

C. READING

Exercise 1: Read the following passage and circle the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

① Nowadays, with the high-speed Internet (1) _____, people can quickly update the (2) _____ news on the coming natural disasters in their neighborhood. For example, last year many flood victims in Da Nang were rescued from deep flooded areas (3) _____ to the short videos and images of where they got stuck they posted on social networks like Facebook or TikTok. In addition, the collaborative work on storm and flood prevention between departments goes (4) _____ because they can have video conferences to guide and evacuate locals from dangerous areas. In the future, the communication (5) _____ people and the rescue teams might be much more convenient when telepathy technology has a breakthrough.

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|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. A. connect | B. connecting | C. connection | D. connector |
| 2. A. latest | B. last | C. later | D. late |
| 3. A. despite | B. because | C. thank | D. thanks |
| 4. A. smoothy | B. smoothly | C. smooth | D. smoother |
| 5. A. by | B. with | C. between | D. from |

② Computers are helpful in many ways. First, they are fast. They can work with information even (1) _____ than a person. Second, computers can work with a lot of information at the same time. Third, they can store information for a long time. They do not forget things that the common people do. (2) _____, computers are almost always correct. They are not perfect, but they usually do not make mistakes.

Recently, it is important (3) _____ about computers. There are a number of things to learn. Many companies have computers at work. In addition, most universities (4) _____ day and night courses in Computer Science. Another way to learn is from a book, or from a friend. After a few hours of practice, you can (5) _____ with computers.

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|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. quickly | B. quicklier | C. more quickly | D. most quickly |
| 2. A. Finally | B. Finish | C. Final | D. Finishing |
| 3. A. know | B. knew | C. knowing | D. to know |
| 4. A. have | B. has | C. had | D. having |
| 5. A. do | B. play | C. get | D. work |

Exercise 2: Read the following passage and circle the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

① Life in the big city is face-paced, fun and exciting. There are countless job opportunities and activities to occupy your time. However, with the good, there also comes the bad. Although the big city has more job opportunities; there are also more people competing for a single job. This can make your job search frustrating. Oddly enough, you will see hundreds, if not thousands of jobs available each week, but you still might remain unemployed, especially when the economy is down. In addition, the cost of living is typically higher in big cities, and it can **cost you an arm and a leg** for a small apartment in a decent area of the city, not to mention other costs to fulfill your basic demands. Diversity is a good thing, but the number of people can be a bit overwhelming if you are not accustomed to it. There will always be crowds and always be people around. Moreover, traffic can be a nightmare in the big city. It can get so bad that it can turn you into an evil person. If you hate driving in traffic, then the big city life is not for you. Heavy traffic also contributes to pollution, which is one of the biggest disadvantages of living in the city. Obviously, our health is affected

most by certain diseases relating to the respiratory system and other body parts. A lot of premature deaths are supposed to be the result of long-term exposure to small particles. Most importantly, there is always more crime in a big city, causing you second case your decision for living in a big city. You are much more likely to be a victim of a crime living in a big city than in a small town.

1. According to the passage, some good things of living in the city are _____.
 A. excellent educational system and recreational activities
 B. excellent educational system and countless job opportunities
 C. countless job opportunities and activities to occupy your time
 D. a lot of kinds of entertainment and shopping centers
2. While big cities have more job opportunities, it also gives _____.
 A. more competition for a single job
 B. higher salary
 C. growing economic crisis
 D. greater chances of being unemployed
3. What does the phrase **“cost an arm and a leg”** mean?
 A. your legs and arms have good value
 B. cost a small amount of money
 C. you must work hard to earn money
 D. cost a lot of money
4. According to the paragraph, city is not a perfect place for _____.
 A. extroverted people
 B. introverted people
 C. people who hate driving in traffic
 D. people who prefer a busy life
5. In the big city, people tend to when traffic is getting heavy _____.
 A. go crazy
 B. get enough time to relax
 C. wait a bit longer
 D. slow down themselves
6. Which of the following sentences is NOT true?
 A. Pollution causes health problems.
 B. Cities are always crowded.
 C. It costs a lot of money to live in a big city.
 D. Crime is not a serious problem in big cities.

② For 3,000 years, Mongolians have lived in the rural areas, moving to search new grassland for their cattle. They depend on their livestock for a living. Today, about half of Mongolia's population is living in the ger and moving their camping equipment several times a year. nomadic life develops in summer and survives in winter. When the weather is warm, they work hard on their farms to get milk and make airag — a type of milk alcohol, consuming meat from their sheep and goats. Once winter comes, temperatures drop quickly and they stay indoors and survive on horse meat.

With the rise of technology, changes in the Mongolian nomadic lifestyle are almost inevitable. Many herders use motorbikes to herd cattle and horses. To move their homes, they use trucks instead of ox carts. Solar panels are also becoming an addition to the ger, giving them access to electricity without being confined to one place. The nomads use solar energy to power TV sets and mobile phones.

1. Mongolians regularly move from place to place in order to _____.
 A. look for food for their family
 B. find grassland for their livestock
 C. herd their cattle and horses
 D. sell their animals and farm products
2. How many Mongolians still live a traditional nomadic life?
 A. Close to 40 percent
 B. More than 50 percent
 C. About 50 percent
 D. About 60 percent
3. What is the Mongolian's main food in winter?
 A. horse meat
 B. sheep meat
 C. goat meat
 D. airag
4. Today, Mongolian nomads _____.

- A. use solar energy to power electronic devices
 - B. don't lead their lifestyles as herders any more
 - C. use ox carts to move their homes
 - D. have the advantage of city life
5. Which of the following is NOT true about Mongolian nomads?
- A. They live in the countryside.
 - B. They live near and for their livestock.
 - C. They are now taking advantage of modern technology.
 - D. They work hard in winter when the temperatures are low.

③

The Wodaabe Tribe

1. In the strong heat of the Sahara Desert, a celebration is getting started. It's a competition — a beauty contest, and the contestants — people taking part in it — consider it serious. Contestants are wearing colorful clothes, putting their make-up and doing their hair. This is a beauty contest with a difference. The contestants aren't women, they're men.
2. The Wodaabe Tribe in Nigeria, a group of about 45,000 nomadic cattle herders, travel through the Sahara Desert raising cows. They consider themselves the most beautiful people in the world.
3. Every year the Wodaabe hold a beauty contest to celebrate the rainy season. Groups of young men dance for hours in front of female judges — people deciding who are the winners. I can't wait for it to start. There's nothing like it anywhere else.
4. The men put on costumes with ostrich features, beads and brightly-coloured materials. They also paint their faces, for example, a long line painted from the forehead to the chin. Soon the dance begins. The men stand in a circle and move round as they dance. Dancing in circles for hours under the desert sun can be very tiring.
5. By the end of the dance there are three winners. The losers have to wait until next year's contest to try again. I hope that the Wodaabe continue this fantastic celebration for some time to come.
1. What is so unusual about the beauty contest?
- A. The bright clothes
 - B. The special face paint
 - C. The contestants' hair
 - D. The people who compete
2. What does the writer suggest about the Wodaabe people in the second paragraph?
- A. They have a high opinion of themselves.
 - B. The men want to impress each other.
 - C. They get everything they need from their animals.
 - D. They pay most attention to the clothing they wear.
3. The writer is excited to see the festival because ____.
- A. he has waited for it to start for a long time
 - B. he has travelled a long way to see it
 - C. he thinks everyone else seems too serious
 - D. he wants to see a unique event
4. What is the purpose of paragraph 4?
- A. to show how beautiful the contestants become
 - B. to give examples of Wodaabe beauty preparations
 - C. to express the difficulty of costume-making
 - D. to emphasise how stressful the Wodaabe feel about the contest
5. What do we learn about the writer's feelings towards the festival?
- A. He feels the competition isn't fair on the losers.
 - B. He thinks the tradition should be continued.

- C. He believes the competitions are nothing special.
- D. He thinks it's too tiring for the Wodaabe men.

④

Australian Aborigines

There are about 500 ethnic groups in Australia called Aborigines. Before white people came, Aboriginal people lived throughout Australia, and the highest population was along the coast.

They were traditionally hunters and gatherers who did not live in one place. They moved around their country to search for food. Within the clan, all members had specific roles and responsibilities to ensure the survival of their community. Men hunted animals, such as

kangaroos, emus, birds, reptiles and fish. Women collected fruits, honey, insects, eggs and plants. They had a steady supply of food thanks to hunting and gathering. They were experts in finding sources of water.

Since the British first came to Australia, Aborigines lost most of their land and a large number of native people were killed due to huge waves of diseases. Today more than half of all Aborigines live in towns, often in the suburbs in bad living conditions.

Nowadays, there are laws to protect the rights of Aborigines, and Aboriginal communities have their own territory, and mining companies can't have projects on their sacred land.

1. All of these are true about Aborigines before white people came to Australia except _____.
 - A. there were hundreds of ethnic groups
 - B. they lived throughout Australia
 - C. they were nomads — moving around the country
 - D. they lived inland mostly in order to find food
2. Aborigines lived by _____.
 - A. hunting and gathering
 - B. farming and raising animals
 - C. growing fruits and raising animals
 - D. selling water sources to white people
3. After the arrival of the British, the population of Aborigines dropped sharply because of _____.
 - A. wars
 - B. loss of land
 - C. diseases
 - D. bad living conditions
4. The laws try to protect _____.
 - A. the operation of mining companies
 - B. the survival of the Aborigines on their own land
 - C. the rights of white people throughout Australia
 - D. the rights of mining companies on the territories of the Aborigines
5. The word 'clan' in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. survival
 - B. tradition
 - C. community
 - D. country