SKILLS
ENGLISH INSTITUTE

Student's name: _____

1st Term Test 2021 - PRE FIRST

READING

1. **Read the article and answer questions 1–7 by choosing from the people A–C. The people may be chosen more than once.**

Which person
expects visitors to be punctual? **(1)** _____
is taking his/her guests dancing? **(2)** _____
takes visitors to famous people's homes? **(3)** _____
is helping someone discover an ancestor? **(4)** _____
shows visitors a display of unusual objects? **(5)** _____
takes visitors to see where famous people are buried? **(6)** _____
believes some older people may be helpful? **(7)** _____

Are you tired of taking guided tours? Do you want a travel experience that's a bit different? One way to do this is to use the worldwide network of 'greeter' organisations. Greeters are local people who volunteer to show visitors around their town or area. In most places it is a completely free service provided by enthusiastic and friendly people. The first thing to do is go online and find out if there is a greeter network or something similar in the place you want to visit. If there is, you say what you want to see and what your interests are. Then the organisation matches you with a suitable volunteer. It is a non-commercial way of meeting local people and finding out what a place is really like. We are going to follow three greeters on different continents to see how the network works.

A Haroula Jackson
Haroula Jackson is a Greek Australian who shows Greek visitors around her area of Melbourne. Her guest today is Nick Tavrides. He's British, but his family originally came from Crete. Haroula hopes to use her local knowledge to help Nick. He wants to find someone who knew his great-uncle who settled in Melbourne 70 years ago. Today they're in Lonsdale Street, the heart of the city's Greek area. Nick hopes he may bump into a distant cousin or uncle. Perhaps this is optimistic, but Haroula thinks they might learn something from one of the old men playing *tavli*, a traditional board game.

B Pablo Hernandez
In Buenos Aires a retired university teacher, Pablo Hernandez, enjoys showing visitors around his area: the Recoleta neighbourhood. Today he is looking after art students Sylvie and her boyfriend Stéphane from France. They want to see some of the buildings that were designed by French architects a century ago. Paolo always takes his guests to the extraordinary *El Palacio de las Aguas*

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Corrientes and its strange collection of toilets! Both Sylvie and Stéphane are keen on tango, so this evening they are meeting up with another volunteer. This is another tango fan, who promises to take them dancing. The students would rather go to a dance hall where the local people go than to one of the usual tourist places.

C Anthea Cohen

Closer to home in London, local historian Anthea Cohen is waiting outside Hampstead underground station. She is about to set off on a tour of Hampstead and Highgate, two north London villages. The tour leaves at ten o'clock exactly and she never waits for late arrivals to turn up. The Mascaro family from Palma arrive just in time. She begins with the main sights, including the house where the poet Keats lived. Carmen Mascaro works as a psychiatrist, so they are going on a special visit to Sigmund Freud's home and its fascinating museum. Anthea finishes the tour with a visit to Highgate Cemetery. This is the resting place of many famous people including Karl Marx. At four o'clock Anthea says goodbye to her tired but happy visitors outside Highgate underground station. She texts her husband Lewis to come and pick her up.

READING

2. **Read the article and choose from sentences A–G the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.**

A close shave

Many of us have come back from holiday with complaints about the hotel, the food or the weather. But that's nothing compared to the experience of five tourists when they went on a simple diving trip near Bali.

Five holidaymakers were looking forward to an enjoyable hour's diving, but they certainly got more than they had expected! **(1)** _____ They had no idea their short dive would turn into a terrifying 48-hour ordeal.

They had finished their dive, and they were swimming back to shore when the strong tide stopped them from reaching the land. **(2)** _____ Strong currents swept them further out to sea where they knew there were sharks. Their only hope for survival was to stay as a group, so they tied themselves together. Luckily they found a large piece of floating wood and this probably saved their lives. After nine hours, when they were losing hope, one of them spotted a tiny island. Using the last of their energy they managed to swim to the shore. **(3)** _____ Another danger was waiting for them – the Komodo dragon, the world's largest lizard.

The Komodo dragon is a carnivore with an enormous appetite: it eats pigs, deer and other dragons. A fully-grown dragon can kill an animal twice its size with its 60 sharp teeth. If you try to get away, it will come after you. **(4)** _____. And if this isn't bad enough, one tiny bite can kill you. The exhausted divers were trying to rest on the beach when a group of these terrifying creatures came

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towards them. **(5)** _____ This situation continued for two sleepless nights, but as the dragons became more confident, they started to come closer and closer. The divers' situation was fast becoming hopeless and no one else knew where they were.

A helicopter search for them had to stop because there wasn't enough fuel, but fortunately help came from another direction. **(6)** _____ With amazing skill, Frank used his knowledge of the tides and currents to work out where the group was likely to be, and sent a couple of speed boats there. One boat was passing the island when someone saw a tiny figure waving desperately from the beach. The group was saved!

As you can imagine, the divers were absolutely exhausted, hungry and thirsty, but otherwise they had suffered just a few cuts and bruises. **(7)** _____The divers soon got over the physical effects of their awful ordeal, but the psychological effects will probably remain with them for a long time. So before we complain about a noisy hotel, or the terrible food on our last holiday, we should remember these divers, and consider ourselves lucky.

A Their saviour was Frank Winkler, a German who ran a diving club.
B However, unknown to them, their ordeal was just beginning.
C Almost immediately, the news of their rescue was sent to their delighted families who had feared the worst.
D As they set off on their adventure, unaware of any danger, it seemed like another day in paradise.
E Try to climb a tree and it will wait for you.
F This allowed them to fight back and protect themselves.
G The frightened divers threw rocks to drive them away.
H They struggled desperately in the water, but eventually they realized it was an impossible task.

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