R3. EX 1. Đọc các bài đọc sau đây, áp dụng kỹ thuật skimming kết hợp scanning để trả lời câu hỏi (bạn chỉ nên dành tối đa ba phút để hoàn thành bài tập).

1

The Statue of Liberty and the Liberty Bell

In America, two monuments symbolize the ideal of freedom that the country holds dear. The Statue of Liberty and the Liberty Bell represent freedom in different ways. The Statue of Liberty brings about feelings of hope for freedom to immigrants who enter the USA. The Liberty Bell commemorates the struggle for freedom that marks America's past.

In the past, the Statue of Liberty was the first thing people saw when their boats approached America. The statue stands over 45 meters tall. It was given as a gift to the United States in 1885 by France. The date was chosen to mark the centennial of the establishment of the United States.

The sculpture is made of copper. The internal structure was designed by Gustave Eiffel, who also designed the famous tower bearing his name in Paris. The statue is located on Liberty Island in New York Harbor. In her right hand Lady Liberty holds a torch. It is meant to light the way of freedom across the land. In her left hand she holds a tablet with the date 1776 inscribed on it. This is to commemorate the year America declared its independence from Great Britain. It is possible to go inside the statue. Many people enjoy climbing the stairs to enter her head and torch.

The Liberty Bell is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is most famous for being rung on July 8, 1776. It was rung to summon citizens for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. It was also rung in 1774 to announce the opening of the First Continental Congress. Inside the bell is cast an inscription from the Bible's Leviticus 25:10. This passage states, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." The Liberty Bell was originally cast in 1752. It got its famous crack in 1753 the first time it was rung.

In 1965, the FBI uncovered a plot by terrorists to destroy the Statue of Liberty and the Liberty Bell. But these attacks on the symbols of freedom were quickly stopped.

1. According to the passage, why did France give the Statue of Liberty to the United States?

   A. To pay off a debt
   B. To build up the friendship between both countries
   C. To make New York Harbor look nicer
   D. To celebrate the hundred-year birthday of America

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2. According to the passage, when is the Liberty Bell most famous for being rung?

A. On July 4, 1776
B. On July 8, 1776
C. On December 25, 1776
D. On January 1, 1776

TIPS

Áp dụng kỹ thuật đọc lướt nhanh (**skimming**), bạn có thể nhận ra ý chính của các đoạn như sau:

Đoạn 1: Giới thiệu tổng quát về **the Statue of Liberty** và **the Liberty Bell**
Đoạn 2: Nguồn gốc của **the Statue of Liberty**
Đoạn 3: Hình dáng và kết cấu của **the Statue of Liberty**
Đoạn 4: Những sự kiện trọng đại gắn với tiếng chuông rung của **the Liberty Bell**
Đoạn 5: Một sự cố an ninh liên quan đến **the Statue of Liberty** và **the Liberty Bell**

Với câu hỏi 1, bạn biết là cần đọc dò tìm (**scanning**) trong đoạn 2. Tương tự, với câu hỏi 2, bạn cần đọc dò tìm trong đoạn 4. Như vậy, để chọn câu trả lời đúng cho câu hỏi 1 và 2, bạn chỉ cần đọc dò tìm trong hai đoạn văn này mà không cần phải "scan" lại cả bài đọc.

2

Before the age of radio, movies, and television, many people enjoyed variety theater. In America this entertainment theater was called *vaudeville*. The term *vaudeville* comes from the French "voix de ville." It means "voice of the city." For just five cents, people could be entertained. Popular acts included music, comics, magic, animal acts, acrobatics, and even lectures.

A routine vaudeville show usually began with a silly act, such as acrobats or trick bicyclists. This allowed audience members to arrive late and find their seats. The show peaked in the middle with the "headliner." This act was usually the best in the show. The show would conclude with a "chaser" act. This act was considered good enough to feature but dull enough to make audiences leave the theater.

Between the years 1880 and 1920, vaudeville enjoyed great popularity. Industry was growing in the U.S. People had more money to spend on entertainment. Many theaters tried very hard to appear polite and family-oriented. They wanted to draw in middle-class customers. Performers were not allowed to use bad language. They could not even say the word "hell." But the performers often disobeyed the rules, and this delighted the audiences.

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Successful theater owners insisted their theaters appear rich and majestic. The curtains and seats were covered in the finest red velvet. The beautiful woodwork was gilded with gold trim. They made the theaters look like palaces. Still, they housed silly acts such as juggling dogs. By the 1890s, vaudeville peaked. It became equal to churches and public schools in popularity. It was a great place for people to gather.

There was no exact end to vaudeville. But in 1910, movie theaters opened. They offered entertaining films at a lower price. This shrank vaudeville's audience continually. Ironically, movies were first shown in vaudeville theaters. By the 1930s, the Great Depression hit the U.S. Vaudeville disappeared.

Many famous American film and television stars began on the vaudeville stage. Performers such as the Three Stooges, the Marx Brothers, Buster Keaton, and Judy Garland all began their careers in vaudeville.

1. **According to the passage, why did a vaudeville show usually start off with a silly act?**
   - A. Because the audience needed time to arrive and find their seats
   - B. Because the audience preferred to begin with silly acts
   - C. Because silly acts got the audience ready for serious ones
   - D. Because that was the only type of act the theater owner could find

2. **According to the passage, what led to the disappearance of vaudeville?**
   - A. The invention of radio and television
   - B. The decline of the middle class
   - C. Politicians and religious figures
   - D. Movie theaters and the Great Depression

TIPS

Ý chính của đoạn 1 là nguồn gốc của loại hình giải trí **vaudeville**, ý chính của đoạn 2 là các thành phần thường thấy của một **vaudeville show**, ý chính của đoạn 3 và 4 là thời hoàng kim của loại hình giải trí này, ý chính của đoạn 5 là thời "hoàng hôn" của **vaudeville**, ý chính của đoạn cuối cùng là những diễn viên nổi tiếng xuất thân từ sân khấu **vaudeville**. Sau khi tìm ra ý chính của các đoạn, bạn sẽ dễ dàng xác định câu trả lời cho câu hỏi 1 nằm ở đoạn 2 và câu trả lời cho câu hỏi 2 nằm ở đoạn 5. Lưu ý rằng ngay cả khi không gặp câu hỏi nào hỏi về ý chính của bài đọc, bạn cũng nên đọc lướt nhanh (**skim**) bài đọc để nhận biết cấu trúc (**organization/structure**) trong bài, từ đó bạn sẽ đọc dò tìm (**scan**) thông tin chi tiết dễ dàng hơn.

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