EII4 - SESSION 21 - READING

Reading Part 1

Read the texts. Choose the correct answer to complete each text.

1 Please leave all ___ at the front desk before entering the examination room.



A. bags
B. carry
C. carrying

2 Hi Sam,
I can't meet you this afternoon ___ I have an urgent work meeting.
Let's talk tomorrow.

A. although
B. because
C. but

3 Fitness classes available every morning.
The centre is open to all members, ___.



A. with free drinks after class
B. but booking is required online
C. close to the city bus station

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 Only ___ seats are available for tonight's show. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

A. a few
B. much
C. little

5 Passengers should be at the platform at least 15 minutes before the ___ .

A. train departure
B. train travel
C. train moving

Reading Part 2

Read the text. Use the sentences to complete the text. Choose the correct sentence for each gap. There is one extra sentence you will not need.

The Rise of Community Gardens

In many modern cities, space is limited and people often feel disconnected from nature. To combat this, many residents are turning to community gardens as a way to grow their own fresh produce and flowers. These shared green spaces allow individuals to enjoy the outdoors while contributing to a sustainable local food source. **(1)** _____ This welcoming environment makes them a popular choice for families, students, and even retirees who want to stay active.

Beyond just growing vegetables, the success of these projects depends heavily on cooperation. The garden is usually managed by a group of dedicated volunteers who meet regularly to organize tasks and maintain the area. **(2)**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

_____ This exchange of knowledge ensures that even those with no prior experience can learn how to produce a healthy crop.

Furthermore, these gardens serve as important social hubs for the neighborhood. Besides the physical work of gardening, these spaces often host various social gatherings throughout the year. **(3)** _____ Such activities help build a strong sense of belonging and strengthen the bonds between neighbors who might otherwise never meet. **(4)** _____ Local schools often bring students here to learn about biology and where their food comes from in a hands-on way.

However, establishing and keeping a garden running is not without its difficulties. Organizers often face significant hurdles regarding funding and long-term commitment. **(5)** _____ Without a steady group of helpers or enough money for essential tools, many of these green projects unfortunately fail within their first couple of years.

Despite these potential obstacles, the popularity of urban farming shows no signs of slowing down. In fact, the demand for small plots of land in many metropolitan areas has reached an all-time high. **(6)** _____ This clearly demonstrates that city dwellers are increasingly eager to reconnect with the land to improve their physical and mental well-being.

A. Members often share advice about planting, watering, and harvesting.
B. They may include weekend meals, workshops, or small local festivals.
C. Many gardens are open to anyone who wants to take part.
D. It can be difficult to find enough time and resources to maintain the space.
E. Some people prefer to grow vegetables on their own.
F. In many cities, waiting lists are now common.
G. Most participants already have gardening experience.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading Part 3

Read the four texts. Which text gives you the answer to each question? Choose the correct text (A-D) for each question.

A

Welcome to **The Grand Lodge**. We hope you enjoy your stay with us. Please note that breakfast is served in the main dining room from 7:00 to 10:30 every morning. High-speed Wi-Fi is available in all rooms; the password is "Guest2026". If you need extra towels or have any questions, please press '0' on your room phone to reach the reception desk at any time.

B

Dear Valued Guest, thank you for choosing our resort for your holiday. As the **Hotel Manager**, I would be very grateful if you could take a moment to complete our guest satisfaction survey. Your feedback helps us improve our service. If you leave your email address at the bottom of the form, you will receive a 10% discount code for your next visit. Best regards, **Mark Stevens**.

C

Hi Sarah, I'm finally here at the beach hotel! The room is amazing and it has a huge balcony overlooking the ocean. I've attached a couple of photos so you can see the view. The weather is perfect for swimming, and the local seafood is the best I've ever tasted. I'll bring you a small souvenir when I get back next Monday. Wish you were here! Love, Julie.

D

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR GUESTS: For your safety, please keep your room door locked at all times. Smoking is strictly prohibited inside the building, but there is a designated area near the garden. In case of an emergency, please use the stairs and do not use the elevators. Fire assembly points are located in the car park. Valuables should be kept in the electronic safe provided in your wardrobe.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Which text:

1. is from a personal message to a friend?
2. gives safety and emergency instructions?

Which text gives you the answers to the following questions?

3. What is the name of the Hotel Manager?
4. How can a guest contact the reception staff?
5. What can a guest receive if they provide their email address?
6. How can someone see what the hotel view looks like?
7. At what time does the hotel stop serving breakfast?

Reading Part 4

Read the text and answer the questions. Use a maximum of three words for each answer.

THE FUTURE OF READING

In the past decade, the way we consume books has changed more than in the previous century. While traditional paper books are still popular, the rise of e-readers and audiobooks has transformed the landscape of literacy. Recent data from 2023 shows that nearly 40% of adults in the UK now regularly listen to audiobooks while commuting or doing housework.

Many people worry that digital screens are destroying our ability to read deeply. In 2010, researchers began studying how "skimming" (reading quickly for general ideas) affects memory. They found that students who read on paper could remember complex details for much longer than those using tablets. On paper, a reader might focus for 20 minutes without interruption. However, on a digital device, that time often drops to less than five minutes because of notifications.

Despite these concerns, there is a positive side to the digital revolution. E-books have made reading more accessible for people with visual impairments, as they can easily increase the font size. Furthermore, the "BookTok" trend on social media has encouraged a younger generation to start reading again. In 2022, bookstores reported a record-breaking increase in sales of fiction books aimed at young adults, largely credited to viral video recommendations.

Some experts believe our brains are simply adapting. Instead of focusing on one long story, we are becoming better at "cross-referencing" – jumping between different sources to find information quickly. While we might lose some "deep reading" skills, we gain the ability to process vast amounts of data in a short time.

As we move toward 2030, the definition of a "book" will continue to evolve. Whether it is a physical object, a digital file, or a voice in our headphones, the core purpose remains the same: to share ideas and stories. The challenge for the future is not choosing one format over the other, but finding a balance that allows us to stay informed without losing our power of concentration.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. What has transformed the landscape of literacy besides e-readers?
2. In which year did researchers start studying the effects of skimming?
3. What do students using tablets struggle to remember for long?
4. How long can a person typically focus when reading on paper?
5. What feature of e-books helps people who cannot see well?
6. Which social media trend encouraged young people to read?
7. In 2022, what type of books saw a record-breaking increase in sales?
8. According to experts, what are our brains becoming better at?

LIVEWORKSHEETS