Text B

Honoring Black History with Anitra Belle Henderson

In 1860, a plantation owner smuggled in a shipload of 110 African people to Alabama on the Clotilda, the last known slave ship to arrive in the US, decades after the banning of the importation of enslaved people. When enslaved people were freed in 1865, survivors of the Clotilda couldn't afford to return to Africa, so they founded Africatown instead, a bustling town rooted in their homelands and cultures.

After years of searching for the long-lost Clotilda, a team of historians and archaeologists finally discovered it at the bottom of Alabama's Mobile River in 2019.

Now, the City of Mobile will open a heritage house this summer to tell the story of the Clotilda's survivors and of Africatown.

"We are excited to help the community of Africatown tell their story," says Anitra Belle Henderson, the leader of the team planning all the Africatown projects. "Our goal is for visitors to understand more about those who were enslaved. They have a name and a story."

The heritage house is designed to be an immersive experience. Visitors will feel the waves of the ocean like the enslaved people felt on their voyage, read stories about the slave trade and the survivors of the Clotilda. They'll also be able to visit Africatown, where many descendants of the Clotilda's survivors still reside.

"Each detail of the heritage house was designed with reverence to the ancestors, descendants and the community," Belle Henderson says. "Those who are curious about African culture can visit an African community on American soil—a community that was built with hope and promise."

"The many stories show the diverse brilliance of black people," she says. "Since the discovery of the Clotilda there has been a new excitement in the community. Educating people about Africatown's past will definitely create a bright future for a community that so deserves the attention it is receiving."

Choose the correct answer

1. Henderson and her team are very keen that the heritage house will…
   - A. give a voice to the Africatown community.
   - B. lead to further projects in the City of Mobile.
   - C. encourage more people to visit Africatown.
   - D. be opened to the public before summer.

2. The heritage house project will enable visitors to…
   - A. go on board the recently restored Clotilda.
   - B. meet survivors of the Clotilda in person.
   - C. learn about the real experiences of the slave trade.
   - D. see how the Africatown settlement was built.

3. According to Henderson, Africatown was developed with a sense of…
   - A. optimism.
   - B. urgency.
   - C. achievement.
   - D. uncertainty.

4. According to Henderson, the discovery of the Clotilda…
   - A. is likely to bring challenges to Africatown.
   - B. is providing new opportunities for Africatown.
   - C. has reopened unhappy memories of US history.
   - D. was inspired by the heritage house project.

Specimen 1 – English B – Higher level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension

Text B

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Answer the following questions.

5. According to the extract below, which phrase suggests that the heritage house will stimulate a number of senses?

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6. According to the extract, which phrase tells us that people continue to live in Africatown?

7. According to the extract below, which word 20 suggests that respect is a key element in the design of the heritage house?

> "Each detail of the heritage house was designed with reverence to the ancestors, descendants and the community," Belle Henderson says. "Those who are curious about African culture can visit an African community on American soil—a community that was built with hope and promise.".

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Specimen 1 – English B – Higher level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension

Text C

Top Future Transport Innovations

A recent report released by the US Department of Transportation (DOT) identified a critical need for improvement of the nation's transportation system. While the DOT has begun accelerating the improvement of the country's highways and bridges, new forms of transit are being developed and will most likely be implemented soon.

These five innovations will revolutionize transportation in the near future.

1. Hyperloop transportation systems
Hyperloops are essentially transportation tubes where pods of passengers or freight pass through a pressurized track at high speeds. Hyperloops run at an average of 600 miles per hour. There are several companies currently working to advance the technology. One company hopes to launch its first passenger service in the next year or two.

2.
Automated city buses and shuttles will be in operation in the near future. Autonomous vehicles use cameras, radars and GPS systems to recognize and communicate with traffic lights and have impressive safety records. These buses of the future will reduce the impact on the environment because they are electric. Such buses are already in operation in China and Germany, and are being tested in the US.

3.
While automated buses are being developed worldwide, China is working on a bus system that will reduce traffic congestion. The bus "straddles" traffic by running on special tracks that allow regular vehicles to drive underneath. A system currently being designed in China is expected to reduce traffic congestion by thirty percent.

4.
A fleet of flying hotels is being designed by a company in Canada. Driftscape is a mobile, self-sustaining hotel that uses drone technology. Driftscape allows guests to travel while sleeping, and to roam or to touch down in diverse locations. It consists of several modular units including food and beverage elements. Driftscape offers spectacular panoramas and has minimal impact on the environment, preserving the integrity and authenticity of the locations visited.

5.
Air traffic control systems in operation today are ground-based, using technology that dates back to the 1960s. Control systems using satellites allow air traffic controllers to be more efficient. The US is currently working on such a system: NextGen, which is being implemented in stages through 2025. GPS technology will be used to increase accuracy and shorten routes. NextGen will save time and fuel, reduce late arrivals, increase flight capacity and permit controllers to monitor aircraft with improved safety margins.

Answer the following questions.

1. Which aspects of the transportation system is the DOT already working to improve?

2. According to the text, how soon might passenger hyperloops come into service?

Choose an appropriate option from the list that completes each gap in the following text.

NextGen is a new system for regulating air traffic, which is being introduced in [3.] over the next few years. The use of GPS technology will have many [4.] . It will increase time and fuel efficiency, as well as leading to fewer flight [5.] . Those operating the system will also be able to track [6.] much more effectively.

Instructions Text A Text B Text C

LIVEWORKSHEETS