RNE Training

Reading Task 1403

10. *Установите соответствие* ***тем 1 - 8 текстам A- G.*** *Занесите свои ответы в таблицу. Используйте каждую* ***ЦИФРУ только один раз. В задании одна тема лишняя. Запишите цифры в клетки задания 10***

1. Similar sounds — different emotions
2. Benefits of being outdoors
3. Original style
4. Fun in theory, boring in reality
5. Saving rare animals
6. Deficit of activity problems
7. Ready to help
8. Contrary to popular belief

A. In addition to being highly intelligent, elephants are capable of a remarkable amount of empathy. During a natural disaster, elephants are able to understand that something dangerous is happening. They can understand that a person is in trouble and that the situation is unsafe. Elephants have good sense of smell and there have been cases when they alerted rescuers to people trapped in a building. Elephants have been observed saving their young from drowning and also been filmed trying to save people they see at risk of drowning.

B. A lot of studies suggest that green spaces enhance mental health and learning capacity, both immediately and over time, by lowering stress levels and restoring attention. Greenery restores attention by drawing the eye and at the same time calms the nervous system, creating an ideal state for learning. Similarly, studies show that spending time in the sunlight can reduce attention deficit symptoms, while bright light first thing in the morning can improve mood and the quality of sleep.

C. Why are hyenas known for laughing? There is even a phrase we use: "to laugh like a hyena". Zoologists will tell you that the unique sounds they make are actually no laughing matter. Hyenas indeed make loud barking noises that sound like laughter, but it's not because they're amused by anything. Instead, a hyena's "laughter" is actually a form of communication used to convey frustration, excitement, or fear. Most often, you'll hear this unique vocalization during a hunt or when the animals are feeding on prey as a group.

D. Zoologists believe that boredom isn't a uniquely human emotion — animals can be bored, too. Animals which live in captivity (in zoos, for example) and don't have to take care of their survival may experience boredom and try to find
ways to overcome it. They may come up with some "creative" activities which they wouldn't normally do in their natural environment. As for the pets at home, they may also suffer from the lack of stimulation. That's why we need to make sure we give them enough time, attention and toys regularly.

E. While most dogs jump eagerly into the water to swim, cats don't usually do that, and many believe that cats have a phobia of water. But some pet groomers insist that it's not true and getting a cat to trust you enough to bathe is quite possible, with some patience and skill. Most cats are not afraid of water like so many people may think. They are actually afraid of loud noises and of drowning, rather than water itself. Cats drink water every day, lots of cats even play with water or follow people into the shower.

F. Videogame testers spend most of their time testing the game long before it's finished and long before it starts to become a fun experience. Even after the game is developed enough to start being fun, the testing tasks often aren't
entertaining at all. Testers may have to walk their character around a forest, for example, to look for trees that aren't drawn well. They then record the coordinates so an artist can fix them later. It's monotonous work and can take days to finish. So if testing video games seems like a fun, easy job to you, think again.

G. Claude Monet's impressionist paintings were all about nature. In his works he tried to capture nature as it appeared to him at the moment. He also experimented with light and shadow and how they changed during different times of the day. Some artists of the time criticized Monet because his works lacked detail and didn't resemble finished paintings. Monet used strong colours, which he did not mix. He painted them onto the canvas in short brush strokes. He was also criticized for not using classical painting techniques.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G

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11. *Прочитайте текст и заполните* ***пропуски A — F*** *частями предложений, обозначенными* ***цифрами 1 — 7.*** ***Одна из частей в списке 1 — 7 лишняя****. Занесите* ***цифры****, обозначающие соответствующие части предложения, в клетки задания* ***11 без пробелов и знаков препинания****.*

Elephants sense 'danger' clothes

St Andrews University researchers discovered that elephants could recognise the degree of danger posed by various groups of individuals. The study found that African elephants always reacted with fear **A** _____ previously worn by men of the Maasai tribe. They are known to demonstrate their courage by **B** _____ .

The elephants also responded aggressively to red clothing, which defines traditional Maasai dress.

However, the elephants showed a much milder reaction to clothing previously worn by the Kamba people, **C** _____ and pose little threat.

The researchers first presented elephants with clean, red clothing and with red clothing that had been worn for five days by **D** _____ .

They revealed that Maasai-smelt clothing motivated elephants to travel significantly faster in the first minute after they moved away.

They then investigated whether elephants could also use the colour of clothing as a cue to classify a potential threat and found the elephants reacted with aggression **E** _____ . This suggested that they associated the colour red with the Maasai.

The researchers believe the distinction in the elephants' emotional reaction to smell and colour might be explained by **F** _____ . They might be able to distinguish among different human groups according to the level of risk they posed.

«We regard this experiment as just a start to investigating precisely how elephants 'see the world', and it may be that their abilities will turn out to equal or exceed those of our closer relatives, the monkeys and apes,» researchers added.

1. who carried out the research
2. the amount of risk they sense
3. spearing elephants
4. when they detected the smell of clothes
5. when they spotted red but not white cloth
6. either a Maasai or a Kamba man
7. who do not hunt elephants

A	B	C	D	E	F

12-18 *Прочитайте текст и выполните задания* ***12-18*** *отметьте на карточке вариант, соответствующий номеру выбранного вами варианта ответа.*

Scholastic Aptitude Test

The Scholastic Aptitude Test or the SAT is a standardized test used in the United States for college admissions. High school students usually take the SAT at the end of their junior year (11 grade) of High School or at the beginning of their senior year (12 grade). Students are able to re-take the test as many times as they like on any of the test dates, which occur 6-8 times a year. The test is administered all over the world, and most big cities have at least one testing center.

The SAT is developed and run by College Board, an American non-profit organization created to provide teenagers with access to higher education. It was founded in 1899 and was originally called the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB). Not only does it develop standardized testing, it also develops the Advances Placement (AP) Program. AP classes are offered in most High Schools in the U.S. and provide students with university level classes. These classes allow students to gain college credit and skip some of the basic courses at the university.

Today, the SAT is made up of three main parts: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Mathematics and the Essay, but over its long history, the SAT has undergone several changes in format, types of questions and scoring. The first standardized exam was administered by the CEEB in 1901. It consisted of a series of essay questions on topics such as Greek, Latin and

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Physics, it was completed over the course of 5 days. After the development of the IQ test in 1905, the SAT changed its approach to the test, now testing not specific knowledge, but ***aptitude*** for learning. By 1961 the SAT was taken by over 800 thousand students annually.

A lot of changes were made to the SAT between 1994 and 2005: the use of calculators became permitted, the reading passages were chosen to mimic texts students might encounter in college, the scoring system was changed from 1600 to 2400, and an essay section was introduced. Some of these changes were reversed in 2016: the scoring system changed back to 1600 and the essay became optional.

In recent years, the SAT has been criticized for not being a good reflection of students' academic ability. The test puts a lot of emphasis on speed and time management, prioritizing it over knowledge and reasoning. The reading section contains 52 questions based on 5 reading passages and has a time limit of 65 minutes. Even without the time it takes to read and understand each passage, this gives a student a little over a minute to answer each question, some of which are quite difficult. The other sections are no better. The whole exam takes 4 hours and 5 minutes to complete, and the breaks between its four sections are very short: a 10-minute break between the Reading and Writing sections, 5 minutes between Writing and Math, and only 2 minutes between Math and the essay. Because of these issues, more and more universities are becoming "test-optional", meaning that they do not require their students to submit standardized test scores.

In the summer of 2018, there was a scandal regarding the August SAT. The test got leaked to the Internet a few days before the exam. Because of this College Board threatened to cancel all the scores. This news resulted in a lot of panicked high school seniors, who would not have time to re-take the test before their college applications were due. A lot of desperate students turned to the ACT (American College Testing), the SAT's main **rival**, as an alternative standardized test.

12. Students can take the SAT ____

1) only one time.
2) up to six times.
3) up to eight times.
4) more than 8 times.

13. College Board does NOT develop____

1) the SAT exam variants.
2) advanced placement courses.
3) university course programs.
4) the format of the SAT.

14. The first SAT exam was held in____

1) 1899.
2) 1901.
3) 1905.
4) 1961.

15. The word "*aptitude*" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to the word____

1) ability.
2) knowledge.
3) skills.
4) desire.

16. In 2010, students who were taking the SAT____

1) were not allowed to use calculators.
2) had a choice whether to write an essay.
3) could get a maximum of 1600 points.
4) had to read university-level texts.

17. Paragraph 5 implies that____

1) the SAT is not a good system to rate the student's true level.
2) it is important for college students to manage time efficiently.
3) universities prefer students who can solve problems quickly.
4) the SAT should be shorter than the 4 hours 5 minutes it is now.

18. The word "rival" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to the word____

1) supporter.
2) competitor.
3) contractor.
4) employer.

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