READING PRACTICE

(NTC – 2021.2022)

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

I get a lot of letters at this time of year from many people who have a cold which won't go away. There are many different stories about how to prevent or cure a cold. That's why it is often difficult to know what to do. We know that colds are rarely "dangerous", except for weak people such as the elderly or young babies. These people are always uncomfortable and usually **most** unpleasant. Of course, you can buy a lot of medicines. They will help to make your cold less unpleasant. However, you must remember that nothing can actually cure a cold or make it go away faster. Any strong medicine used to make you feel better could be dangerous if you are already taking drugs for some other illness. Thus, check with your chemist or doctor to see whether they are all right for you. And remember they might make you sleepy. Please don't try to drive if they do! Lastly, whatever you may be told about magic foods or drinks, the best answer is to keep yourself strong and healthy. You'll have less chance of catching a cold. And if you do, it shouldn't be so bad.

1. **The writer of the passage wants_____.**
   A. to write in an amusing way
   B. to give general advice
   C. to complain about his/her health
   D. to persuade people to have more foods and drinks
2. **Colds are_____.**
   A. very dangerous
   B. not dangerous at all
   C. unpleasant
   D. usually fatal
3. **What is the key to avoid catching a cold?**
   A. having magic foods and drinks
   B. sleeping a lot
   C. taking a lot of medicines
   D. keeping yourself strong and healthy
4. **The underlined word "most' as used in the passage is closest in meaning to_____**
   A. very
   B. in the highest degree
   C. greatest
   D. absolutely
5. **The writer of the passage is probably……**
   A. a nurse
   B. a health care specialist
   C. a novelist
   D. a reporter

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

Scientists are trying to make the deserts into good land again. They want to bring water to the deserts, so people can live and grow foods. They are learning a lot about the deserts. But more and more of the earth is becoming deserts all the time. Scientists may not change the desert in time.

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Why is more and more land becoming deserts? Scientists think that people make deserts. People are doing bad things to the earth.

Some places on the earth don't have very much rain. But they still don't become deserts. This is because some green plants are growing there. Small green plants and grass are very important to dry places. Plants don't let the hot sun make the earth even drier. Plants don't let the wind blow the soil away. When a little rain falls, the plants hold the water. Without plants, the land can become a desert much more easily.

6. According to the passage, deserts_____.

A. can all be turned into good land soon

B. never have any plants or animals in them

C. get very little rain

D. are made by people

7. The underlined word "<u>They</u>" in the passage refers to_____.

A. scientists B. deserts C. people D. foods

8. Small green plants are very important to dry places because_____.

A. they develop together with grass

B. they let the sun make the earth even drier

C. they don't help to hold the water

D. they don't let the wind blow the earth away

9. Land is becoming deserts little by little because_____.

A. there is not enough rain

B. people don't do what scientists wish them to do

C. plants can't grow there

D. scientists know little about the deserts

10. After reading this, we learn that_____.

A. plants can keep dry land from becoming deserts

B. it is good to get rid of the grass in the deserts

C. all places without much rain will become deserts

D. it is better to grow crops on dry land than to grow grass

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct word that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

The coronavirus is a kind of virus. Viruses are tiny germs that are so small that you can't see them. They are so (11)_____that they can float through the air in tiny drops of water, and they can sit on your skin without you feeling them. If some of these germs get inside you, they can use your body to make more germs, and that can make you ill.

There are lots of different sorts (12)_____coronaviruses and some of them infect people. If you have been infected with one of these coronaviruses, all you probably (13)_____was a snotty nose or a cough.

But when this completely new coronavirus germ gets inside a human body, it causes (14)_____illness called COVID-19. When people talk about "catching the coronavirus", they

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are talking about this illness. Because this coronavirus is new, scientists don't know everything about it yet. But they think that there are two main (5)_____that people can catch it.

11.	*A. big*	*B. small*	*C. light*	*D. heavy*
12.	*A. about*	*B. for*	*C. with*	*D. of*
13.	*A. had*	*B. made*	*C. took*	*D. caught*
14.	*A. a*	*B. an*	*C. the*	*D. X*
15.	*A. roads*	*B. ways*	*C. behaviours*	*D. habits*

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

Family Helpline

Do you feel depressed? Do you and your brothers or sisters seem to argue all the time and you don't understand why? Does your brother or sister (16)_____you or is everything around you is not what it should be?

Statistics show that there are times in every family when things just get (17)_____ control. It's nobody's fault, but it's everybody's responsibility. At times like that, Family Helpline can help. We care about families and we want to help you (18)_____your family work again. Our counsellors deal with people just like you all the time. We are not always successful, (19)_____we do help many families to live together again in peace.

Our assistants help you to stop accusing each other of causing the problem. You all want to find a (20)_____and sometimes talking to someone outside the family can make a difference. So if you need us, call 222-3489. We are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

16.	*A. excite*	*B. annoy*	*C. quarrel*	*D. struggle*
17.	*A. out of*	*B. under*	*C. far from*	*D. into*
18.	*A. create*	*B. build*	*C. make*	*D. operate*
19.	*A. and*	*B. or*	*C. though*	*D. but*
20.	*A. solution*	*B. method*	*C. way*	*D. result*

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