

1. Read the text. Match the titles to the paragraphs of the text. One title is extra.

1. IN SEARCH OF NEW TALENTS
2. SCHOOL FOUNDER'S BASIC VIEWS
3. ADMISSION RULES
4. STATE SUPPORT
5. ALL ARE EQUAL
6. WHY THE NUMBER IN THE SCHOOL NAME?
7. EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT
8. THE INNOVATIVE SYSTEM

- A. A newly opened computer school in Paris is called 42. Why 42? In *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, the science-fiction novel by Douglas Adams, which is a favourite of technology types in France, the number 42 is proclaimed the "Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe and Everything." The school was founded by a telecom magnate who says the French education system is failing young people.
- B. This year 800 students out of 20,000 applicants are going to be accepted to the new school. The process of selection is very intensive. The first stage is cognitive skill tests online. Those who pass them are invited to the month-long camp in Paris where the potential students are challenged with computer problems for 15 hours a day.
- C. The only criterion for applying is to be between the ages of 18 and 30. You don't need money and you don't need a particular level of academic achievement. A third of the applicants don't even have high school diplomas. The school authorities are not looking for how much students know but how they think. One of the school's main goals is to unearth talents in poor areas where children don't fit into the traditional French academic education.
- D. Today youth unemployment in France is at a 14-year high. At the same time, French companies cannot find enough IT specialists and thousands of young computer enthusiasts can't get training. That prompted 42's founder Xavier Niel to invest \$90 million of his own money in the computer school.
- E. Niel, the creator of France's third largest telecommunications company, explained the current situation and his position: "If you're the son of a blue collar worker, you're going to be a blue collar worker. Children of elites stay elite. We have 200,000 kids a year who drop out of the French school system and have no hope. They become a drag on society. We want to help these young people to take control of their lives."
- F. The new school's strategy is to make students learn by solving problems, not to teach them stuff because nobody knows the problems in the future. There are no lectures or traditional teachers, only group projects and "friendly organizers" wearing T-shirts. So, they are creating students able to learn by themselves. They will build their talents and learn from each other.
- G. There's no social or national discrimination at this school, because getting in isn't based on one's education level or social status. It's a true melting pot. Even though 42 doesn't yet offer a recognized diploma, potential students feel sure it will prepare them to face the future better.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G

2. Read the text again and mark the statements

True (1),

False (2),

Not Stated (3).

- A. A computer school in Paris was first founded in 1942.
- B. 42 is a magically powerful number for technology science fiction lovers in Paris.
- C. It's difficult to pass the entrance tests to the 42 school.
- D. The applicants are offered a project to make.
- E. The course is expensive.
- F. Today it's difficult for IT specialists in France to find jobs.
- G. Self-learning is one of the main pedagogical approaches in the new school.
- H. International students are also invited to 42.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H