

Task 4

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (17-21). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

17

This mill is maintained by the Trust using voluntary contributions to meet the cost of repairs and upkeep.



Please give generously and help the Trust to maintain this historic building.

No amount is too small.

18

Sign a petition urging the government to fund wider speech therapy provision.

If you would like to add your name to the petition, visit the Government Petitions page and sign.

10,000 names are required for a government response



GET INVOLVED

19

GREEN SAILING in Ibiza and Formentera

to preserve *Posidonia oceanica* (seagrass) which

- provides a habitat for a large diversity of species
- helps accumulate and produce sand on the seabed and beaches
- absorbs large quantities of CO₂, fighting against global warming

- ✓ anchor on sand
- ✓ bilge water in the ports of Ibiza, San Antoni and Formentera
- X anchor on *Posidonia*
- X bilge water into sea

20



STOP WILDFIRES BEFORE THEY START

It takes **EVERYONE** to protect **EVERYONE**

Fact: More than 80 per cent of wildfires are started by humans.

Human-caused wildfires are caused by

- unattended campfires
- discarded cigarettes and matches
- equipment failure
- engine sparks

PLEASE TAKE EXTREME CARE
Sun County Colorado



21

Help wildlife

Become a habitat steward: 18/10, 25/10, 1/11 18.00 – 21.00
Field trips: Saturday 4/11 & 11/11

National Wildlife Foundation & Hawthorne Trust are offering a 24-hour training program

Learn about: rain gardens · gardening for wildlife · habitat restoration

Scholarships available

Register now at:
www.hawthornetrust.org

Which advertisement is about

?

- A support for an official request
- B guidelines for boat users
- C a job vacancy
- D a short course
- E preventing a man-made disaster
- F advice for making a fire
- G a request for financial donations
- H a letter to the government

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (22-26) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Want to Save the Environment? Eat a Bag!

Nowadays, the Earth is greatly suffering from a myriad of environmental problems, one of which is plastic pollution. Unfortunately, with the invention of plastic, no one considered all the disastrous consequences of its use we would have to face at present. Over the recent years, mankind has been trying to reduce the harm from plastic products, since the damage they are causing to the natural world is incredible.

Let's consider plastic bags and their negative effects on the environment. First, dumping old plastic bags significantly decreases soil fertility. Plastic does not degrade for a long time, and its toxic chemicals can remain in the soil for more than 450 years, making it totally barren. Secondly, the threat plastic bags pose to fauna goes far beyond the rubbish bin in your kitchen. The continents and oceans are getting polluted with them at an alarming rate. As a result, lots of animals, marine species in particular, get either poisoned or choked to death, mistaking plastic bags for food. And finally, recent studies have discovered plastic in human organs, which is a direct and inevitable consequence of consuming polluted food and water.

A growing number of countries all over the world are now actively trying to stop plastic pollution. For instance, over 15 countries, including France, Morocco, India and Rwanda, have already banned plastic bags and are gradually replacing them with paper packages in shops and supermarkets. Moreover, a large number of environmentally aware people recycle plastic bags and campaign for this idea on local and global scales.

Among other things, Ukrainian scientists from Sumy have recently invented edible bags. Though it may sound a little bit off-putting and surprising, they can be used as both carrier bags and food since they consist of natural proteins. However, their greatest value is in being biodegradable. Thus, the experiment conducted by the BBC journalists showed that it takes around a month for the bags to dissolve in the soil, at the same time serving as a natural fertilizer. As well as that, the bags invented by the young scientists can endure both low and high temperatures, which is another undeniable plus.

Whereas some other countries like India have succeeded in developing similar biodegradable bags, the promising Ukrainian invention has already been appreciated for its unique combination of low-cost production and carrying capacity. According to their inventor, Dmytro Bidiuk, lots of manufacturers and entrepreneurs in Ukraine use organic bags to make their products and services eco-friendly and trendy. What is more, foreign and local environmental campaigners and investors got interested in funding the project and further research. Hopefully, it will be one of those ground-breaking inventions that will contribute to making our planet a better place.

- 22 Which of the following is TRUE about plastic pollution?**
- A** People used to make efforts to prevent the damage from plastic.
 - B** The impact of plastic on the natural world isn't considerable.
 - C** People didn't expect that plastic pollution would become so serious.
 - D** Plastic pollution is the main environmental issue on our planet.
- 23 Plastic bags seriously harm the environment in a number of ways EXCEPT**
- A** threatening people's health.
 - B** endangering wildlife.
 - C** causing soil infertility.
 - D** littering dwellings.
- 24 Which of the following was NOT mentioned in the text as a way of fighting plastic pollution?**
- A** using paper bags instead of plastic ones
 - B** reusing plastic bags
 - C** utilising plastic bags for producing new things
 - D** prohibition on plastic bags
- 25 Which of the following is FALSE about the edible bags in PARAGRAPH 4?**
- A** They can be easily damaged by extreme temperatures.
 - B** They can contribute to the improvement of soil quality.
 - C** They are multifunctional.
 - D** They are made of organic material.
- 26 Why is the Ukrainian invention competitive in the world market?**
- A** No other countries have offered a similar product yet.
 - B** It is proven to be safe for the planet.
 - C** It looks trendy due to its unique design.
 - D** It is both durable and cheap.

Task 6

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (27-32). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Customs Around the World

27

Japan

Probably, many people are familiar with the importance of taking off their shoes before entering a house or using chopsticks for eating food in Japan. You should also know that in a Japanese restaurant, you will certainly get a wet napkin that is necessary for washing your hands before you start your meal. Interestingly enough, making noise while eating is not a problem in this country as this shows how much a customer enjoys their meal. Also, remember that tipping in Japan is not common.

28

China

The tradition of giving presents in China requires special attention, since there are certain taboos on gifts. Thus, cut flowers, candles, clocks, watches and black or white items are strongly associated with death and funerals. Gifts such as umbrellas, scissors and any other objects that cut are also avoided there because they are thought to cause breakups. Besides, don't get discouraged when your Chinese friend turns down your present – they will accept it in the end. Refusing a present several times is part of the Chinese culture.

29

Norway

Norway is quite a big but not densely populated country. Perhaps that's the reason why personal space is so much valued there – people try to keep their distance whether they are on public transport or in any other crowded place. However, it's wrong to assume that Norwegians are cold and reserved. In fact, they appreciate sincerity, tolerance and simplicity, so trying to impress them with your status or achievements may be taken as showing off. Instead, demonstrate how much you respect them by being honest and punctual.

30

India

India is another country whose customs and etiquette significantly differ from ours. Thus, when invited for a meal in India, arriving on time will be considered as bad manners. So, being 10-15 minutes late will by no means insult a host or a hostess. As well as that, don't be surprised if you don't find a spoon or a knife on the table during lunch or dinner – you'll have to use your right hand instead. And finally, it's not common for Indians to say "Thank you" after having a meal. Rather, praise the food you have just eaten to show your appreciation.

31

France

When communicating, the French don't mind standing quite close to each other and maintaining eye contact during conversations. You may also notice how much they use cheek kissing as a way of greeting. The French really enjoy lively talks on various topics; however, don't become embarrassed or annoyed if you get frequently interrupted during such talks – this clearly indicates a genuine interest in you. If possible, learn some French and take advantage of it during the conversation, and you will certainly win your French friend's heart!

32

Brazil

Being inhabited by different nations, Brazil is a real melting pot full of international customs and traditions. Brazilians are very similar to the French in terms of social kissing and talkativeness. If you happen to befriend a person from Brazil, you'll immediately spot how open, caring, and friendly they are. Your new acquaintance will almost certainly invite you for dinner, so think of bringing some flowers, sweets or a drink with you. Brazilians often send gifts after visiting someone's home to express their gratitude for hospitality.

In which of the countries _____ ?

- A** is interruption considered as a sign of disrespect
- B** are dinners followed by "thank you" presents from guests
- C** do people appreciate being talked to in their mother tongue
- D** do people give presents to each other when they break up
- E** do customers not have to reward a waiter for a good service
- F** do people generally dislike boasting
- G** do people not give sharp things as presents
- H** are you not expected to be really punctual

Task 7

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (33-38). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Saving Bees to Save the World

What is your first thought when you hear the word "bee"? A jar of sweet and sticky honey? Noisy and annoying buzzing on a summer day? Sudden painful stings left by the insect? Whichever association enters your mind, it's worth noting (33) _____. In fact, bees are essential for the environment as the existence of most crops and animal species depends on them, as well as human lives.

So why does the survival of the human race depend on these tiny creatures? The answer is *pollination* – the activity performed by bees, (34) _____. Namely, bees actively participate in the reproduction of plants, which, in turn, make life of most creatures on Earth possible. As you understand, even carnivorous species, (35) _____, become endangered.

Why is the situation so worrying? Because the bee population has been steadily decreasing over the recent decades. And the major reasons for that are the use of pesticides and unstable weather conditions (36) _____, with ever-present diseases and parasite attacks adding to the problem.

The use of chemicals for protecting crops and boosting their growth has already raised an opposition between bee-keepers, ecologists and farmers, (37) _____. Big farming industries keep denying their guilt for this environmental problem, as well as no legal action is being taken to solve the issue.

Though the number of campaigns aimed at saving the bee population has not reached its peak, it's definitely on the increase. And hopefully, the protests will result in the vital changes that are so necessary (38) _____.

- A who have been carelessly using pesticides for years and years
- B who claims that beekeeping isn't as profitable as growing crops
- C that have greatly changed due to global warming
- D which involves transferring pollen of flowers from the male stamens to the female pistils
- E to stop the bee extinction
- F that the importance of these hard-working insects is incredible
- G to put other species at risk
- H which are closely dependent on other animals that eat plant food