

## READING

**VIII. Read the passage and choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.**

Back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, on the Iowa frontier, most homes had to produce nearly all their own needs. They lived on farms that raised much of their own food, and children became an important part of the family team. They learned to contribute to the family's survival at an early age. They gathered eggs, worked in the garden, carried in wood and water and perhaps cared for younger brothers and sisters. As girls got older, they learned to cook, sew, preserve food for the winter, do the washing and care for the sick. Boys helped their father with the livestock, planting and harvest, hunting, and maintenance of buildings and fences. Their opportunities for education were limited to whatever a nearby school offered. When there were heavy demands for their help on the farm, like during corn picking, older boys had to stay at home to help.

However, life for Iowan children has changed a lot. It has become much easier in many ways. And with the invention of computers, the internet and cell phones, children have greater opportunities to connect with friends and the outside world.

**Note:** Iowa is a state in the upper Midwestern region of the United States of America.

3. Iowan children had \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities for education.  
A. good      B. few      C. no      D. a lot of
4. Older boys \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. did not go to school  
B. had fewer opportunities to go to school than girls  
C. had to stop school from time to time to help with harvesting  
D. did not like going to school
5. Life for Iowan children has become much \_\_\_\_\_ now.  
A. demanding      B. complicated      C. convenient      D. fun

**IX. Read and complete each numbered blank in the passage with the correct answer A, B, C, or D.**

These are my top two observations on how shopping has changed.

**1. Shoppers know as much as salespeople**

**Then:** People came into stores with little or (1) \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge of the products and they relied on a salesperson to advise them on what to buy.

**Now:** (2) \_\_\_\_\_ usually do their own research before shopping to get the maximum value out of every dollar they spend, and to feel secure about the items they're buying. Therefore, shoppers nowadays have more power to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ what they want to buy. If salespeople try to give false information about products, they risk losing potential customers.

**2. Opinions carry more weight than ever**

**Then:** Information about products were mostly shared among friends and family – and word of mouth was a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ force that transformed a new product into a must-have.

**Now:** With YouTube and social networks, people are now sharing their opinions on products not just with a group of friends, but with (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of people. Their reviews make it easy for people to discuss and get to know more about a product. They also affect people's decisions on whether to buy a product.

(Adapted from: <https://www.thinkwithgoogle.com>)

1. A. no      B. much      C. any      D. more
2. A. Salespeople      B. Shoppers      C. Producers      D. Retailers
3. A. say      B. sell      C. make      D. decide
4. A. personal      B. tiny      C. social      D. natural
5. A. lots of      B. millions      C. an amount      D. many

## X. Read the passage and decide if each statement is T (true) or F (false).

Being one of the most populous countries in Europe and with about 20 million tourists every year, London is busy all the time. There are various modes of transport for one to choose between public and private transport. However, the most popular means of transport is the London Underground.

The Underground is a great way to travel for both tourists and locals. It is the oldest underground metro network in the world and a few parts of this system have been operating since 1863. The London Underground carries more than a billion passengers every year and it spreads across 270 stations. It usually operates from 5:00 in the morning till midnight but some lines offer 24-hour service. It is the most efficient way to get around London. If you are a tourist, it is better to avoid the rush hours on weekdays as it gets very busy and crowded with London commuters. These rush hours are generally between 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the morning, and from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the evening. Also, The Underground is the cheapest travel option from Heathrow Airport to Central London.

Statements	T	F
1. London has a big population of 20 million people.		
2. London Underground mainly serves tourists.		
3. There are 270 underground stations in London.		
4. All the underground lines operate until midnight.		
5. No other option is cheaper than The Underground when you travel between the city and the airport.		

## SPEAKING

### XI. Choose the best option A, B, C, or D to indicate the most suitable answer to complete each of the following exchanges.

1. Phong: I will show you some of my photos when I was a child.

Tom: \_\_\_\_\_

- A. No problem.
- B. I have some pictures too.
- C. How interesting. I'll love it.
- D. I'm sorry to hear that.