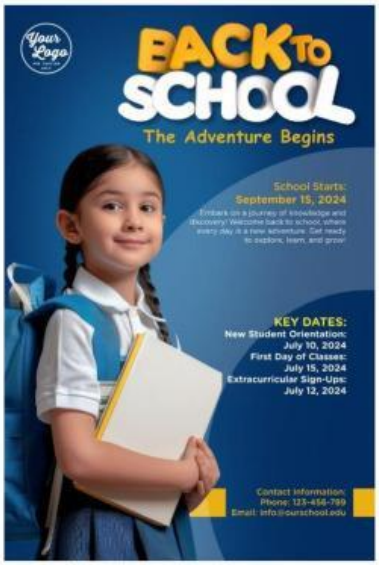
Reading

Task 1

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

1

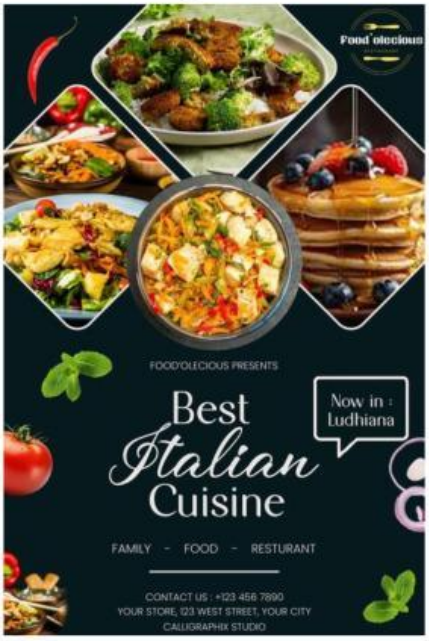


2

3

4

5



Which leaflet is about _____?

A. eating out
B. cooking
C. musical education
D. entertainment
E. job hunting
F. pharma
G. health care
H. tuition

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

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Task 2

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

According to a study by Clinic Compare, the unhealthiest country in the world is the Czech Republic. The study, which compared data on alcohol, tobacco consumption and obesity in 179 countries, found that Czech Republic residents are among the world's heaviest drinkers. Indeed, nine of the ten unhealthiest countries are located in Eastern Europe, where smoking is more common than in the rest of the world and is increasing among teenagers. The only one outside this region was the USA, where 36 per cent of the population are obese. Obesity levels are lower in the Czech Republic but are the highest in Europe.

The study must be taken with a pinch of salt, however. According to the rankings, the healthiest country in the world is Afghanistan due to its low obesity and alcohol consumption. In second and third place are Guinea and Niger. But that doesn't make them healthy places to live. Indeed, four countries listed among Clinic Compare's top ten healthiest countries, Guinea, DR Congo, Malawi and Mozambique, were among the least healthy nations in another study, the Global Competitiveness Index.

High consumption of alcohol, tobacco and food are diseases of affluence; that is, they are common in wealthy countries. However, many countries, especially in Africa, are still struggling with diseases of poverty. For example, the average life expectancy in DR Congo is just 53 years old. Here, many people die from diseases which could be treated in other countries. In Malawi, tuberculosis and HIV are common. These countries lack basic medical facilities and trained doctors. In Mozambique, where 30% of people cannot access health services, lack of nutrients in the diet is a far more common medical problem than overeating.

Moreover, Nepal, listed by Clinic Compare as the fourth healthiest country, is the tenth most polluted country and Afghanistan the fourteenth. Air pollution is a killer, with 7 million people dying worldwide each year from diseases associated with it. It is not just vehicle fumes and industries which are the problem. Around 2.4 billion people worldwide are exposed to dangerous levels of household air pollution while cooking on fires or stoves fuelled by kerosene, wood, dung and coal.

According to a different study, which measured factors such as the cost of staying healthy, life expectancy, air pollution, obesity, sunlight hours and crime rate, the healthiest country is Spain. This is most likely due to its traditionally healthy diet, clean air, the number of people walking to work (37%), and free healthcare. Interestingly, another study, the Global

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Health Security Index, ranks the USA as the healthiest nation. This was because its high standards in research, safety and communication allow it to detect and respond to pandemics the most effectively. This contrasts with the Clinic Compare survey, which ranked it the tenth unhealthiest country, primarily because of its high obesity rate.

The countries with the highest levels of obesity, however, are in the Pacific islands. In countries such as Nauru, Tuvalu and Palau, over half the population is obese. This is a relatively new trend, as, before the 1950s, locals consumed a traditional diet that included bananas, coconuts, yams and seafood. Since then, incomes have increased, making imported convenience foods more affordable. This new scenario causes people to make poor food choices despite the availability of healthier, locally-grown options. In many regions of the USA, healthy choices just aren't available, or they are too expensive. In addition, this country's driving culture means that many people don't get enough exercise.

6. Residents of the Czech Republic

A consume more alcohol than any other country in the world.

B have the highest combined rates of smoking, obesity and drinking alcohol.

C smoke more than any other country in Eastern Europe.

D are more obese than people in both the USA and the rest of Europe.

7. The writer of this article thinks that the Clinic Compare study…

A accurately identified the healthiest and least healthy nations.

B did not include enough countries in its study.

C failed to identify the healthiest countries accurately.

D is inaccurate because health issues have changed since the study.

8. According to the article,

A there is more malnutrition than obesity in Mozambique.

B there are more diseases of affluence in DR Congo than in the USA.

C life expectancy in DR Congo is the lowest in the world.

D access to medical facilities and doctors in Malawi is gradually rising.

9. The text indicates that

A Nepal has more pollution from vehicles and industries than Afghanistan.

B Fewer people die as a result of air pollution in Nepal than in Afghanistan.

C 2.4 billion people are currently suffering from diseases associated with air pollution.

D People put their health at risk when cooking on kerosene, wood, dung and coal.

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10. According to the text, the USA is higher than Spain with regards to

A the number of people who walk to work.

B the amount of air pollution

C the affordability of its health care.

D its ability to respond to disease outbreaks.

Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (11 - 15). There are three choices you do not need to use.

11. John Rylands Library, Manchester

Ever since I saw a photo of John Rylands Library in Manchester, I knew I had to visit, and last month, I finally got the chance to tour its impressive vaulted ceilings and hidden collections.

The building itself is actually late Victorian, although, against the backdrop of Manchester's modern city, you could easily assume it dates back to 1900. Still open to the public, it was founded by the wife of John Rylands in his name and memory.

Now part of the University of Manchester, it's pretty much a real-life Hogwarts study room and one of the highlights of any visit to the city.

12. Mafra Palace Library, Portugal

One of my favourite discoveries so far in Portugal is the Mafra Palace.

Located less than an hour from Lisbon by bus, the city of Mafra is quite compact, but the Mafra Palace dominates. This vast building is UNESCO listed, and with an entry for only €3 it's a bargain.

You can wander through various rooms and halls throughout the palace, including visiting the Library. Sadly, at the time of my visit (Summer 2020), you were no longer allowed to walk through the library, but I'm not sure if this is a temporary or permanent Coronavirus change.

Construction on Mafra Palace began in 1717 and was completed by the royal family in 1755. It's one of the countless beautiful palaces in the country, many of which are open to the public and a dream to wander around.

13. Anna Amalia Library, Weimar, Germany

The town of Weimar in Germany is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site thanks to its contribution to the arts and as an intellectual centre in the early 1800s.

Tragically, the library had a fire in 2004 that destroyed much of its decoration and books, but through a dedicated restorative team, around 60,000 volumes and the grand interior were restored.

One of the first public libraries in Germany, the original space was part of a royal art collection dating back to 1552, and over the centuries, the collection has moved into different rooms in the palace before its current, post-fire beauty that it is now. You can also explore the gardens and other rooms of the palace on your visit.

14. Biblioteca di Brera, Milan

I stumbled upon this library completely by accident in my favourite

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area of Milan, Brera, during my long weekend in Milan and Lake Como.

The library is part of the Art Institute in Milan, and it is also open to visitors as a public library. One of the largest libraries in Italy, its collections contain scientific, legal, and historical texts. What I loved about the library was the mix of historic elements alongside the modern computers and students at work, which made it feel more alive than many of the historic libraries in Europe.

The impressive architecture of the building and the courtyard add to the grandeur, so it's well worth popping in if you are in this hip area of Milano.

15. Trinity College Library, Dublin

Before sinking one too many Guinness in Dublin, I got in a slice of culture at Trinty College Library. Serving as the University of Dublin's library and the largest in the country, the dark-wood work and shelves stacked with volumes are one of the coolest buildings to check out on a tour of the city.

The 18th-century building is one of the most beautiful historic libraries in Europe and boasts more than 200,000 books in its imposing 'long room'. It also houses the 'Book of Kells', a world-famous gospel manuscript dating back to the 9th century.

Which library _____?

A. blends scale, heritage, and atmosphere into a memorable visit
B. is reimagined as a cultural venue offers a unique and atmospheric experience
C. blends history, architecture, and atmosphere into something enchanting
D. is an extraordinary space built for knowledge is celebrated for its visual splendour
E. combines scale, history, and public access in a surprising way
F. shaped by time, tragedy, and renewal continues to preserve its intellectual heritage
G. is a place where architecture feels like an extension of nature itself
H. combines tradition and everyday activity in a way that feels genuinely alive

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

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Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (16 - 20). There are three choices you do not need to use.

It comes as no surprise that, throughout history, spies all over the world have used all sorts of secret skills, tools, and training **(16)** …… And though the most famous secret agent of them all-James Bond - might have been a fictional character, his preferred methods and devices aren't all totally fictional.

One trick that **(17)** ……. in their arsenal during the Cold War, however, might surprise even Bond himself. In order to pass messages to one another in the most secret way possible, they **(18)** …….. Even during the Cold War, CIA agents who **(19)** …… had to tie their shoes in the morning just like everyone else. Only, when they did it, they would often tie them in specific ways **(20)** …… to other agents. For example, if an agent were to approach another and glance down at his shoes to see a certain pattern, he would immediately know that the shoelaces signaled "I have information", "Follow me" or "I brought someone with me". This information comes from "The Official CIA Manual of Trickery and Deception," a guide that the agency commissioned from magician John Mulholland in the middle of the Cold War. They wanted him to teach them easy to perform tricks so they could communicate more secretively in the field. Thus, shoelaces became secret messages.

A. CIA agents had
B. so another agent could read it
C. spies used to deceive
D. to complete their missions
E. were deep undercover
F. the middle of the Cold War
G. that acted as coded messages
H. cleverly used some everyday items

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

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Use of English

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (21-26) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Count John Kapodistrias was elected as the first head of state of independent Greece (1827-33) after a long **(21)** …… in European politics and diplomacy. He is considered the founder of the **(22)** ……... Greek State, and the founder of Greek independence. Among other things, in an effort to raise the living **(23)** …… of the population he introduced the cultivation of the potato into Greece.

(24) …….. to legend, Kapodistrias ordered that potatoes should be **(25)** …… to anyone who was interested. However the population was unwilling at first to accept the offer. The legend continues, that he then ordered that the whole shipment of potatoes was unloaded on public display on the docks of Nafplion, and placed it under guard to make the people **(26)** …….. that they were valuable. Soon, people would gather to look at the guarded potatoes and some started to steal them. The guards had been ordered in advance to turn a blind eye to such behaviour, and soon the potatoes had all been "stolen" and Kapodistrias' plan to introduce them to Greece had succeeded. And now some of the most famous Greek dishes, like moussaka, use potatoes as a basic ingredient.

	A	**B**	**C**	**D**
21	course	career	race	progress
22	modern	latest	stylish	recent
23	codes	rules	laws	standards
24	As reported	According	As stated	Just as
25	applied	devoted	Handed out	assigned
26	accept	believe	trust	admit

Task 6

Read the text below. For questions (27-32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

A mathematician's life work reduced to 40 seconds

Schoolmaster and amateur mathematician William Shanks (1812-82) spent the greater part of his life working out **(27)** ……. value of Pi (the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter) to 707 decimal places. More than 60 years after his death, mathematician DF Ferguson, **(28)** ……. a mechanical calculator, pointed out that William **(29)** ……. the last 180 of these decimal places wrong.

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In the late 1940s an ENIAC computer took 70 hours **(30)** …….. 2.037 digits of Pi. In 1958 an IBM computer **(31)** …… in 40 seconds what William Shanks had done in a lifetime. The millionth digit of Pi was found in 1973 and the billionth in **(32)** ……. .

	A	**B**	**C**	**D**
27	the	-	a	an
28	being used	had used	using	was used
29	was got	been got	got	had got
30	to calculate	calculate	calculated	was calculated
31	had done	did	has done	has been done
32	1995	the 1995	the 1995s	1995th

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