

READING

Task 1

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (1–5).

There are three choices you do not need to use.

1 The Escape Café

Escape the hustle and bustle and relax at our café! With warm, inviting atmosphere and delicious homemade pastries, it's the perfect spot to slow down. Whether you're meeting friends or enjoying a quiet moment with a book, The Escape Café is your little slice of comfort in the city.

Address: 309 Nightingale Road, Tornbin.

2 Free of Charge Kitchen Needs Volunteers

We need friendly volunteers to help prepare and serve meals, as well as assist with clean-up. Shifts are available daily from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Make a difference in your community — apply today at www.soupforyou.org

3 Graphic Designer Needed

We are seeking a talented graphic designer to join our creative team at Pixel Studios. If you have a strong portfolio and a passion for design, we want to hear from you.

Position: Full-Time Graphic Designer.

Apply at www.happypixels.com

4 Urban Oasis

Meet fellow travelers, explore the city, and save money. Our hostel offers comfy beds, free Wi-Fi, and a social atmosphere in the very heart of the city.

More info: www.urbanvibe.com

5 Join Our Rock Climbing Club

Push your limits with our rock climbing club! Whether you're a novice or experienced climber, our community welcomes all skill levels. Learn climbing techniques and safety from certified instructors.

Membership Fee: \$50/month (includes access to indoor climbing gym).

Call (303) 789-1234.



Which advertisement is about ____?

- A** shopping
- B** experiences suitable for every level of expertise
- C** a theatrical event
- D** a job opportunity
- E** an opportunity to offer your time and assistance
- F** environmental protection
- G** a venue offering a quiet spot in the city to chill out
- H** a place to meet and socialize with other tourists

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Task 2

Read the texts below. For questions (6–10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

How Nature Inspires Technology: The Field of Biomimicry

Biomimicry, a term combining "bios," meaning life, and "mimesis," meaning imitation, is a fascinating scientific discipline that draws inspiration from nature to solve human problems. This field involves studying nature's best ideas and mimicking these designs and processes to create innovative solutions. By observing how animals, plants, and other organisms have evolved to overcome challenges, scientists and engineers can develop technologies that are efficient, sustainable, and effective.

The core idea of biomimicry is that nature, with 3.8 billion years of evolution, has already solved many of the issues we face today. For example, natural selection has led to the survival of only the most efficient designs in nature, providing a rich source of ideas for human innovation. Instead of **starting from scratch**, we can look to the natural world for guidance.

One famous example of biomimicry is the helicopter. The design of helicopters was inspired by the dragonfly, an insect known for its amazing flying skills. Dragonflies can hover in one spot, fly backward, and change direction quickly. Engineers

wanted helicopters to have these same abilities. By studying how dragonflies move, they created helicopters that can do similar things in the air. Another example is the Shinkansen bullet train in Japan. Engineers, inspired by the streamlined beak of the kingfisher bird, redesigned the train's nose to reduce noise and improve energy efficiency, solving a significant engineering challenge.

Biomimicry also extends to sustainable design. For instance, architects are creating buildings that mimic the natural cooling systems of termite mounds, leading to structures that use less energy for heating and cooling. This approach aligns with nature's principles, such as using only the energy needed, recycling materials, and operating within limits, which are crucial for achieving sustainability.

By embracing the wisdom of nature, biomimicry offers a pathway to innovative and sustainable solutions that can address modern challenges. As we continue to explore and understand the natural world, we unlock the potential to create technologies that are not only advanced but also harmonious with the environment, ensuring a better future for all.

6. **What is the fundamental principle underlying biomimicry?**
 - ☐ A Humans can create superior solutions without reference to nature.
 - ☐ B Nature offers optimal solutions to many human challenges.
 - ☐ C Technology should always prioritize efficiency over sustainability.
 - ☐ D Human innovation is independent of natural processes.
7. **What does the phrase "starting from scratch" mean in the context of the text?**
 - ☐ A Beginning a project with no prior knowledge or experience.
 - ☐ B Using existing technology without modifications.
 - ☐ C Collaborating with other experts in the field.
 - ☐ D Relying heavily on computer simulations.
8. **How did biomimicry influence the design of the Shinkansen bullet train?**
 - ☐ A By copying the aerodynamics of a fish.
 - ☐ B By using the structure of termite mounds.
 - ☐ C By replicating the skin of a shark.
 - ☐ D By mimicking the bill of the bird.
9. **How does biomimicry differ from traditional engineering approaches?**
 - ☐ A Biomimicry relies solely on experimentation, while traditional engineering uses theoretical calculations.
 - ☐ B Biomimicry focuses on copying nature exactly, while traditional engineering involves original designs.
 - ☐ C Biomimicry seeks inspiration from nature to solve problems, while traditional engineering often starts from scratch.
 - ☐ D Biomimicry is less concerned with efficiency and more focused on aesthetics.

10. In what way are architects using biomimicry for sustainable building design?

- ☐ A By mimicking bird nests.
- ☐ B By emulating the temperature regulation mechanism of termite nests.
- ☐ C By copying the insulation properties of bear fur.
- ☐ D By designing buildings with the structure of a spider web.

Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (11–16).

There are two choices you do not need to use.

11 Hermanus Whale Festival, South Africa

The charming coastal town of Hermanus, South Africa, hosts a three-day festival each September, coinciding with whale activity. The festival celebrates the return of whales to the coastal waters of Hermanus. The festival attracts 75,000–130,000 visitors annually. The Eco-Marine Tent, the heartbeat of the festival, features eco- and marine-related exhibitions, interactive displays, films, music, arts, food, and talks by marine biologists. It aims to inspire visitors about ocean conservation. Visitors enjoy the marine giants and great on-land entertainment, scenic hikes, water sports, local food, crafts, and fun activities for kids, making it a perfect destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

13 Día De Los Muertos, Mexico

Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a two-day festival celebrated in Mexico and among Mexican communities worldwide. Held on November 1 and 2, this holiday honors deceased family members. Families come together to pray and offer the deceased their favorite food and drinks. Altars with photos and offerings are created, welcoming everyone to join in remembrance. On November 2, families visit cemeteries to clean and decorate graves. Rooted in ancient Pre-Columbian rituals, Día de los Muertos emphasizes love, respect, and the enduring connection between the living and the dead.

15 Gion Matsuri, Japan

One of the oldest festivals in the world, Gion Matsuri, dates back to 869, originating as a religious ceremony to appease the gods during a plague. Since then, it has protected Kyoto's citizens from fires, floods, and earthquakes. The

12 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, USA

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is the world's largest hot air balloon festival, held annually in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This autumn event transforms the skies with vibrant colours and imaginative balloon shapes. The Special Shape Glowdeo is a magical event at the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, featuring unique hot air balloons at night, turning them into glowing, colourful lanterns. This enchanting display creates a stunning landscape of illuminated spheres. The Glowdeo includes balloons shaped like unusual animals, fantastical characters, spaceships, aliens, and more. Accompanied by music and often ending with fireworks, this event offers an inspiring experience, delighting visitors of all ages.

14 St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day, observed every March 17, is packed with parades, good luck charms, and all things green. Initially a religious holiday, it has evolved into a celebration of Irish culture. St. Patrick, a real person, is surrounded by myths, such as chasing snakes out of Ireland, although snakes never lived there. Originally associated with blue, green became the colour of St. Patrick's Day in the 18th century when the green shamrock became a national symbol. Also March 17 is a day for huge celebrations in Ireland and around the world, from Boston to Tokyo. The largest parade is in New York, with 150,000 participants, followed by Dublin. Even small Irish villages have their own mini parades. St. Patrick's Day is celebrated in more countries than any other national festival, showcasing the widespread influence of Irish culture.

16 Glastonbury Festival

Glastonbury Festival is an outdoor cultural event featuring musical acts, performance art, and visual installations, held near Glastonbury in southwestern England. It is considered the largest greenfield music festival globally. Starting in the

highlight is the Yamahoko Float Procession, a parade featuring elaborate floats. The city is adorned with breathtaking lanterns, food stalls, and endless sake. The festival takes place over the entire month of July. A local boy is selected as a divine messenger and cannot touch the ground from July 13 until after the parade on the 17th. From July 10 to 14 and 18 to 21, visitors can watch the floats being assembled from scratch without nails.

early 1970s, it became famous in the 1980s, featuring big music stars and new artists. Glastonbury keeps the 1960s "hippie" spirit alive with peace gardens, spiritual healers, and green spaces. The five-day festival covers 900 acres and draws over 200,000 people. To protect the land, the festival takes a break every five years. Famous acts include David Bowie, Beyoncé, Radiohead, Coldplay, and Dolly Parton. By 2017, more than 200,000 people attended.

Which festival _____?

- A guards the people against some natural disasters
- B offers you to watch the animals in their natural environment
- C is a famous music festival on a small island in the Danube River
- D changed the original colour because of the national symbol
- E is the oldest film festival in the world
- F makes sky especially spectacular after dark
- G is a remembrance of the loved ones who have passed away
- H is not celebrated annually

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
11	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
16	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (17–22).

There are two choices you do not need to use.

Expressing Yourself Through Fashion

Fashion is more than just clothing; it's a way to express who you are without speaking. What you wear reveals your mood, and individuality, (17) _____.

Embracing your personal style means celebrating what makes you unique. It's about choosing clothes that (18) _____. Discover which styles, colors, and shapes make you feel confident and comfortable. Whether you prefer classic or bold looks, (19) _____ a style that feels authentic to you. This helps you stand out and be memorable.

Incorporating trends can refresh your look, but it's important to choose trends that fit your personal style and complement your wardrobe. Don't feel pressured (20) _____; select those that resonate with you.

Dressing appropriately for various occasions is also important. Balance your personal style with the event's dress code. Attention to details, such as choosing the right accessories and ensuring a polished appearance, can elevate your look.

Fashion is about creativity and self-expression. (21) _____ and adapt trends to suit your personal taste. Confidence is the key to making any outfit shine. Expressing yourself through fashion is a fun way to show (22) _____ and make a lasting impression.

- A to follow every trend
- B who you are
- C reflect your personality and values
- D while adding your unique flair to
- E experiment with new styles
- F balance with the dress code
- G mix and match pieces to create
- H whether you're at work, the gym, or out with friends

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
17	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
18	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
19	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
20	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
21	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
22	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

USE OF ENGLISH

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (23–27) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Tea has been a staple in Chinese culture for centuries, but recently, coffee is gaining (23) _____. In major cities like Beijing, coffee shops are everywhere, and global brands like Starbucks, along with businesses from South Korea and Taiwan, are (24) _____. Many young Chinese people are (25) _____ to coffee, influenced by global trends and social settings. BeiBei Su, who has lived in the U.S. for eight years, notes that while she still prefers tea, younger generations in China are increasingly enjoying coffee. Yang Lin, a Chinese expatriate in the U.S., says coffee has become a social staple for her, though tea still holds sentimental (26) _____ from her childhood in Fujian. Despite coffee (27) _____ being lower in China compared to global averages, it is growing by 15 % annually, with domestic coffee production expanding, particularly in Yunnan Province.

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 23 ☐ A popularity | 24 ☐ A failing | 25 ☐ A drinking | 26 ☐ A value | 27 ☐ A compression |
| ☐ B strength | ☐ B thriving | ☐ B preferring | ☐ B price | ☐ B consumption |
| ☐ C anxiety | ☐ C declining | ☐ C exchanging | ☐ C charge | ☐ C comparison |
| ☐ D ease | ☐ D disappearing | ☐ D shifting | ☐ D cost | ☐ D challenge |

Task 6

Read the text below. For questions (28–32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Benefits of Exercise

If you find yourself lost outdoors, (28) _____ tool you need for survival is advanced planning. Always expect (29) _____ unexpected and prepare for it. Even if you plan to be outside for just (30) _____ hours, pack enough essentials to stay hydrated, fueled, and ready for any weather.

Your essentials should include enough food, water, a compass (and know how to use it), and proper maps. If some people (31) _____ these and used them properly, they could have avoided getting lost. Remember, staying calm and thinking clearly (32) _____ crucial if you do lose your way.

- | |
|---|
| 28 ☐ A good |
| ☐ B better |
| ☐ C the best |
| ☐ D well |
| 29 ☐ A a |
| ☐ B one |
| ☐ C an |
| ☐ D the |
| 30 ☐ A a few |
| ☐ B a little |
| ☐ C few |
| ☐ D any |
| 31 ☐ A has brought |
| ☐ B bring |
| ☐ C will bring |
| ☐ D had brought |
| 32 ☐ A has been |
| ☐ B would |
| ☐ C will be |
| ☐ D is |