

Reading 11th form

1 Read the text below. For questions (1-5) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Reincarnation can be defined as a rebirth of the soul in a new body. Legend has it that the Dalai Lamas have been reborn thirteen times. Since the first Dalai Lama, each reincarnation has succeeded in bringing peace and wisdom to not only Buddhists but to many people around the world. But how are the Dalai Lamas found?

In order to find the present 14th reincarnation, the Regent of Tibet took a journey to lake Lhamo Lhatso in southern Tibet. For centuries the Tibetans had observed that visions of the future could be seen in this lake. The Regent had a vision. Among other things, he saw three Tibetan letters followed by a picture of a monastery.

The vision contained enough information to seek out the next Dalai Lama. In 1937 high lamas carrying the secrets of the vision were sent to all parts of Tibet in search of the place that the Regent had seen in the lake. When they arrived in Amdo, northeastern Tibet, they found a place matching the description of the secret vision. There they found a two-year-old boy. The child soon became comfortable with his visitors and began to play with a necklace that the high lama wore, which had belonged to the 13th Dalai Lama. In the Central Tibetan dialect, a language unknown to the district he lived in, the child demanded the necklace, claiming it belonged to him. He later addressed the government official by his proper name and also identified the high lama and servants. Astonished, the men left the village only to return to apply tests to the child to help find out if he truly was the Dalai Lama. He passed the test quite easily. As a result, they were sure that the two-year-old boy before them was the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet.

The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, describes himself as a simple Buddhist monk. He has an interest in machines, which he developed as a young boy. As a teenager he repaired a movie projector by himself, without its guide or any instructions. His hobbies include meditating, gardening, and collecting and repairing watches. He has been known to say that he would have become an engineer if he hadn't been a monk.

The Dalai Lama has been the spiritual leader of Tibet since 1950. In 1989 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for his advocating policies of non-violence. He was also highly appreciated for his anxiety for global environmental problems. He has travelled to more than 67 countries spanning 6 continents holding discussions with heads of different religions and participating in many events promoting inter-religious harmony and understanding. He has received over 150 awards, honorary doctorates and prizes in recognition of his message of non-aggression, universal responsibility and compassion. He has also authored or co-authored more than 110 books.

The 14th Dalai Lama has 18.5 million followers on Twitter and regularly tweets about solving conflicts without violence. In a May 2013 Harris Poll, the Dalai Lama outranked President Obama in popularity by 13 percent.

1 How did the Tibetans predict the future?

- A They looked for clues in the water. C They had vivid dreams about it.
B They travelled to all parts of Tibet. D They got letters from monasteries.

2 Which of the following is NOT TRUE about the two-year-old boy?

- A He said who the visitors were. B He was at ease with the guests.

C He told the guests his proper name. D He greatly surprised the visitors.

3 What was the Dalai Lama awarded the Nobel Prize for?

A care for ecology B literary achievements

C promotion of peace D scientific activities

4 Why does the Dalai Lama travel around the world?

A to receive global admiration B to do his doctoral research

C to gather data for his books D to bring different people together

5 What is stated in the text about the 14th Dalai Lama?

A He dreamt of becoming a gardener in his youth. B He is keen on various instruments and equipment.

C He has a collection of movie projectors he repaired. D He has been posting tweets about presidents since 2013.

2 Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (1–6).
There are two choices you do not need to use.

Which museum _____?

A offers group discounts

B has shopping facilities

C provides a double-decker tour

D requires booking in advance

E has no entrance fee

F has recently been restored

G changes exhibits throughout the year

H has moved to another location

1

2

3

4

5

6

1 The Science Museum is the most visited science and technology museum in Europe. There are over 15,000 objects on display, including world-famous objects such as the Apollo 10 command capsule and Stephenson's Rocket. Our interactive galleries bring to life first scientific principles and contemporary science debates. You can experience what it's like to fly with the Red Arrows or blast off into space on an Apollo space mission in our stunning 3D and 4D simulators or watch a film on a screen taller than four double-decker buses in the IMAX 3D Cinema. The museum doesn't charge visitors for admission.

2 The Natural History Museum boasts a collection of the biggest, tallest and rarest animals in the world. See a life-sized blue whale, a 40-million-year-old spider, and the beautiful

Central Hall. Other highlights include dinosaur fossils and this summer's blockbuster exhibitions Whales: Beneath the surface and Wildlife Photographer of the Year. The Museum offers a wide-ranging programme of temporary exhibitions all year round which inspire a love of the natural world and educate on the power of nature.

3 The Design Museum is the world's leading museum which offers inspiring insights into the world of design with exhibitions on fashion, architecture, furniture, graphic, product, transport and digital design. Alongside its cutting-edge programme of exhibitions, the museum also hosts a variety of talks and family activities. The museum has opened in its spectacular new building on High Street Kensington. No prior booking required.

4 Based in the heart of Covent Garden, the London Transport Museum explores the powerful link between transport and the growth of modern London, its culture and society since 1800. Highlights include the iconic red London bus, the world's first Underground steam train – a train carriage dating back to the 1890s. Young people and adults can enjoy the interactive galleries which include stepping aboard real buses and trains and having a go on a tube driving simulator. Here you can buy a perfect gift or iconic London souvenir, or relax in our cafe bar overlooking Covent Garden Piazza.

5 The Museum of London, which has just had a £20 million redevelopment, is the world's largest urban museum. Step inside the museum for an unforgettable journey through the capital's turbulent past. Discover prehistoric London, see how the city changed under Romans and Saxons, wonder at medieval London and examine the stormy years when London was ruined by civil wars, plague and fire. Then visit the Galleries of Modern London where you can walk the streets of Victorian London, take a stroll in recreated pleasure gardens and admire the magnificent Lord Mayor's Coach.

6 The British Museum is one of the greatest museums in the world! Founded in 1753, the British Museum's remarkable collection spans over two million years of human history. Enjoy a unique comparison of the treasures of world cultures under one roof, centred around the magnificent Great Court. World-famous objects such as the Rosetta Stone, Parthenon sculptures, and Egyptian mummies are visited by up to six million people per year. For groups of 10 or more reservation is necessary.