

READING

I. Read the following passage and select the correct answer A, B, C, D to complete Mi's email to her new friend, Elisa.

Dear Elisa,

Thanks very much for your email. It was fun to read about the places you find interesting. I (1) _____ like going to museums in my free time. There are several museums in my city, but I like the Museum of Fine Arts the most. I love art, so (2) _____ I have free time, I go to this museum. There's a great mix (3) _____ art from across the eras, including some really impressive modern Vietnamese paintings. What I especially like about the museum is that (4) _____ of its galleries have an introduction in Vietnamese, English, and French. It (5) _____ that I can learn lots of English while enjoying the art works.

Another place of interest that I love is the (6) _____ park. It's near my house, so I go there almost every day. Sometimes I go for a walk around the park with my mother. Sometimes I choose a beautiful place in it to sit and draw some sketches. And sometimes I just sit on a bench, doing nothing, just watching people passing by. It's really relaxing. I hope someday I'll have a chance to visit your National Portrait Gallery and Hyde Park until the next email.

Mi

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. A. don't like | B. interested in | C. also | D. will |
| 2. A. because | B. though | C. that | D. when |
| 3. A. in | B. of | C. on | D. with |
| 4. A. all | B. one | C. none | D. not |
| 5. A. means | B. shows | C. proves | D. tells |
| 6. A. locality | B. small | C. area | D. local |

II. Read the following passage and select the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

In the Mekong Delta, Long Dinh village of Tien Giang province is famous for its traditional craft of weaving flowered mats. The mat's high quality makes them popular domestically, and they are also exported to markets worldwide including Korea, Japan and America.

In spite of its well-established reputation for this traditional craft, mat weaving only started here some 50 years ago. It was first introduced by immigrants from Kim Son, a famous mat weaving village in the northern province of Ninh Binh. However, the technique of weaving sedge mats in Long Dinh, as compared with other places in the South, is somewhat different. Long Dinh branded mats are thicker and have more attractive colours and patterns.

Weaving sedge mats is similar to growing rice. Long Dinh mat production mainly occurs during the dry season, from January to April. Weavers have to work their hardest in May and June, otherwise, when the rainy season starts in July, they will have to put off finishing their products till the next dry season. No matter how much work it requires, Long Dinh mat producers stick with this occupation, as it brings a higher income than growing rice.

This trade provides employment for thousands of local labourers. At present, nearly 1,000 households in Long Dinh village live on weaving mats. To better meet market demands, Long Dinh mat weavers have created more products in addition to the traditional sedge mats. Particularly, they are producing a new type of mat made from the dried stalks of water hyacinth, a common material in the Mekong Delta.

Thanks to the planning and further investment, the mat weaving occupation has indeed brought in more income for local residents. Their living standards have improved considerably, resulting in better conditions for the whole village.

1. In order to meet market demands, artisans in Long Dinh _____.

- A. try to produce various types of products B. stop producing the traditional sedge mats
- C. produce new Products from rare material D. for thousands of local labourers

2. We can infer from the sentence “weaving sedge mats is similar to growing rice” that ____.

- A. both bring similar income B. both occur at the same time
- C. both depend on weather conditions D. both occur on the same land

3. Despite difficulties, people in Long Dinh try to follow the craft because _____.

- A. they can make the techniques of weaving different
- B. they can earn more money than growing rice
- C. they can have jobs in the rainy months
- D. they can go to Korea, Japan and America

4. We can infer from the passage that _____.

- A. the craft contributes much to the village economy
- B. most of the households in Long Dinh village live on weaving mats
- C. the new technique makes labourers work in the dry season
- D. Long Dinh mat production is only well-known in foreign markets

5. All of the following are true about the craft in Long Dinh EXCEPT that ____.

- A. the techniques are a little bit different from those in other regions
- B. the mats have more attractive colours and designs
- C. it has the origin from Kim Son, Ninh Binh
- D. it has had the reputation for more than 50 years