be seen.

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**# 7. The Crazy Success Behind ‘John’s Crazy Socks’**

**Part 1**

After graduating from high school, many young people are excited to go off to college. But not all. Some may want to skip college and jump right into a business. That was the case with John Cronin
from Long Island, New York. He did not dream of going to college. He dreamed of going into business with his father. But they did not know what kind of business. John Cronin told *Money* magazine that he thought about starting a food truck. But, there was one problem. Neither he nor his father can cook. After some thinking, the father-son team decided to go into business making a product the younger Cronin loves: socks!

Mark, John’s father, says his son has always loved colorful, wild socks. So, they created John’s Crazy Socks Company. The younger Cronin explains what he loves about his work.

“I want to sell crazy socks. Why socks? Because it’s fun; it’s colorful. I like to be creative, and I want to see wonderful things here.”

(Mark) “You’re a talented guy!”

(John) “Yes, I am.”

John was born with Down Syndrome, a genetic disorder that causes learning disabilities and developmental delays. But that has not stopped him from gaining major success in the business world.

**Part 2**

Since launching John’s Crazy Socks, father and son have been crazy busy making crazy money. But their business also helps others with disabilities.

“We’ve been able to create 35 jobs — 18 of those are held by people with differing abilities. We’ve raised over $135,000 for our charity partners.”

The father and son divide the duties of the business.

John works on sock design but he is also the face of the company. This means he represents the company on its advertising used to help sell the product and on the packaging of the product. Mark takes care of the books, managing money, supplies and hiring.

John and Mark try to make each sock purchase personal. So, they hand-carry orders to customers in the Long Island area. But for those who live farther, John sends a personal note with each order he sends.

(Mark) “What’s our mission?”

(John) “Our mission is to spread happiness.”

(Mark) “Our customers are happy. We have over 10,000 online reviews — 96 percent of those are five-star reviews — and we’ve done a lot of work, a lot of business. We’ve shipped over 113,000 orders and earned over $4 million in revenue.”

Five percent of John’s profits goes to the Special Olympics. The company also gives to the National Down Syndrome Society and the Association for Children with Down Syndrome.

John Cronin is living his dream; spreading happiness, one pair of crazy socks at a time.

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# 8. Italian Foods at Easter

**Part 1**

The Christian holiday of Easter marks the day followers believe Jesus Christ returned to life. Christians usually observe the holiday with religious services in church. But Easter is also a time for families to get together and enjoy a special dinner with traditional foods.

People in the United States come from all over the world. And different cultures celebrate Easter with different foods.

In one of the oldest neighborhoods in Washington, D.C. there is an Italian market that carries special goods to celebrate an Italian Easter.

Suzy and Bill Menard own Via Umbria, in Georgetown. In the middle of the store they have placed a huge chocolate egg.

“That egg weighs 13 pounds. It’s a milk chocolate egg. And then, it probably took 4 hours for them to do just the decorations on the front of it. So, you get your beautiful Buona Pasqua (“Happy Easter” in Italian) with the floral script.”

But if a 13 pound egg is too much for you, Via Umbria offers many smaller Easter chocolates as well.

“Fabric wrapped eggs in milk and dark chocolate, our different versions of the Easter bunny, we’ve got chocolates that have been hand-painted, covered with nuts, and also the smaller version of the beautiful, big chocolate egg we looked at earlier.”
Part 2

There are many different kinds of cakes for celebrating Easter. One, the Colomba cake, is shaped like the bird called a dove. Doves represent peace in many cultures.

Suzy says the Colomba cake is a yeast cake that rises for 30 hours before baking. “They use all rich butter and fresh eggs and the yeast takes 30 hours to rise that’s what gives it its beautiful texture.”

She also describes some of the meat products that they sell, such as lamb and pork. These can be used to make traditional dishes for Easter dinner.

“We also have our signature porchetta, which is the rolled pork belly, seasoned and cooked over high heat and cooked for a long period of time to get crisp on the outside and tender on the inside, as well as a local ham.”

She adds that her store has something for people of all cultures. For Frederico Ribigini, the place is a taste of home.

“For me it’s amazing because, as I am from Umbria, from Italy. They have the Colomba. That is a classic cake in Italy. They have Buona di Pasqua, the chocolate eggs. Yes, here, you can definitely find a lot of gifts to give for Pasqua.”

Menardi says those who do not like to cook can eat a daytime Easter meal at Via Umbria.

“On Easter we have some extra special family-style appetizers including a fresh farro salad and asparagus salad. And, one of the entrees features is a lamb ragu and, of course, for dessert we are going to have an Umbrian Ciaramicola.”

This ring-shaped cake has a sweet topping made from whipped sugar and egg whites. Historians say that this cake plays an important part in an ancient Umbrian tradition. Young women old enough for marriage bake this cake for the person they love on Easter Sunday.

# 9. Harry Potter Exhibit Opens at British Library

Part 1

Harry Potter lovers around the world may want to thank Alice Newton.

She was eight years old when her father brought home a manuscript for her to read. At the time, he was working for Bloomsbury Publishing.

After reading the manuscript, Alice wrote a note to her father: “The excitement in this book made me feel warm inside,” she wrote. “I think it is probably one of the best books an 8 or 9 year old could read.”

Based in part on Alice’s comments, Bloomsbury went on to publish “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone.”

Alice’s note to her father is a part of the British Library’s new exhibition, “Harry Potter: A History of Magic.” It celebrates the 20th anniversary of the publication of J.K. Rowling’s first book about Harry and his friends at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

When “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” was released in 1997, Bloomsbury sent just 500 copies to stores in Britain and another 500 copies to British libraries.

Part 2

Now, Harry and his friends are known worldwide.

The exhibit at the British Library includes Rowling’s outline for her books, her artwork of its characters and a map of the Hogwarts School. It also includes early versions of Rowling’s books that were rejected by other publishers.

The show has two rooms. They are divided up based on the subjects offered at Hogwarts. Areas include Potions, Herbology, Care of Magical Creatures and Defense Against the Dark Arts.

Each area describes the stories and beliefs that Rowling included in her books.

Included in the exhibition are discussions of alchemy, the European traditions that led to modern chemistry, and the Ripley Scroll — a six-meter-long document from the 1500s. It describes how to make a Philosopher’s Stone.

The British Library has already sold about 30,000 tickets to the exhibit — the most advance tickets ever sold for a British Library exhibition.

The show closes on February 28, 2018. It will then travel to New York for the 20th anniversary of the release of “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone,” the book’s title in the United States.
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ISBN 978-966-11-1028-0

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Формат 84×108/16.
Ум. друк. арк. 8,4. Обл.-вид. арк. 7,56.
Тираж 6023 пр. Вид. № 2047.
Зам. № 20-01-3109

Видавництво «Генеза», вул. Тимошенка, 2-л. м. Київ, 04212.
Свідоцтво суб’єкта видавничої справи серія ДК № 5088 від 27.04.2016.

Віддруковано у ТОВ «ПЕТ», вул. Максиміліанівська, 17, м. Харків, 61024.