

I'm studying Italian in a summer school in Tuscany. I arrived a few days ago. It's my _____ trip to Italy.

ONE

I like this country very much though I _____ its main tourist attractions yet.

NOT SEE

Actually it was my mum's idea to send me here. In her opinion Italy is the _____ country in the world.

INTERESTING

And she also said that it _____ me improve my Italian in real-life communication.

HELP

Yesterday, while I _____ dinner in the cafeteria, four other students sat at the same table. We got acquainted. Two of them were Argentines, then a Russian and a Greek. A mix of cultures!

HAVE

We started chatting in Italian, laughing, telling jokes and sharing our life _____. It was lots of fun. I even started to speak Spanish with the Argentines, and our sentences became a mixture of both Italian and Spanish.

STORY

But it did not matter at all! No problem. We easily _____ each other.

UNDERSTAND

I wish all people _____ foreign languages. The more languages you know -- the better.

SPEAK

Languages help _____ understand the culture and mentality of other people.

WE

29--34.

Kelly's family loved to watch football together. Sometimes they watched college games, but normally they watched _____ teams play. This evening was special.

PROFESSION

Two teams were playing in the final match of the _____.

CHAMPION

Kelly's favourite team had actually got to the final this year, which _____ happened.

RARE

"They're going to win for sure! It will be _____ if they lose!" Kelly thought.

FAIR

Watching the football game needed the presence of the whole family and lots of tasty food. So Kelly's mum had made barbecue meatballs. Uncle Jolyon had brought a _____ cheese sauce and chips. Aunt Katie brought some cakes.

SPICE

When the game started, everyone cheered. It seemed to Kelly that every _____ of her team was doing their best to win-win-win! And they did!

PLAY

20--28.

A few days ago Kim's family moved house. Kim had very mixed feelings about it. On the one hand, she _____ happy with her new room.

FEEL

It was larger than the room she used to live in. Everything in this room
_____ in Kim's favourite colours and according to her taste.

ARRANGE

The flat was on the _____ floor in an old brick building.

FIVE

From her window Kim could see the large garden, which now was covered with bright
yellow _____, and the tiled roofs at a distance.

LEAF

"I'd be very happy if I _____ here," Kim's friend, Jessica, said when
she visited her for the first time.

LIVE

"And how is your new school?" she asked, still admiring the fresh wallpapered walls
with a few framed photos on _____.

THEY

"You _____ new friends there, right?"
These words made Kim feel nervous. "No, not yet." she answered.

MAKE

Then she said that she _____ to her new school only the next Monday
and that the school looked nice and modern and there was a swimming pool in it.

GO

What Kim _____ her friend was that she was awfully afraid of
going there and meeting her new classmates and teachers.

NOT TELL

1. Why do a lot of letters come to the Italian city on Valentine's Day?
 2. Why is it important to see the right bird on Valentine's Day?
 3. What message can be sent with the flowers?
 4. Why do some people give St Valentine's presents to their pets?
 5. What is a different way to celebrate February 14?
 6. How did the holiday get its name?
 7. Why did a traditional St Valentine's box of sweets have the form of a heart?
- A. Chocolate is the most common present on St. Valentine's Day. The tradition goes back to the 1800s when doctors made patients eat chocolate to make them feel happier. This might also be the reason why in the 1860s, Richard Cadbury produced his heart-shaped box of chocolates exclusively for Valentine's Day.
 - B. St Valentine's Day is a perfect occasion to express your deepest feelings to the person you love. On Valentine's Day lovers, friends and family members exchange Valentine's Day gifts as symbols of love. However, statistics show that nearly 9 million people prefer celebrating Valentine's Day with their pets and give them presents. The reason is that most pet owners consider animals to be more grateful and loyal than humans.
 - C. Each rose sent on Valentine's Day has some meaning. For example, a red rose means love and respect and pink says, 'I am having sweet thoughts about you'. Also, it is believed that one rose stands for love at first sight, eleven flowers mean that the receiver is truly and deeply loved and a hundred and eight roses are recommended for marriage proposals.
 - D. Some superstitions about seeing birds on Valentine's Day are really funny. It was once believed that if a woman saw a flying robin, she would get married to a sailor. However, if she saw a sparrow, her future husband would be poor. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire. There is no answer to who she would marry if she saw a pigeon, as history does not say anything about pigeons.
 - E. Romeo and Juliet, the two characters from the play by William Shakespeare, are remembered all over the world as an emblem of romance. The young lovers lived in Verona, Italy. Every Valentine's Day, this city still receives about 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet. The fictional character is still alive for many people who believe in romantic and immortal love.
 - F. Started by a group of feminists, Quirkyalone Day is celebrated on February 14 as an alternative to Valentine's Day. The new holiday started in 2003 as a celebration of romance, freedom and individuality. It's a day to celebrate the things you enjoy doing alone. Ways to celebrate include: buying yourself a new dress, taking a long walk without your mobile phone, exploring a new part of town, trying a new recipe etc.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Answer							

Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was a celebrated English nurse and writer. According to a survey, British people consider her to be one of the most famous British persons along with outstanding scientists, writers and politicians.

She was born into a rich, upper-class family in 1820, in Italy. She got her name Florence after the city of her birth, as there was a tradition in her family to name the children in honour of the city they were born in. She got an all-round education and according to the family's status Florence was expected to become a faithful wife and attentive mother.

However, in 1844 Florence decided to become a nurse, despite the intense anger and distress of her mother and sister. At that time nursing was seen as a job that needed neither education nor special medical skills.

In 1854 the Crimean War broke out and Florence Nightingale offered her services to the War Office and soon left for the Crimea with thirty-eight volunteer nurses. They began their work in the main British camp, in the hospital. Very soon Florence found out that hygiene was neglected, and fatal infections were common. There was no equipment to cook proper food for the patients. Florence decided to change the situation.

Nightingale managed to found a vast kitchen and a laundry. In addition to her nursing work, she tried to organize reading and recreation rooms for the wounded soldiers. She was on her feet for twenty hours a day and so were the other nurses. Florence was called 'The Lady with the Lamp' for her habit of making rounds round the hospital at night. She checked on her helpless patients.

Florence remained in the Crimea until 1856, then she returned to England.

In London Florence Nightingale visited Queen Victoria and persuaded the Queen of the need to create a military hospital system. Soon Florence Nightingale set up a training school for nurses, the first nursing school in the world. It is now called *The Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery* and is part of *King's College* in London.

The annual International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world on Florence's birthday, the 12th of May.

In the Crimea camp, Nightingale got 'Crimean fever' and never fully recovered. By the time she was 38 years old, she was seriously ill. She left her house very rarely and had to stay in bed most of the time. Nevertheless, Florence continued her work from her bed. She wrote many books, some of them became the base of the curriculum at the *Nightingale School* and other British nursing schools.

Florence Nightingale died in London in 1910, at the age of ninety. The government offered to bury Florence in Westminster Abbey, but her relatives did not agree. However, the memorial service took place in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Florence Nightingale received a lot of honorable awards. Several books were written about the life of 'The Lady with the Lamp' and a few films were shot about her.

Florence Nightingale was named in honour of her birthplace.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Florence's family approved of her wish to become a nurse.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Florence Nightingale cooked for the wounded soldiers herself.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Florence Nightingale got her nickname because she often visited the wounded at night.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Queen Victoria was impressed by Florence Nightingale's work.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Florence Nightingale's school for nurses was closed after her death.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Florence Nightingale was buried in Westminster Abbey.

- 1) True
- 2) False ☐
- 3) Not stated

Mark Twain

Mark Twain wrote 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' in 1884. Since then, the book has been published in at least sixty languages, and some people say it is the best book ever created by an American writer. American students have 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' on their school reading list and parents, teachers and literary experts still debate the problems touched in the book.

The writer's real name was Samuel Clemens. Samuel was born in 1835. He grew up in the state of Missouri on the Mississippi River. After his father died, young Samuel went to work as an assistant to a publisher. Ten years later, he became a pilot on a steamboat that sailed on the Mississippi. He heard the riverboat workers call out the words "mark

twain!" That was a measure for the depth of water. Later he used this word combination as a pen-name.

In 1861 Clemens travelled west and became a reporter for newspapers in Nevada and California. He wrote news stories, editorials and sketches under his pen-name *Mark Twain*. He became one of the best known storytellers in the West. He developed his own narrative style – friendly, funny, and often satirical, which won him a wide audience. The first success came with the story 'The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County'.

Mark Twain travelled a lot during his lifetime not only round the USA but also to Europe and the Holy Land. He naturally began writing books about his travels. 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' was published in 1876, and soon after he began writing a sequel, 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn'.

It took Mark Twain longer to write 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' than any of his other books. He started writing in 1876, but put the story away after about two years of work. He returned to it in 1883, and the following year it was published.

From the beginning, the book was strongly debated. Some critics praised its realism and honesty, but the others strongly disliked it. They protested against the personality of Huck – a rough, dirty and disobedient boy. They could not agree that such a person should be the main character of a book. What's more, critics disliked the way Mark Twain used the language of a common, uneducated person to tell the story; no writer had ever done that before.

Today there is no longer any debate about the importance of 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' in American literature. In 1935 Ernest Hemingway wrote: "All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called 'Huckleberry Finn.' There was nothing before. And there has been nothing as good since."

No wonder then that the novel 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' was a great inspiration for film producers – more than 20 screen versions of the book have been shot not only in America, but also in Europe, Russia and Japan. There are feature films, musicals, cartoons and even Japanese anime.

'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' has been translated into many languages.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

The writer took his pen-name when working as an assistant to a publisher.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

'The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County' is still on the reading list for American school children.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

It took Mark Twain two years to write 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn'.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

☐

Literary critics expressed different opinions of 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn'.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

☐

Ernest Hemingway strongly criticised 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn'.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

☐

The first film on the novel 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' was shot in Europe.

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

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